INITIAL SPELEOMYCOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF A NEWLY DICOVERED MINE IN SREBRNA GÓRA (LOWER SILESIA, POLAND)

speleomycology, entomopathogenic fungi, historical mine, Srebrna Góra

Speleomycology is a new scientific branch of mycology concentrating on research of fungi present in caves and other underground objects such as adits, mines, bunkers, tunnels, etc. The aim of this preliminary study was to examine a newly discovered mine in Srebrna Góra. Initial aeromycological analysis has been conducted. Also, presence of entomopathogenic fungi was surveyed in terms of colonies count and their biodiversity. Both aeromycological analysis and survey concerning entomopathogenic fungi showed that cosmopolitan and non-specific fungi species were present in the underground object. It is worth noting that many of the found fungi might be present in the hypogean environment due to being brought there by the explorators.