



Our vision "BCCM, great at small things"

To be a solution partner for providing services of quality in microbial and genetic resources for academia and industry.

Our mission

The BCCM consortium aims to:

- acquire, preserve and distribute microbial and genetic resources,
- identify and characterise these biological materials,
- offer customer-oriented services,
- increase the understanding of microorganisms and their function in ecosystems,
- foster the application of biological resources.

BCCM strategy

The BCCM consortium joints 7 decentralised biological resource centres with complementary expertise.

BCCM:

- continues to upgrade its service portfolio and scientific expertise,
- develops a powerful data management system,
- runs a multi-site ISO 9001 quality management system,
- fosters (inter)national collaboration, linkage and exchange,
- complies with (inter)national regulations regarding the handling of microbial and genetic resources.



The BCCM consortium consists of seven complementary research-based service culture collections and a Coordination Cell, financed and coordinated by the Belgian Science Policy Office.

Storage

The biological resources are preserved by appropriate methods such as freeze-drying and freezing at ultra low temperatures (e.g. using liquid nitrogen). Duplicates are kept at a second location. Part of the original material is retained if technically feasible.

Confidentiality and security

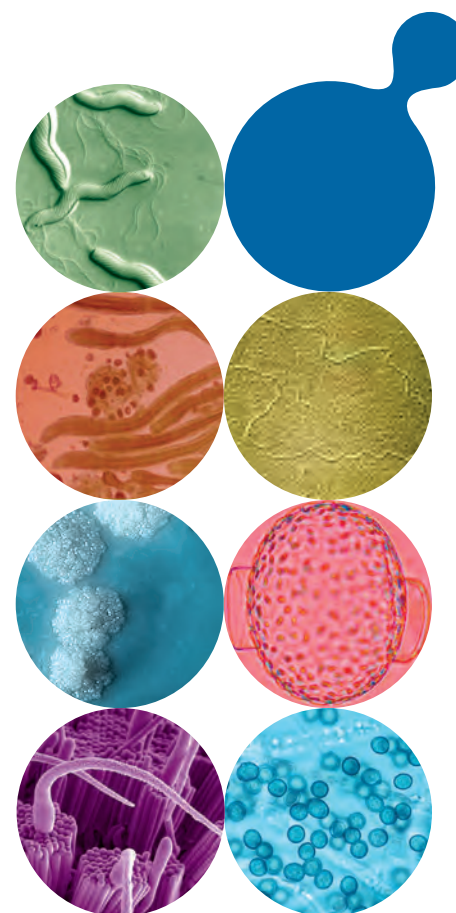
Except when enforced by law, BCCM never reveals the fact that you made a safe or patent deposit. Safe and patent deposits are not publicly catalogued. Biological resources are kept in locked containers with limited and rigorously controlled access.



bccm.belspo.be

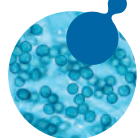
BELGIAN
CO-ORDINATED
COLLECTIONS OF
MICRO-ORGANISMS

BCCM
GREAT AT SMALL THINGS



Deposits

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BCCM • IHEM

Biomedical Fungi & Yeasts
Scientific Institute of Public Health,
Brussels

Phone: +32 (0)2 642 55 18
Email: bccm.ihem@wiv-isp.be

Public, safe & patent deposits:

- Filamentous fungi, yeasts and actinomycetes, including pathogens responsible for mycoses in humans and animals, not exceeding risk group 3*



BCCM • LMBP

Plasmids
Ghent University

Phone: +32 (0)9 331 38 43
Email: bccm.lmbp@irc.ugent.be

Public deposits:

- Plasmids and DNA libraries

Safe & patent deposits:

- Any kind of natural or recombinant plasmid or genetic material, either in a purified form or within a host, not exceeding risk group 2*
- Natural or genetically modified animal cell lines, including human cell lines and hybridomas, not exceeding risk group 2 *



BCCM • LMG

Bacteria
Ghent University

Phone: +32 (0)9 264 51 08
Email: bccm.lmg@ugent.be

Public, safe & patent deposits:

- Bacterial strains, not exceeding risk group 2*
- BCCM/LMG has extensive public sub-collections of plant associated and phytopathogenic bacteria, bacteria of medical or veterinary importance and various groups of interest for food or biotechnology sectors.



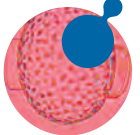
BCCM • MUCL

Environmental and applied Mycology
Université catholique de Louvain

Phone: +32 (0)10 47 37 42
Email: bccm-mucl@uclouvain.be

Public, safe & patent deposits:

- Filamentous fungi and yeasts, non-pathogenic to humans and animals, representing a wide species diversity from natural and industrial sources
- Arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi preserved by *in-vitro* cultivation



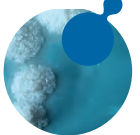
BCCM • DCG

Diatoms
Ghent University

Phone: +32 (0)9 264 85 88
Email: bccm.dcg@ugent.be

Public & safe deposits:

- Marine and freshwater diatoms for fundamental and applied research



BCCM • ITM

Mycobacteria
Institute of Tropical Medicine, Antwerp

Phone: +32 (0)3 247 65 51
Email: bccm.itm@itg.be

Public & safe deposits:

- Human and environmental Mycobacteria isolates from diverse origins for diagnostic and virulence research



BCCM • ULC

Cyanobacteria
University of Liège

Phone: +32 (0)4 366 38 56
Email: bccm.ulc@ulg.ac.be

Public & safe deposits:

- Cyanobacteria from (sub)polar environments for fundamental and applied research

Public deposits make up the main part of the BCCM's resources.

They are a contribution from the depositor to the scientific community, since these deposits are catalogued and publicly available for further use and/or study.

The depositor, in return, benefits from an economical and practical means of preserving and distributing his material.

Safe deposits have proved to be a very cost-effective means of insuring proprietary biological resources of particular importance by keeping them in an independent professional environment.

Industry, in particular, is increasingly keen to insure against, for example, the loss or irreversible mutation of production strains.

As full confidentiality is ensured, safe-deposited material is neither publicly catalogued nor distributed to third parties without the depositor's approval. Viability is regularly monitored.

Patent deposits of biological material are a compulsory part of the patent process.

Within the framework of internationally prevailing legislation (e.g. the Budapest Treaty and European Directives), and under the auspices of the World Intellectual Property Organization, the BCCM is recognized as International Depositary Authority (IDA). Full confidentiality is ensured and distribution of samples is governed by patent law. Viability is regularly monitored.



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BELGIAN CO-ORDINATED COLLECTIONS OF MICRO-ORGANISMS

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* Belgian risk group classification: <http://www.biosafety.be>