





The REBUS fungal collection for the space organic waste exploitation

<u>Solveig Tosi¹</u>, Ester Rosa², Vezzola Michele¹, Mirca Zotti², Elena Savino¹ ¹Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences, **University of Pavia**, Laboratory of Mycology, via S. Epifanio 14, 27100 Pavia, Italy ²Department of Earth, Environment and Life Sciences, **University of Genoa**, C.so Europa 26, 16136 Genoa, Italy

Fungi can degrade materials and change them thanks to their strong enzymes





Fungal activity on hydrocarbons mixture after one week



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University of Pavia maintains fungi degrading different kind of substrata, and recalcitrant material such as hydrocarbons, plastics, rubber, lignine, cellulose



Some fungi of our collection attack plastics and tire rubber

*

MIRA3 TESCAN

WD: 5.31 mm

Det: In-Beam SE

Date(m/d/y): 02/04/20

100 µm

WD: 5.20 mm

Some fungi of our collection attack hydrocarbons





The original hydrocarbon mixture

hydrocarbon mixture after 4 days of treatment with fungi and bacteria



hydrocarbon mixture after 1 week of treatment with fungi and bacteria





Selecting the fungal activities for degrading and trasforming waste in useful material or growing on in situ resourses

They incredibly like

- Food waste
- Waste from cultivation
- Urine
- Paper, plastic and hydrocarbons

They can grow on regolite

<u>The collection of fungi for space of the Rebus project.</u> <u>A very limitetd and special collection</u>



<u>Guidelines to select the right fungi</u>

- -no pathogens for plants and humans
- No production of airborne propagules and spores
- -the colony must grow on the substratum in very stiky way
- -they must be few and easy to be handled by the crew
- -they must maintain thier biological characteristic to stay in space hambient and withstand radiation and microgravity

The selected fungi for REBUS project



What we did with the selected fungi

Degradation of space waste

Reduction and transforming in soil conditioner for plant production

Use the space waste for cultivating edible mushrooms

biorigeneration

For testing Degradation of space organic waste we used

SOW (Space Organic Waste simulant of ISS, produced by research Unit of ENEA-REBUS)

Waste estimation (1 month, 3 crew members, total 8.4 kg. Thales Alenia pers. comm)

SOW: composed by waste of food , plant cultivation remains, Paper.

Based on the ISS crew diet



Stiky Terribly smelly

Vey rich in fat

Growth test on SOW and selection



The best strains growing on SOW

The collection for REBUS project pourposes







F13 *Chaetomium globosum* Kunze

- F16 Dichotomopilus reflexus Skolko & HV Gree
- **F35** Byssochlamys nivea Westling
- **F58** Humicola fuscoatra Traaen

C1

C4

C7

C9

L1

- Bjerkandera adusta Will & P. Carso.
- Ganoderma lucidum Curtis P. Carso
- Pleurotus ostreatus P. Kumm
- Schizophyllum commune Fr
- F1 Monascus purpureus Went

Torulaspora delbrueckii Lindner





Looking for a good fungal consortium by dual cultures test









F1-F16

Comparing degradation action of different consortia on Space Organic Waste (SOW)

SOW dry weight







Choosing the minimum consortium

• Monascus purpureus Went



• Torulaspora delbrueckii Lindner



• Chaetomium globosum Kunze



The minimum consortium growing on SOW after 20 days at 20°C





The bad smell of the Space Organic Waste completely disappeared

Space Organic Waste after fungal degradation and lyophilization



Is this a possible fertilizer for plant cultivation?

Is this a new material? Isolating.... Screening radiations..... Being eaten again.....

Is this a possible good food for breeding delicious insects?

Some strains like URINE Such as Monascus purpureus or Schizophyllum commune









Can we use space organic waste to cultivate edible mushrooms in space?

Es. *Pleurotus* nutrition values (per 100 g of product)

Calories: 25 Kcal Proteins: 3,5 g Carbohydrates: 4.5 g Fats: 0,3 g Choosing a good waste for growing *Pleurotus ostreatus*

Potato waste?

Or

Carrot waste?



Pleurotus ostreatus nycelium growing on potato or carrot waste



!! No mushrooms with potatoes

!! Good production with carrots

25% carste 75% carote 100% pagia 25% calote 93

Best production with 25% of carrot waste







For a good biorigenerative process









REBUS Collection The first collection of fungi for space



Thank you for the attention