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### **388 - Mycology in Thailand**

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Thailand traditionally has a strong base in plant pathology and this is continuing. However in the last ten years mycology has received increasing attention and support in both the university and government sectors. Mycology, however, is not seen by the younger generation as a commercial subject and considerable effort in the university sector is required to switch on perspective students. The British Council has recently approved a higher education link programme between our universities and Liverpool John Moores University linking with the British Mycological Society aimed at stimulating the teaching of mycology through workshops and teaching manuals. BIOTEC as a government funded organization is running a number of research programmes mainly targeted at applied aspects of mycology. This presentation will review the development of mycology in Thailand through to the present day and evaluate the current situation and future prospects.