

B-15 Effect of burning on soil mycoflora

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This research was carried out in Upper Hantana catchment forest in Kandy. Three sites were selected. Site I was the *Pinus* plantation 1 month after burning. Site II was the *Pinus* plantation 1 year after burning and Site III was the *Pinus* plantation with undisturbed ground flora. Isolation, identification and enumeration of soil fungi and determination of amount of soil organic matter were carried out in these 3 sites.

In this study 10 fungal species were isolated by soil plate method from the 3 sites. Nine of them were identified to the genus level. These 9 species belong to 5 genera. The genus *Aspergillus*, 2 species of *Penicillium* and 1 species of *Trichoderma* were found in all 3 sites. One species of *Penicillium*, *Trichoderma*, *Stibulum* and *Botrytis* were found only in Site III. All these isolated strains belong to the fungi-Imperfecti.

In this study, the density and composition of the fungal genera were highest in Site III and lowest in Site I. However, the amount of organic matter also was highest in Site III and lowest in Site I.