1894: Purification and selection of brewery yeasts
1894: Public inauguration of the Biourge Culture Collection
1898-1901: Taxonomic study of Penicillium by F. Dierckx
1901: Vitamin “Bios” discovery by E. Wieldiers
1923: Penicillium monograph with 126 species
1927: Monograph of the genus Aspergillus
1929: Industrial production of citric acid from Aspergillus niger by A. Cappuyns
1932: Studies on the Aspergillus group niger by R. Mosseray

1934: Discovery of Griseofulvin; Mycothèque Philibert Biourge
1934: Setup of quality control for dairy products with R. Lambert

1934: Mycothèque de l'Université catholique de Louvain (MUCL)
1968: Integration of an African soil Hyphomycete collection by J. Meyer
1969: Affiliation of MUCL to WFCC (World Federation for Culture Collections)
1972: Introduction and definition of the terms anamorph, teleomorph and holomorph with L. K. Weresub
1977: First edition of the MUCL catalogue of fungi and yeasts
1983: Launch of BCCM (Belgian Co-ordinated Collections of Micro-organisms); ECCO membership (European Culture Collections’ Organisation)
1989: First edition of the MUCL catalogue of fungi and yeasts
1992: Recognition of BCCM as an IDA (International Depository Authority) under the Budapest Treaty
1994: Celebration of the MUCL Centenary

1994: Participation in European programs (e.g. COWIDI and ESA); development of GINCO (Glomeromycota in vitro collection) by S. Declerck
1999: Strengthening of cryopreservation infrastructures
2005: ISO 9001 certification of the collection’s core activities; first international training on in vitro culture of AMF by S. Declerck
2006: Strengthening of industry partnership; anchorage in European programs (e.g. EMBARC, BRIO, VALORAM, ERAFRICA)
2012: Development of cryopreservation methods for recalcitrant strains and microbial consortia
2014: Setup of collection, research, service and communication strategies
2015: Go-live of the LIMS (Laboratory Information Management System)
2016-2017: Re-localisation of the cryopreserved backup collection
2017: First BCCM training course on preservation of micro-organisms
2017-2021: Orientation towards microbiome research

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