



Dr. Teeratas Kijpornyongpan
Independent Mycologist
Thailand

Teeratas Kijpornyongpan received a bachelor's degree in Biology at Chulalongkorn University, Thailand in 2013. He started his mycological career under Dr. Cathie Aime's lab at Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Purdue University, USA. His graduate program focused on Systematics and Genomics of smut fungi and allied yeasts. He has a continual collaboration with the US Department of Energy Joint Genome Institute (DOE-JGI) under the 1000 Fungal Genome Project to sequence the genomes of Ustilaginomycotina, an underrepresented lineage in the fungal tree of life. He also utilized comparative genomics and transcriptomics to understand the growth form transition of dimorphic fungi.

After finishing Ph.D. from Purdue University in 2019, Teeratas joined a postdoctoral research program at National Renewable Energy Laboratory, USA. He has been working on Systems Biology of white-rot fungi to understand catabolism of lignin-derived aromatic compounds. He also conducted comparative genomic studies to understand the distribution of aromatic catabolic enzymes across bacterial and fungal kingdoms. In addition, he is interested in utilizing genomic and transcriptomic data from public databases to understand fungal evolution. Teeratas' excellence in research has been recognized by several awards from Purdue University and Mycological Society of America. He has been invited as a speaker in the smut fungi workshop in the 30th Fungal Genetics Conference, held in Pacific Grove CA, USA in 2019, as well as a seminar speaker and a guest lecturer in Chulalongkorn University and Mahidol University.