Antiquities of the rainforest: evolution of mycoheterotrophic angiosperms growing on Glomeromycota

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STELLINGEN

Behorend bij het proefschrift

“Antiquities of the rainforest. Evolution of mycoheterotrophic angiosperms growing on Glomeromycota”

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1. Despite the presence of relatively low numbers of mycoheterotrophic species, mycoheterotrophy can be regarded as a successful strategy.

2. The development of systematic research can be seen as analogous to the development of the personal computer: a decent system is currently available, but technological refinements enable us to improve the system and to use it for addressing both new and existing problems, in increasing detail.

3. Genetic information from all three genomes, namely the nuclear, plastid and mitochondrial genomes, should be combined to resolve phylogenetic relationships among plant groups.

4. Mycoheterotrophic plants form an excellent system to study biogeography.

5. A Cretaceous origin of Triuridaceae, as suggested by fossil evidence, is supported by the estimation of its divergence times (this thesis).

6. The current disjunct distribution of Corsiaceae is explained by Gondwana vicariance (this thesis).

7. *Epirixanthes* is not specialized on arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi (this thesis).

8. Mycoheterotrophic lineages from tropical Asia are younger than those from other tropical regions (this thesis).

9. The old notion of Triuridaceae as “pee plants”, namely plants one only encounters during sanitary stops in the field, does not do these plants justice.

10. Cryptic biodiversity deserves more attention than it currently has, because the vast majority of biodiversity comprises small and enigmatic organisms, yet relatively few of these organisms feature in museum exhibits and television programmes.