

**Inaugural Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the
Royal Society of Biology: Southeast Asia Branch**

MINUTES

Date: Thursday, 7th September 2023

Time: 12.00 UTC
(19.00 Bangkok/Jakarta; 20.00 Singapore/Manila/Kuala Lumpur; 13.00 BST)

Location: Virtual (via Zoom)

Members Present:

Committee:

Chair: Alexander Waller (FRSB; Thailand) – “Alex”
Secretary: Andrew P Lucy (FRSB; Singapore) – “Andrew”
Treasurer: Jomel B Vasquez (MRSB; Philippines) – “Jomel”

Social Media Team Representatives: Reza Raihandhany (MRSB; Indonesia) – “Reza”
Ahmad Fadil Rizkyantoro (AMRSB; Indonesia) – “Fadil”

Event Organizer: Marisa Khoo Kim Gaik (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Marisa”
Branch and External Society Liaison: Adeline Chia Yoke Yin (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Adeline”

Members:

Eunice Siew Ching Ngai (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Eunice”
Tey Lai-Hock (MRSB; Malaysia) - “Tey”
Pung Yuh-Fen (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Yuh-Fen”
Ivan Yow Ying Ming (MRSB; Singapore) – “Ivan”
Goh Bey Hing (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Goh”
Terry Morgan (MRSB, Thailand) – “Terry”

Guests:

Karen Patel (MRSB; UK) – “Karen”
Lucy Eckersley (MRSB, UK) – “Lucy”
Nigel Brown (FRSB, UK) – “Nigel”
William Leong (Plenary Speaker) - “Liam”

Apologies:

Adhityo Wicaksono (MRSB; Thailand) – “Adhit”
Yusrizam Sharifuddin (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Yus”
Hajar Fauzan bin Ahmad (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Hajar”
Wan Iryani Wan Ismail (MRSB; Malaysia) – “Iryani”

<u>Minuted Items / Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
<p>(1) Welcome by Chair Dr Alexander Waller, CBIol FRSB</p> <p>Alex called the meeting to order at the governed time, welcomed attendees as each logged-in via Zoom and recorded his thanks as Chair to the committee, with especial mention to Karen Patel, Lucy Eckersley, Marisa Khoo, Adhityo Wicaksono and Andrew Lucy for services to the Branch. Following a brief historical statement on the founding of the Branch in January 2023, Alex called for the Secretary to announce apologies and record whether a quorum was met for the meeting to proceed.</p> <p>(2) Apologies for absence & record of quorum by Secretary Dr Andrew Lucy, CBIol FRSB</p> <p>Andrew confirmed that a regulated quorum for a Branch AGM was ten members and that, of the 27 members registered, 21 persons (including 17 Southeast Asia Branch members) were present at the opening of the meeting. Apologies from the Committee for absences were given by Adhityo Wicaksono, Wan Iryani Wan Ismail, Hajar Fauzan bin Ahmad and Yusrizam Sharifuddin. As Adhit is the Coordinator for Social Media in the Branch, he had assigned his team members (Reza Raihandhany and Ahmad Fadil Rizkyantoro) to report on his behalf (Item 9 below). A full list of persons joining the meeting is appended below (Appendix A).</p> <p>Andrew thereafter announced that a quorum had therefore been met.</p> <p>➤ Special Motion by Chair: Ratification of Branch Constitution As a matter of formal procedure, Alex called for the quorum of members present to ratify the Constitution of the Branch as posted on the Branch web pages on September 4th as an addendum to the AGM announcement and Agenda as posted on July 25th. (The Constitution is herein copied as Appendix B for record purposes.) Andrew seconded the proposal to ratify the Constitution and a vote was held by text response:</p> <p>At the time of the vote being called 17 voting members were present. 14 voted for the proposal, with none against.</p> <p>The Motion was therefore carried, and the Branch Constitution was ratified by member consent and approval.</p>	<p>For information</p> <p>Motion by Alexander Waller</p> <p>Motion carried</p>

Minuted Items / <u>Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
<p>(3) Welcome from Council and overview of current matters by the Chair of the College of Individual Members and Council Member: Prof. Nigel Brown, OBE CBiol FRSB</p> <p>With the quorum met, Alex welcomed and introduced our distinguished guest from Head Office, Prof Nigel Brown. Noting his limited time due to a scheduling conflict, Alex invited Nigel to address the meeting. Nigel registered his formal congratulations and welcome to our new branch, thanked the Chair and Committee, and spoke briefly on his role as Chair of the College of Individual Members and as a Council Member for the Royal Society of Biology. Specifically, Nigel asked our Branch to promote the Society’s Ambassador Programme and invited our Branch participation therein. Nigel thereafter shared the Royal Society of Biology Strategy and Three-Year Business Plan (2022-2024) and opened the floor for questions.</p> <p>(i) Although the matter was on the Agenda under Item 11a, the Chair recognized Nigel’s schedule limitations and asked for a Motion to be brought forward for his consideration prior to his necessary departure from the meeting. With Nigel’s accord, Goh Bey Hing was invited to table his motion (under Agenda Item 11a) for a member (or members) of the Southeast Asia branch to be co-opted onto the RSB accreditation committee (in relation to the RSB “International Accreditation and Consultancy Handbook”). Nigel clarified that, whilst he is not on the Accreditation Committee, he would bring the motion to the attention of Head Office if carried by the Committee and permitted by the RSB. Karen (Head of Membership and Events at Head Office) was asked for her insights and conferred with the Director of Accreditation. In the meantime, Alex supported the motion proposed by Goh as seconder and called for a vote of eligible members present by text response.</p> <p>At the time of the vote being called 17 voting members were present. 15 voted for the proposal, with none against. The Motion was therefore carried.</p> <p>However, Karen’s conferral with the Director of Accreditation returned that the RSB “<i>only currently accept(s) accreditation assessor applications from academics within the Royal Society of Biology accredited institutions. If any Southeast Asia branch member is based in a university and wants to explore</i></p>	<p>Motion by Goh Bey Hing</p> <p>Motion carried</p>

Minuted Items / Actions	Action by / timeline:
<p><i>options for putting their own courses through accreditation, please get in touch with the team at accreditation@rsb.org.uk</i></p> <p>Goh enquired whether non-accredited academics in Southeast Asia could serve as “observers” as “<i>members of the branch might (be) able to relate well with the localized syllabus or needs of society (and) provide input or advice for the committee</i>”. Karen noted that the accreditation team does not currently have observers, but the idea would be kept under advisement as it is “<i>always great to have local input and expertise involved</i>”. The Committee requested Nigel and Karen pursue the motion with any amendment to be in accord with RSB regulations and request for Branch involvement if permitted as advisors to the accreditation team for local courses or for consultancy on UK-linked RSB accredited university courses being offered in Southeast Asia.</p> <p>Goh is to raise the matter again at the Branch committee meeting in December.</p>	<p>Goh/Dec2023</p>
<p>(4) Introduction of Committee Members and Review of Roles and Terms of Office All current committee members</p> <p>The Chair noted the various positions of officers on the Branch committee (and stated the reasons and purposes of the teams formed). He asked members to refer to the ratified Constitution (particularly Items 6 and 7 thereof; Appendix B) and called for all present to refer to the profiles of the RSB committee members elected for Southeast Asia as posted on the Branch webpages since August 11th, 2023.</p>	
<p>(5) Ratification of Committee / call for nominations and election of new committee members</p> <p>A proposal was presented by Alex to ratify and approve the appointments to each role on the committee en masse. Any objections or resignations were to be so specified. Andrew seconded the motion, and a vote was called by text response.</p> <p>At the time of the vote being called 17 voting members were present. 17 voted for the proposal, with none against.</p> <p>The Motion was therefore carried, with all committee members for Southeast Asia being ratified for their respective roles by member consent and approval.</p>	<p>Motion by Alexander Waller</p> <p>Motion carried</p>

<u>Minuted Items / Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
<p>(6) Chair's report Dr Alexander Waller, CBiol FRSB</p> <p>Alex delivered a brief report, illustrated by PowerPoint (see Appendix C) on shared screen. Alex noted the successful launch of the Branch in January 2023 following discussions he initiated amongst key regional members from September of 2022 and the Council's approval of our proposal at their meeting of December 7th, 2022. The inaugural committee was formed by volunteers from amongst the regional membership and officer positions were nominated and approved by that founding committee pending ratification at this AGM (Item 5 above).</p> <p>Andrew noted that RSB regulations require a minimum of four events each budget year (October to September). Hence, a point of order must be clarified regarding the three Branch activities held over the past year (2023: further details in Item 8 below):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ivan Yow's talk (May 30th) (ii) UISS meeting (August 26th-27th) (iii) AGM and Mushroom talk (September 7th) <p>As our Branch was launched in the second quarter of the budget year, dispensation was granted (recorded as Item 5(iii) of the 4th Southeast Asia Branch Committee Meeting Minutes held on July 27th). Our Branch thus met the minimum event needs.</p>	<p>For Record</p>
<p>(7) Treasurer's report Prof. Jomel Vasquez, CBiol MRSB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Jomel delivered a brief report of the minimal expenses incurred by the Branch over the past fiscal year (January – September for our first period). See Appendix D for further details. The annual branch budget allocation of £1000 was duly recorded. (ii) As all of our events have been virtual, the only expenses were for the book prizes offered by our Branch as part of our sponsorship for the UISS event in August (approximately GBP60). Jomel registered his thanks to Committee Member Terry Morgan for offering several copies of his published texts at discounted cost for these prizes. Alex registered the Committee's thanks to Head Office for supporting the one-year complimentary Associate and Student 	

<u>Minuted Items / Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
<p>memberships offered to the UISS prize winners as further support of the symposium's partnership with RSB Southeast Asia.</p> <p>(iii) The deadline for presentation of the October 2023- September 2024 branch budget to Head Office for approval was duly noted as September 30th.</p> <p>Jomel to draft and have approved by Committee the formal Budget for October 2023 – September 2024 and submit it to Head Office by September 30th, 2023.</p>	<p>Jomel/Sept 30</p>
<p>(8) Report on past events and preplanning/scheduling of events for 2024 Dr Marisa Khoo, MRSB</p> <p>Marisa reported on the three events held over the first year of the Southeast Asia Branch and plans for upcoming events from October 2023 to September 2024 (see Appendix E for details). All events to date have been virtual and without charge or expense and, partially due to the geographical distribution of our branch membership, it is projected that the planned events for the coming year will sustain this practice.</p> <p>Branch events held to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Talk: “How do the mechanisms behind cell death promote resilient tissue?” - Dr Ivan Yow (May 30th) 41 registrants, 23 international attendees. ➤ UTAR Intervarsity Science Symposium 2023 (UISS): August 26th – 27th. 104 attendees, 59 presenters. The event was coordinated by our committee members, Tey Lai-Hock and Marisa Khoo Kim Gaik. Our Branch Chair (Dr Alexander Waller) was an invited speaker and several committee members participated as panelists (Hajar Fauzan Ahmad; Alexander Waller; Adeline Chia Yoke Yin; Andrew P. Lucy). Our Branch sponsored prizes for three postgraduate winners and four undergraduates as best presenters: one-year student or associate membership of the RSB and book prizes (as noted above – Item 7(ii) Treasurer's Report) ➤ Inaugural Annual General Meeting (via Zoom): September 7th. 27 registrants, 25 attendees (at peak number). Eight were non-voting guests, including our speaker: Mr William Leong of Mushroom World Academy. 	

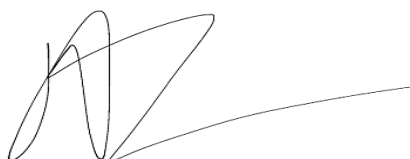
<u>Minuted Items / Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
<p>At least six prospective events are being planned for the coming year, two of which have already been locked in the calendar:</p> <p>(a) Malaysian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Special Interest Group for Mushroom Research) is set for October 18th – 19th, 2023. RSB Southeast Asia Branch is the co-organizer for the event and direct and RSB-associated web links have been established. William Leong of Mushroom World Academy has been confirmed as one of two plenary speakers.</p> <p>(b) Tiger Prey presentation – online virtual talk by Sasi Parn Suksavate is scheduled for October 16th, 2023.</p> <p>Marisa to follow-up and report further at the next Committee Meeting.</p>	<p>Marisa/Dec2023</p>
<p>(9) Social Media report Dr Adhityo Wicaksono, MRSB</p> <p>With apologies from Adhit, Reza presented on behalf of the RSB Southeast Asia Social Media team, illustrating the social media activities over the first year of the Branch through a slide presentation (see Appendix F),</p> <p>(i) Reza noted that the Branch has three active Social Media platforms:</p> <p>Instagram (@rsbsoutheastasiabranch) → 75 followers Facebook (https://web.facebook.com/RSBSoutheastAsiaBranch) → 39 followers LinkedIn (https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/95062369) → 76 followers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LinkedIn is considered to have the highest and most professional engagement for the Branch, whilst Facebook has the greatest reach. Instagram is utilized for spread of information and to point followers to LinkedIn. Due to low engagement and perception concerns, a previously held Twitter/X account for the Branch was deleted by committee consensus (Item 7(ii) of the Minutes for Meeting 4 of the Branch Committee on July 27th, 2023). • Ivan Yow’s talk (May 30th) on the RSB Youtube channel had garnered 136 views as of the AGM. <p>(ii) The Social Media team closed their report with a brief highlight of their “Bite-Sized Biology” filler content strategy and asked all members to contact the</p>	

<u>Minuted Items / Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
<p>team with any research being conducted by our membership that can be promoted through a post. Andrew elaborated upon this request noting that members can use the platform to discuss any bioscience-related topics, not just their own work. Andrew also referred to the previous meeting of the Branch Committee wherein it had already been agreed that committee members were under an expectation to share Branch social media posts whenever possible, and to help promote the social media accounts through posts, comments and reshares (Item 5(vi) of Meeting 4 on July 27th, 2023).</p>	<p>ALL / On-Going</p>
<p>(10) Collaborative Efforts Dr Adeline Chia, MRSB</p> <p>Adeline spoke briefly on the partnerships anchored for the branch to date – the relationship with UTAR for the UISS event and with the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (Special Interest Group for Mushroom Research) as noted under Item 8(a) above. A proposed relationship with BioSingapore had been investigated but decided against following discussions with the Chair of that organization. Further relationships will be explored, and all members are welcome to submit suggestions to the Committee.</p> <p>Alex queried whether the partnership with UTAR for the symposium should be sustained on an annual basis. Adeline concurred and proposed the relationship be made on-going. Andrew seconded the proposal, and a vote was called.</p> <p>At the time of the vote being called 17 voting members were present. 13 voted for the proposal, with none against.</p> <p>The Motion was therefore carried, and Adeline will explore a continuing relationship with UTAR Interscience Symposium on an annual basis.</p> <p>Adeline to report further on the development of this relationship in the next Branch Committee meeting.</p>	<p>Motion by Adeline Chia</p> <p>Motion carried</p> <p>Adeline/Dec2023</p>
<p>(11) Motions from Committee Members</p> <p>a. Accreditation issues (Assoc. Prof Goh Bey Hing) – as invited by the Chair, this Motion was raised and carried earlier in the AGM (see Item 3(i) above).</p>	

<u>Minuted Items / Actions</u>	Action by / timeline:
b. Committee structure (Dr. Alex Waller) – this Motion was raised by the Chair under Items 2, 4 and 5 above and carried.	
<p>(12) AOB</p> <p>With no further business raised by the members present, Alex brought the meeting to a close at 1300 UTC with thanks to all present, and invited Andrew to introduce the Guest Speaker (Mr William Leong of Mushroom World Academy).</p> <p>Liam's “<i>Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by commercial mushroom growers in Singapore</i>” generated considerable interest amongst the membership and stimulated a lively discussion with a number of questions raised by the audience. The talk has now been uploaded to the RSB YouTube channel and the slides presented are attached herein, with the speaker’s approval, as Appendix G.</p>	

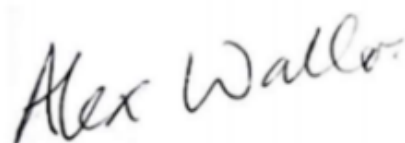
Minutes recorded by:

Branch Secretary



Andrew P. Lucy

Minutes confirmed and agreed by: Branch Chairman



Alexander Waller

Appendix A (List of Attendees):

Salutation	Name	Post-Nominals	RSB/SEA member?	Registered?	Attended?	Voting Rights?
Dr	Alexander Waller (Thailand)	CBiol FRSB	Y/Y (Chair)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Andrew P. Lucy (Singapore)	CBiol FRSB	Y/Y (Secretary)	Y	Y	Y
Professor	Jomel B Vasquez (Philippines)	CBiol FRSB	Y/Y (Treasurer)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Marisa Khoo Kim Gaik (Malaysia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Events)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Adeline Chia Yoke Yin (Malaysia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Collaborations)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Adhityo Wicaksono (Indonesia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Social Media)	Y	N	Y
Mr	Ahmad Fadi Rizkyantoro (Indonesia)	AMRSB	Y/Y (Social Media)	Y	Y	Y
Mr	Reza Raihan Dhany Yus (Indonesia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Social Media)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Pung Yuh-Fen (Malaysia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	Y	Y
Mr	Terence Morgan (Thailand)	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Goh Bey Hing (Malaysia)	CBiol MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Eunice Siew Ching Ngai (Malaysia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	N	Y	Y
Dr	Tey Lai-Hock (Malaysia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Yow Ying Ming, Ivan (Singapore)	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Hajar Fauzan bin Ahmad (Malaysia)✉	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	N	Y
Dr	Yusrizam Sharifuddin (Malaysia)	CBiol MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	N	N	Y
Professor	Wan Iryani Wan Ismail (Malaysia)	MRSB	Y/Y (Committee)	Y	N	Y
Professor	Anna (Anna Ling)	FRSB	Y/Y	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Justin Lim Kok Ming	MRSB	Y/Y	Y	Y	Y
Dr	Kean-Chang Phang (Alex Phang)	CSci MRSB	Y/Y	Y	Y	Y
Ms	Bee Hooi Tan	MRSB	Y/Y	N	Y	Y
Professor	Chun Hei Antonio Cheung	FRSB	Y/Y	Y	N	Y
Miss	Kit Kay Mak✉	MRSB	Y/Y	Y	N	Y
Professor	Learn Han Lee	CBiol MRSB	Y/Y	Y	N	Y
Dr	Gloria Despacio-Reyes	MRSB	Y/N	Y	Y	N
Dr	Priyadarshi Nidesilva Senanayake	CBiol CSci MRSB	Y/N	Y	Y	N
Professor	Nigel Brown	OBE CBiol FRSB	Y/N (Head Office)	Y	Y	N
Miss	Lucy Eckersley	MRSB	Y/N (Head Office)	Y	Y	N
Ms	Karen Patel	MRSB	Y/N (Head Office)	N	Y	N
Mr	William Leong	NA	N/N (Guest Speaker)	N	Y	N
None given	Ryan Cheng (Jude Miranda)	NA	N/N	Y	Y	N
None given	Rosnida Tajuddinda✉	NA	N/N	Y	Y	N

Appendix B (Branch Constitution):



CONSTITUTION OF THE SOUTHEAST ASIA BRANCH OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY

1 Name

The name of the branch is the Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia branch.

2 Objectives

The objectives of the branch are to further the aims and objectives of the Royal Society of Biology (RSB) at all times by:

- a) promoting and fostering the public understanding of biology in the branch area
- b) encouraging the exchange of ideas and information between biologists from different fields of expertise and areas of employment
- c) representing the views of the members of the branch to the officers, council or other RSB branches
- d) enhancing the professional status of bioscientists, thereby encouraging young people who aspire to become professional biologists
- e) organising activities of biological, social and general value to members of the branch, thereby keeping them in touch with current developments in biology
- f) assisting the RSB in the recruitment of members
- g) collaborating with other branches, RSB Member Organisations, Special Interest Group and sister Societies in the furtherance of the above objectives

3 Membership

Membership of the branch is for all members of the RSB, at any grade, living or working within the area of the branch and any other member who has chosen to be affiliated with the branch.

4 Organisation

The branch is organised and administered by a committee elected by the branch members.

5 Composition

The branch committee must consist of the following:

- a) the honorary officers: chair, vice-chair (optional), secretary and treasurer, nominated from the individual voting members of the branch
- b) up to 12 ordinary members, nominated from all grades of membership of the branch
- c) up to three additional members of the branch, co-opted by the committee

6 Election of Officers and Committee Members

The election of officers and committee members will be conducted and ratified at an Annual General Meeting of the branch or, exceptionally, at a Special General Meeting (SGM) convened for that purpose and annually thereafter.

Elections of officers and committee members will be by ballot of those Individual Voting Members, registered in the branch one month prior to the election. The ballot will be carried

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www.rsb.org.uk

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out at the AGM or SGM or by postal vote held at the discretion of the Committee and ratified at the AGM or SGM.

7 Tenure of Office

Normally no person should serve as an honorary officer in the same capacity for a period of more than five consecutive years. Normally, no person should serve as an ordinary member of committee for more than 10 consecutive years.

8 Unexpired Term

In the event of the resignation of an honorary officer, the committee will appoint another member of the committee to take over the relevant responsibility until the following AGM. In the event of a resignation of a committee member, the committee has the power to co-opt to fill the unexpired term of membership.

9 Records

The branch secretary will notify committee members of forthcoming meetings and will keep a permanent record of all proceedings, which should include:

- a) The names of all officers and members of the branch committee attending meetings
- b) All decisions taken by the branch committee
- c) All decisions taken at the AGM or at a Special General Meeting of the branch

10 Quorum

A quorum of the committee consists of one third of the total elected committee members and honorary officers. In the absence of the chair, the vice chair or other honorary officer should take the chair.

11 Special General Meetings of the Committee

Any three elected members and/or honorary officers may request the honorary secretary to convene a special meeting of the committee within a period of 21 days, stating the business to be discussed. The honorary secretary should also advise the HO regional coordinator of the requirement to hold a special meeting of the committee.

12 Duties and Responsibilities of Officers

- a) The honorary treasurer will keep accounts of all monies received and expended by the branch and will report to the committee at each meeting on the state of the finances.
- b) The honorary treasurer will ensure that the accounts are examined annually and will forward a copy of the branch accounts, together with such other information as may be required, to the finance manager at the RSB, by such date as may be set.
- c) The honorary treasurer will produce a budget for the forthcoming year that will be agreed with HO and submitted for approval by such date as may be set.

13 Annual General Meeting

A General Meeting of the members of the branch must be held in each financial year. A quorum of 10 members will regulate the annual meeting which is chaired by the chair, or in

their absence the vice-chair, or in the absence of both officers by a member of the branch committee. Notification of the Annual General Meeting must be given at least six weeks prior to the date of the meeting stating the date, place and time of that meeting, together with the agenda and any call for nominations for election to the committee.

14 Special General Meeting

Any 10 corporate members of the branch may request the honorary secretary to convene a Special General Meeting of the branch, stating the business to be discussed. At least 21 days' notice of such a Special General Meeting is required.

15 Powers of Branch Committee

The branch committee has the powers to decide on matters not provided for in the foregoing Constitution so long as such decisions do not contravene the Charter, Bylaws or Regulations of the RSB.

16 Changes to the Constitution

The Constitution and Bylaws can be changed only after notice of the proposed changes have been made to the Annual General Meeting and thereafter agreed by a vote of at least two-thirds of those attending a subsequent Annual or Special General Meeting. Any proposal for changes to this Constitution must be agreed with the regional coordinator on behalf of the RSB prior to adoption at an Annual or Special General Meeting of the branch. Any proposal for changes arising at an Annual or Special General Meeting not previously agreed with HO must be approved before implementation.

17 Dissolution of the Branch

In the event that the branch is unable to operate for any reason, a motion to dissolve the branch will be made by the branch committee at a Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. If the motion is carried, then any monies or property currently held by the branch must be returned immediately to the RSB.

18 Date of Effect

This Constitution was agreed at the 2023 online Annual General Meeting of the Southeast Asia branch on 7th September 2023 and will be effective from that date.

Appendix C (Chair's Report):



Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

AGM Thursday 7th September 2023

Via Zoom

13.00 BST, 19.00 BKK time, 20.00 Malaysia / Singapore / Philippines time

1. Welcome by Chair - Dr Alexander Waller CBIOL FRSB
2. Apologies for absence & record of quorum by Secretary – Dr Andrew Lucy CBIOL FRSB
3. Welcome from Council and overview of current matters by the Chair of the College of Individual Members and Council Member – Professor Nigel Brown OBE CBIOL FRSB
4. Introduction of Committee Members and Review of Roles and Terms of Office – All current committee members
5. Ratification of Committee / call for nominations and election of new committee members
6. Chair's report – Dr Alexander Waller CBIOL FRSB
7. Treasurer's report – Professor Jomel Vasquez CBIOL MRSB
8. Report on past events and preplanning/scheduling of events for 2024 – Dr Marisa Khoo MRSB
9. Social Media report – Dr Adhityo Wicaksono MRSB
10. Collaborative Efforts – Dr Adeline Chia MRSB
11. Motions from Committee Members
 - a. Accreditation issues (Associate Professor Goh Bey Hing)
 - b. Committee structure (Dr Alex Waller)
12. AOB

Recognition of academic quality

Accreditation - an externally-validated mark of 'good practice', assures graduates have appropriate skills & knowledge.

Enhanced student recruitment opportunities

Potential students know the course meets a set of criteria determined by independent bioscience professionals.

External review of programmes and mechanism to drive change within an institution

The process of Accreditation not only assesses degree programmes but also shares and highlights good practice.

Publicity following successful Accreditation

The RSB will advertise the institution as accredited on our website.

Greater employability prospects and enhanced competitiveness in a global jobs market

The Accreditation programme establishes a profile of key skills that bioscience employers can recognise in graduates.

Professional body Accreditation of their degree

Students can be confident that the degree they are choosing is of a high standard and has been assessed.

Free membership/registration to the RSB

Graduates from accredited programmes are entitled to a free year of membership to the Society.



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Committee structure

Dr Lai-Hock Tey MRSB (Malaysia)	Chair: Dr Alexander Waller CBIol FRSB (Thailand)
Dr Ying Ming Ivan Yow MRSB (Singapore)	Secretary: Dr Andrew Lucy CBIol FRSB (Singapore)
Dr Goh Bey Hing CBIol MRSB (Malaysia)	Treasurer: Prof. Jomel Vasquez CBIol MRSB (Philippines)
Dr Hajar Fauzan Ahmad MRSB (Malaysia)	Event organiser: Dr Marisa Khoo MRSB (Malaysia)
Professor Wan Iryani Wan Ismail MRSB (Malaysia)	External society liaison: Dr Adeline Chia MRSB (Malaysia)
Dr Eunice Siew Ching Ngai MRSB (Malaysia)	Social media coordinator and team:
Mr Terry Morgan MRSB (Thailand)	Dr Adhityo Wicaksono MRSB (Indonesia)
Dr Yuh Fen Pung MRSB (Malaysia)	Mr Reza Raihandhany MRSB (Indonesia)
Dr Yusrizam Sharifuddin CBIol MRSB (Malaysia)	Mr Ahmad Fadil Rizkyantoro AMRSB (Indonesia)

Composition

The branch committee must consist of the following: a) the honorary officers: chair, vice-chair (optional), secretary and treasurer, nominated from the individual voting members of the branch b) up to 12 ordinary members, nominated from all grades of membership of the branch c) up to three additional members of the branch, co-opted by the committee.

Election of Officers and Committee Members

The election of officers and committee members will be conducted and ratified at an Annual General Meeting of the branch or, exceptionally, at a Special General Meeting (SGM) convened for that purpose and annually thereafter.

Elections of officers and committee members will be by ballot of those Individual Voting Members, registered in the branch one month prior to the election.

The ballot will be carried out at the AGM or SGM or by postal vote held at the discretion of the Committee and ratified at the AGM or SGM.

Tenure of Office

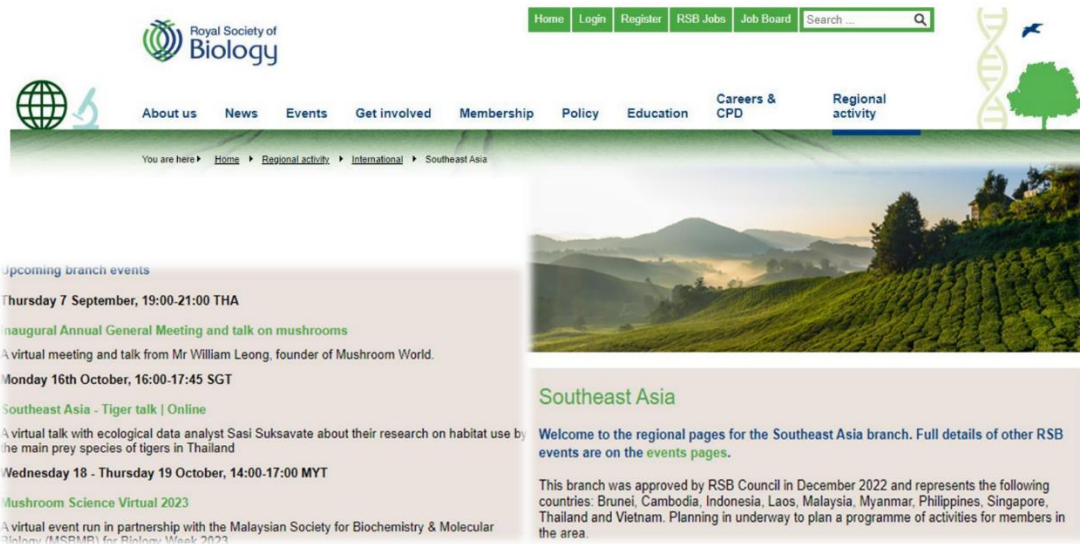
Normally no person should serve as an honorary officer in the same capacity for a period of more than five consecutive years.

Normally, no person should serve as an ordinary member of committee for more than 10 consecutive years.

SEA branch developments to date:

- January 2023 inaugural meeting – elected office bearers to committee
- Subsequent committee meetings - defined some committee roles (see RSB page)
- Social media sites developed and trialed (FB and Instagram; Twitter closed)
- May 2023 1st online talk Dr Ivan Yow Ying Ming - YouTube recording
- August 2023 online symposium (abstract reviewers, judges and speakers)
- AGM and 2nd online talk Mr William Leong
- Next steps: submit budget and event plans for next year 1/10/23 – 30/9/24
- Biology Week 2023 and beyond





Home | Login | Register | RSB Jobs | Job Board | Search

About us | News | Events | Get involved | Membership | Policy | Education | Careers & CPD | **Regional activity**

You are here: Home > Regional activity > International > Southeast Asia

Upcoming branch events

Thursday 7 September, 19:00-21:00 THA
Inaugural Annual General Meeting and talk on mushrooms
 A virtual meeting and talk from Mr William Leong, founder of Mushroom World.

Monday 16th October, 16:00-17:45 SGT
Southeast Asia - Tiger talk | Online
 A virtual talk with ecological data analyst Sasi Suksavate about their research on habitat use by the main prey species of tigers in Thailand.

Wednesday 18 - Thursday 19 October, 14:00-17:00 MYT
Mushroom Science Virtual 2023
 A virtual event run in partnership with the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (MSBMB) for Biology Week 2023.

Southeast Asia
 Welcome to the regional pages for the Southeast Asia branch. Full details of other RSB events are on the [events pages](#).

This branch was approved by RSB Council in December 2022 and represents the following countries: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam. Planning in underway to plan a programme of activities for members in the area.

Our first two day online symposium



UTAR Interscience SYMPOSIUM 2023
 26th to 27th Aug. 2023

UTAR
 UNIVERSITI TUNKU ABDUL RAHMAN
 Wholly owned by UTAR Education Foundation
 (Co. No. S78227-M)
 DUE12(A)

Centre for Agriculture and Food Research

QIU
 QUEST INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

INTI
 International University

Royal Society of Biology

Home | About Symposium | Programme booklet (with schedule) and abstracts | History | Registration, fees and abstract submission | Contacts | Acknowledgements

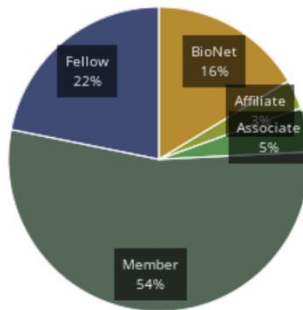


UTAR Interscience Symposium 2023 (UISS 2023)

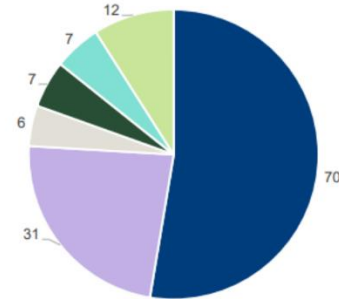
"Develop sustainable future and environment with Science and Technology"

Grade Count %

BioNet	21	16%
Affiliate	4	3%
Associate	6	5%
Member	69	54%
Fellow	28	22%
Total	128	



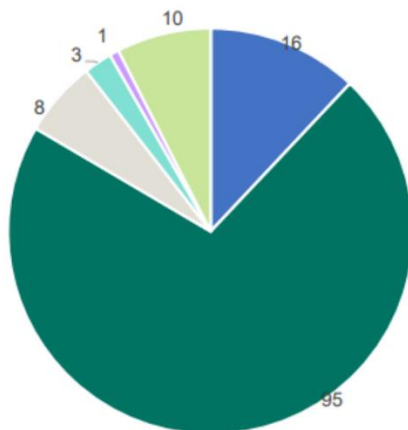
Number of Southeast Asia branch members per country



■ Malaysia ■ Singapore ■ Philippines ■ Thailand ■ Indonesia ■ Other

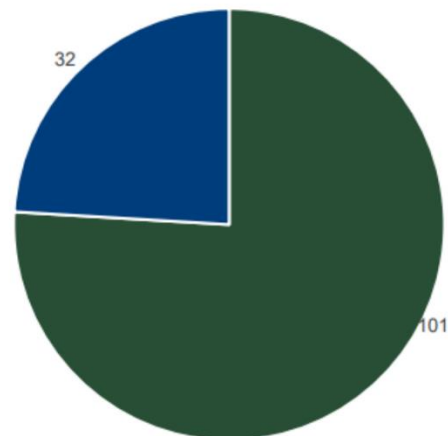
There are 49 persons who have subscribed to branch notifications.

Membership category of Southeast Asia branch members and subscribers



■ Student ■ Full ■ Retired ■ Life ■ Complimentary ■ Reduce

Southeast Asia branch members vs subscribers



■ Branch member ■ Subscriber

Biology Week

16-20 October 2023



A Southeast Asia branch event featuring ecological data analyst Sasi Suksavate



Biology Week 2023 also includes our next symposium:

MMUSHROOM SCIENCE VIRTUAL 2023

an event hosted by the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology-Special Interest Group

18 - 19 October 2023 || 2.00PM - 5.00PM (GMT+8)



The MSBMB Special Interest Group (SIG)-Mushroom Science, in collaboration with the Royal Society of Biology (UK) Southeast Asia Branch, is deeply honored to host the 4th Annual Mushroom Science Virtual 2023 (MSV2023) meeting.

Biology Week: Southeast Asia: Mushroom Science Virtual 2023



Completed Bookings

25

Booked	Name	Cost	Balance
--------	------	------	---------

No records found

Showing 0 to 0 of 0 entries



Summary

Registration

This event is free to attend and will take place via Zoom. Bookings will open soon on the MSBMB website.

Bookings 0

Persons 0

Members 0

Contact

For event and booking queries, please contact Marisa Khoo at khoomarisa@gmail.com or Adeline Chia at YokeYin.Chia@taylors.edu.my

For other queries, contact Karen Patel at regions@rsb.org.uk or on +44(0)20 3925 3443.



Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

14 likes • 39 followers

[Posts](#) [About](#) [Photos](#) [Videos](#)



1. Welcome by Chair - Dr Alexander Waller CBIol FRSB
2. Apologies for absence & record of quorum by Secretary – Dr Andrew Lucy CBIol FRSB
3. Welcome from Council and overview of current matters by the Chair of the College of Individual Members and Council Member – Professor Nigel Brown OBE CBIol FRSB
4. Introduction of Committee Members and Review of Roles and Terms of Office – All current committee members
5. Ratification of Committee / call for nominations and election of new committee members
6. Chair's report – Dr Alexander Waller CBIol FRSB
7. Treasurer's report – Professor Jomel Vasquez CBIol MRSB
8. Report on past events and preplanning/scheduling of events for 2024 – Dr Marisa Khoo MRSB
9. Social Media report – Dr Adhityo Wicaksono MRSB
10. Collaborative Efforts – Dr Adeline Chia MRSB
11. Motions from Committee Members
 - a. Accreditation issues (Associate Professor Goh Bey Hing)
 - b. Committee structure (Dr Alex Waller)
12. AOB

Appendix D (Treasurer's Report):



TREASURER'S REPORT

Jomel B. Vasquez, RMT, MSMT, MLS(ASCPi), AHI(AMT), CBiol, MRSB, MRSTMH

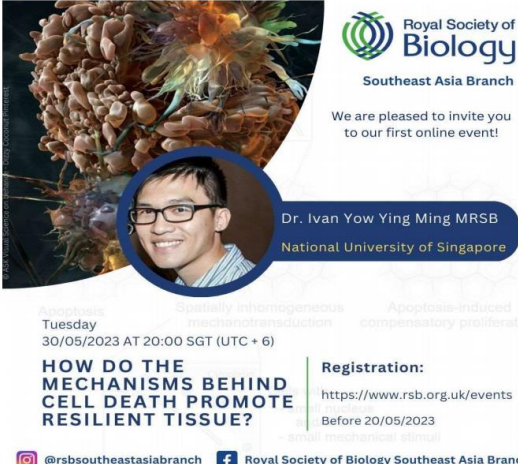
BRANCH OFFICER - TREASURER

ROYAL SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY – SOUTHEAST ASIA BRANCH

TREASURER



- FINANCIAL SUPPORT
- ACCOUNT MANAGEMENT
- TRANSPARENCY, HONESTY AND INTEGRITY
- REPORTING TO BRANCH CHAIR AND ITS COUNCIL & ADVISE
- INCREASE OF FUNDS
- COMMUNICATION



Royal Society of
Biology
Southeast Asia Branch

We are pleased to invite you
to our first online event!

Dr. Ivan Yow Ying Ming MRSB
National University of Singapore

Tuesday
30/05/2023 AT 20:00 SGT (UTC + 6)

**HOW DO THE
MECHANISMS BEHIND
CELL DEATH PROMOTE
RESILIENT TISSUE?**

Registration:
<https://www.rsb.org.uk/events>
Before 20/05/2023

@rsbsoutheastasiabrand f Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

UISS 2023

Prizes awarded and gift to speakers

Thank you to Mr Terry Morgan MRSB for generously supporting this..

Books 60.00

Memberships **given at no charge**

3 Associate = 3 x 97.00 = 279.00

4 student = 4 x 20.00 = 80.00

Total projected expenditure = 60.00 GBP

EXPENSE CLAIM FORM
(Please note that claims older than two months will not be eligible for reimbursement)

Meeting/Event/Expense Detail <small>(e.g. Council Meeting – rail fare to London)</small>	Date	Expenditure		Nominal Code	Cost Centre	OFFICE USE ONLY		
		Travel/Car Mileage <small>(45p per mile for first 10,000 miles per annum, 25p per mile thereafter)</small>	Other			Gross	VAT	Net
TOTAL FOR EACH EXPENSE TYPE								
TOTAL CLAIM AMOUNT		£						
Claimant Name & Full Address:				Email address: <small>(this section must be completed)</small>		Claimant Bank Account Name: <small>(UK Bank only)</small>		
						Sort Code:		
						Account No:		
Claimant signature:						Claim Date:		
<small>I certify that the total amount claimed above represents expenses actually and necessarily incurred by me on Royal Society of Biology business.</small>								
Signature for car mileage claims:								
<small>I confirm that I have adequate vehicle insurance cover and that the Royal Society of Biology is indemnified against third party claims.</small>								
Authorised by (print & sign):				Date:				
OFFICE USE ONLY								

- RSB SOUTHEAST ASIA BRANCH FUNDS will be automatically refill tantamount to our previous year funds which is 1000 GBP.
- Since we don't have yet our own bank account, we don't need to submit bank statement to our headquarters. However, what we need to do is the lists of events, prizes and etc. for the upcoming fiscal year.

REFERENCES



- [https://www.rsb.org.uk/images/Guidelines for branch finances 2022-23-1.pdf](https://www.rsb.org.uk/images/Guidelines_for_branch_finances_2022-23-1.pdf)
- www.rsb.org.uk/branch-resources
- RSB SOUTHEAST ASIA BRANCH MINUTES OF MEETING MARCH 2023

Appendix E (Events Report):



AGM - Event Organizing

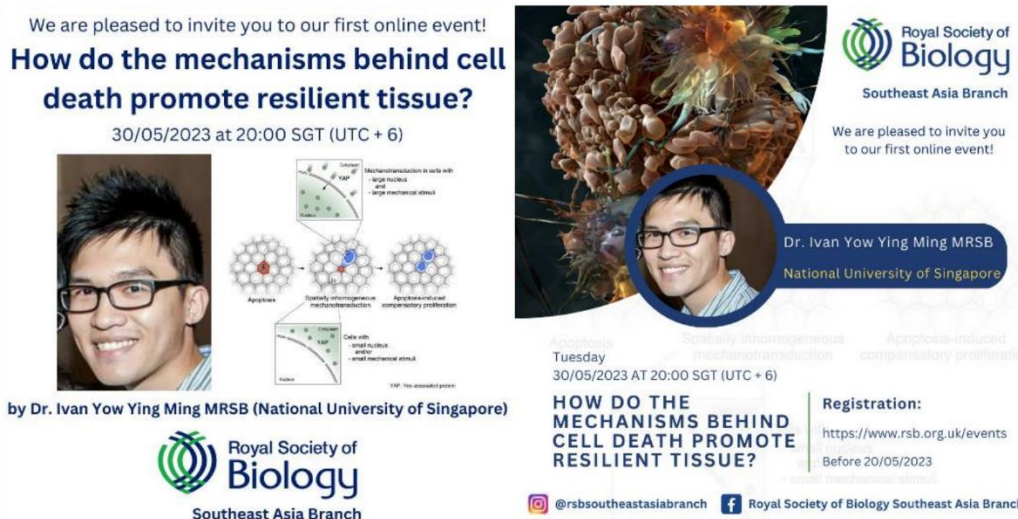
By: Marisa Khoo, MRSB

7 September 2023 (Thursday)




Ivan's talk on May 30th


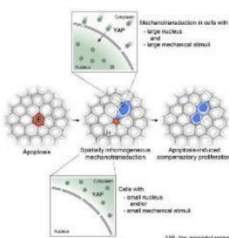
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pEXOkxQQglo&t=2898s>





We are pleased to invite you to our first online event!

How do the mechanisms behind cell death promote resilient tissue?

30/05/2023 at 20:00 SGT (UTC + 6)

by Dr. Ivan Yow Ying Ming MRSB (National University of Singapore)

Dr. Ivan Yow Ying Ming MRSB
National University of Singapore

HOW DO THE MECHANISMS BEHIND CELL DEATH PROMOTE RESILIENT TISSUE?

Registration:
<https://www.rsb.org.uk/events>
Before 20/05/2023

@rsbsoutheastasiabranh | Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

41 registrants, and 23 international attendees.

UISS 2023 on 26-27 August 2023



Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch
UTAR
UISS 2023

UTAR INTERVARSITY SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM (UISS) 2023:
Develop Sustainable Future and Environment with Science and Technology

Topic:
Agriculture & Food Science;
Biochemistry & Chemical Biology;
Biomedical Science & Health Science;
Biotechnology & Microbiology;
Chemistry;
Mathematics

Registration Deadline: 31st July 2023
For further information and details: <https://uiss.utar.edu.my>

Registration Fee
Students:
UTAR organizing partners : RM 5
Other institutions : RM 10
Non-students:
CAFR, CBNR members & Alumni : RM 5
Others : RM 10

<https://me-qr.com/pAIXUBvv>

@rsbsoutheastasiabranch | Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch



Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch
UTAR
UISS 2023

UTAR INTERVARSITY SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM (UISS) 2023:
Develop Sustainable Future and Environment with Science and Technology

Invited Speakers

- Dr. Alexander Waller, CBIOL, FRSB
AUSN, Thailand
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lee Wai-Lena
Monash University, Malaysia
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Alice Escalante De Cruz
Nilai University, Malaysia
- Assoc. Prof. Dr. Lee Jai Shya
Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia
- Encik Mohd Izhom Bin Ahmad
MOKamper, Malaysia
- Dato Lee Mok Foong
Trans Eco Development Sdn Bhd, Malaysia

SATURDAY-SUNDAY
26-27 AUGUST 2023 8.30 A.M - 5 P.M MYT (UTC + 8)

Registration:
<https://me-qr.com/pAIXUBvv>

@rsbsoutheastasiabranch | Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

- 104 attendees, 59 presenters (undergraduates and postgraduates)
- 3 postgraduate winners and 4 undergraduate winners for best presenter
- one-year student or associate membership of the RSB to winners.



Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

**Southeast Asia Branch
Inaugural Annual
General Meeting (AGM)
& Talk on Mushroom**

With Guest Speaker:

Mr. William Leong
Founder of Mushroom World Academy

THURSDAY
7 SEPTEMBER 2023
12:00 UTC (19:00 THAI; 20:00
SINGAPORE/PHILIPPINES /MALAYSIA/INDONESIA)

Registration:
<https://my.rsb.org.uk/item.php?eventid=4105>

@rsbsoutheastasiabranch | Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

27 registrants
(as of 4 Sept 2023)

Mushroom Science Virtual: 18-19 October 2023



Mushroom Science Virtual 2023
The 4th Annual Mushroom Science Virtual 2023 (MSV2023) Meeting

A Southeast Asia branch event run in partnership with the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (MSBMB) for Biology Week 2023

Plenary speaker:



Prof. Liu JiKai
South-Central University for Nationalities (China)



Mr. William Leong
Founder of Mushroom World Academy

Day 1: Oral presentations

Day 2: Poster presentation

SATURDAY-SUNDAY
18-19 OCTOBER 2023 2 - 5 P.M MYT (UTC + 8)

Registration:
<https://goo.by/bLjg1>

 @rsbsoutheastasiabranch  Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch



The MSBMB Special Interest Group (SIG) mushroom science is a community within MSBMB with a shared interest in advancing knowledge, learning or technology in the area of mushroom science.



We are pleased to invite mushroom researchers from all over Asia to gather in this meeting with the aims of stimulating research, encouraging academic exchange and strengthening networking connections. We are providing a platform for young scholars to discuss recent advances and future trends of Mushroom Science to advance their professional development.



An event hosted by the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology-Special Interest Group (SIG): Mushroom Science, in collaboration with RSB (UK) Southeast Asia Branch

For further information, kindly contact at mushroomscience.msmb@gmail.com

 @rsbsoutheastasiabranch  Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

Status update for event in progress for Year 2023

- AGM (7 September)
 - Pending setup zoom link and submit to HQ
 - Current committee profile to be included for disseminate to members with agenda
 - Confirmation with invited speaker William Leong.
- 4th Mushroom Science Virtual 2023 (MSV2023) Meeting <https://msbmb2010.wixsite.com/msv2023> (18-19 August 2023)
 - Co-organizer.
- Tiger Prey presentation – online virtual talk by Sasi Parn Suksavate
 - Date confirmed, set on 16 Oct 2023
 - Proposal and risk assessment submitted to HQ on 1 Sep 2023.

Event in pipeline for Year 2024

Event Type	Person involve	Title
1 Online lecture	Eunice Siew Ching Ngai	The TRAIL to cancer therapy: Hindrances and potential solutions
2 Online lecture	Adhityo Wicaksono	Rafflesiaceae: The Odd Tale of Parasitic Plant's Evolution and Life Cycle
3 Online lecture	Pung Yuh Fen	Profiling of the micro-RNA Landscape within Human Vascular Smooth Muscle Cells and Exosomes during Replicative Senescence
4 Online lecture	Lee Learn Han	The application of WGS for environmental sampling to better understand the natural variation of foodborne organisms.
5 Online Panel Discussion	Marisa Khoo	Job opportunities and prospect for young biologists in Southeast Asia region.
6 Online lecture	Terry Morgan	A biologist in business, possibly along with ideas for better attracting younger members and the promotion of Southeast Asian biosciences

Appendix F (Social Media Report):



RSB SEA Branch – Social Media – Inaugural Annual General Meeting (Sep 2023)

Dr. Adhityo Wicaksono MRSB

Reza Raihandhany MRSB

Ahmad Fadil Rizkyantoro AMRSB

Personnel



Dr. Adhityo Wicaksono MRSB

Expertise: Botany, popular biology, bioinformatics,
biotechnology

Coordination with other committees
Design and content coordinator



Reza Raihandhany MRSB

Expertise: Botany, ethnobotany,
biosystematics

Content creator
Design team



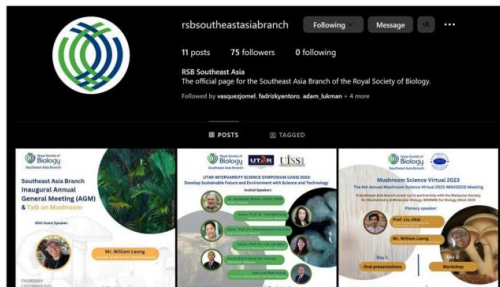
Ahmad Fadil Rizkyantoro AMRSB

Expertise: Mycology, biotechnology

Content creator
Design team

Our Social Media

Instagram ([@rsbsoutheastasiabrand](https://www.instagram.com/rsbsoutheastasiabrand))
75 followers

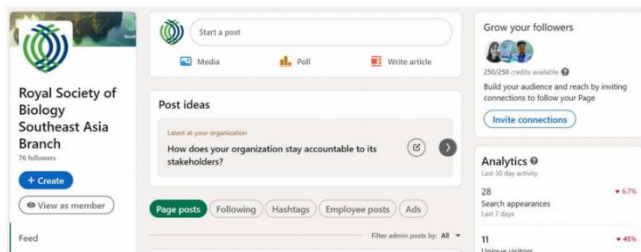


Facebook (<https://web.facebook.com/RSBSoutheastAsiaBranch>)
39 followers



Our Social Media

LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/95062369>)
76 followers



- Following last meeting, **we have elected to remove our Twitter/X account** due to low engagement and to improve management focus

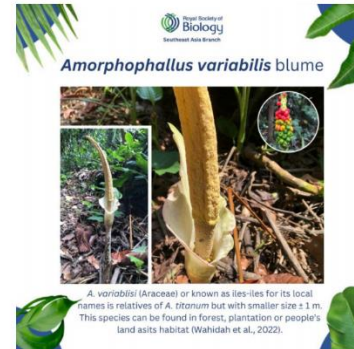
Our Filler Contents: Bite-Sized Biology



Rhizanthese: We featured arts made by local botanical artists to reach out more people



Tropical Rainforest: Our attempt to explain the biodiversity in SEA region



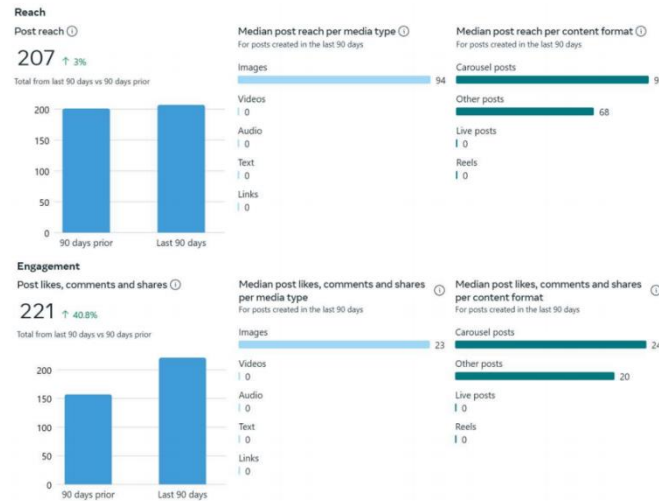
Amorphophallus variabilis: Our attempt to include the shared unique diversity within SEA region

- **Next: Members' research/work highlight, if you want your research to be featured, please reach out**

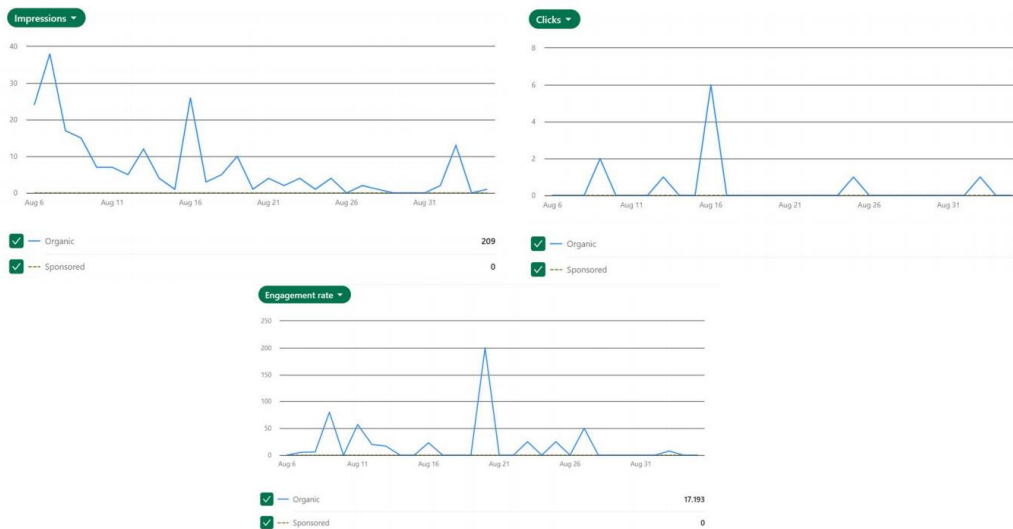
Insights – Facebook has more reach



Insights – Instagram has bigger engagement



Insights – LinkedIn engagement rate is very high



Our First YouTube Video



- YouTube views: 136
- Posted on **Facebook** (liked by 3, reach: 27, impression: 43, engagement: 6) and **LinkedIn** (liked by 23, reposted by 3, organic impression: 297)

Upcoming Event



UTAR INTERVARSITY SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM (UISS) 2023:
Develop Sustainable Future and Environment with Science and Technology

Topic:
Agriculture
Biochemistry
Biomechanics
Biotechnology
Chemistry
Mathematics

Mushroom Science Virtual 2023
The 4th Annual Mushroom Science Virtual 2023 (MSV2023) Meeting
A Southeast Asia branch event run in partnership with the Malaysian Society for Biochemistry & Molecular Biology (MSBMB) for Biology Week 2023

Plenary speaker:
Prof. Liu Jikai
Mr. William Leong

Day 1: Oral presentations
Day 2: Workshop

Registration Fee
Students: RM 50
UTAR organizing partners: RM 50
Other institutions: RM 100

Non-students: CAFR, CBNR members & Alumni
Others

Registration: <https://goo.ly/tytjgt>

WEDNESDAY-THURSDAY
18-19 OCTOBER 2023 14:00 - 17:00 MYT (UTC+8)

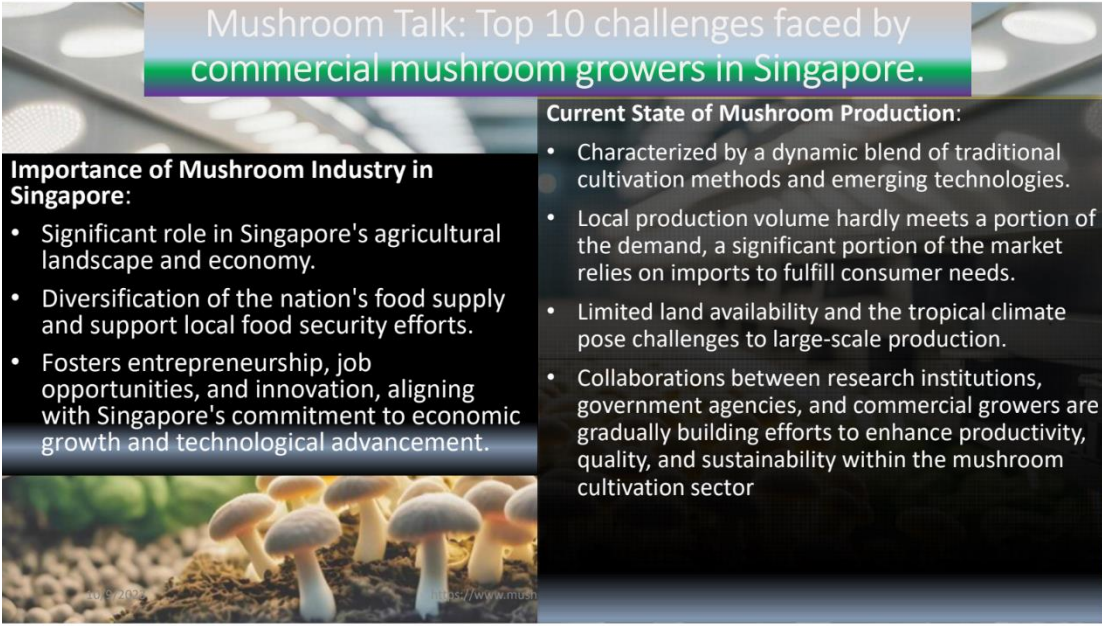
@rsbsoutheastasiabranch | Royal Society of Biology Southeast Asia Branch

- **Next: UTAR Intersvarsity Science Symposium 2023/UISS (Aug), Mushroom Science Virtual 2023 (Oct)**
- Upcoming: Tiger Talk, Biology Week
- Following event approval by committee (including webinar for RSB YouTube), please contact me, I will ask you:
 - The **title of your presentation/event name**
 - **Your consent of photo to be featured** (see left)
 - **Format and color palette:** Format is free, logo and RSB color palette in https://www.rsb.org.uk/images/branch/RSB_brand_guidelines.pdf

Thank you!

For any other query, please contact: adhityo.wicaksono@gmail.com

Appendix G (Presentation by Guest Speaker)




Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

Importance of Mushroom Industry in Singapore:

- Significant role in Singapore's agricultural landscape and economy.
- Diversification of the nation's food supply and support local food security efforts.
- Fosters entrepreneurship, job opportunities, and innovation, aligning with Singapore's commitment to economic growth and technological advancement.

Current State of Mushroom Production:

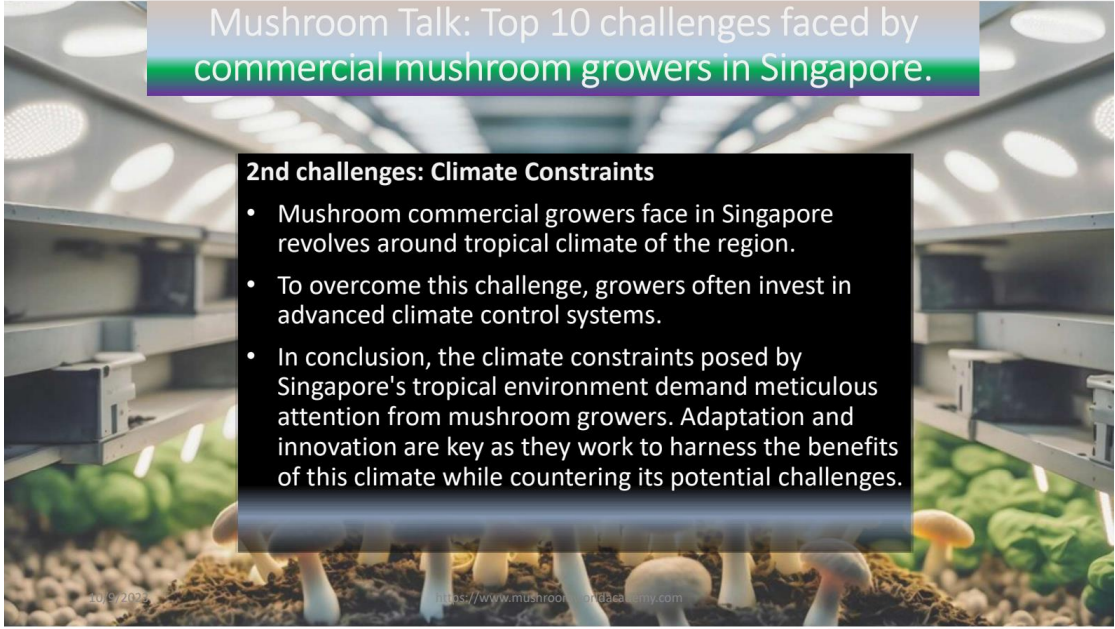
- Characterized by a dynamic blend of traditional cultivation methods and emerging technologies.
- Local production volume hardly meets a portion of the demand, a significant portion of the market relies on imports to fulfill consumer needs.
- Limited land availability and the tropical climate pose challenges to large-scale production.
- Collaborations between research institutions, government agencies, and commercial growers are gradually building efforts to enhance productivity, quality, and sustainability within the mushroom cultivation sector



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

1st challenges: Limited Growing Space

- Limited availability of growing space.
- Urbanization has resulted in increased competition for land, leaving mushroom growers with constrained options for expansion.
- This challenge prompts growers to seek innovative solutions such as vertical farming, indoor cultivation, and repurposing unused spaces.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

2nd challenges: Climate Constraints

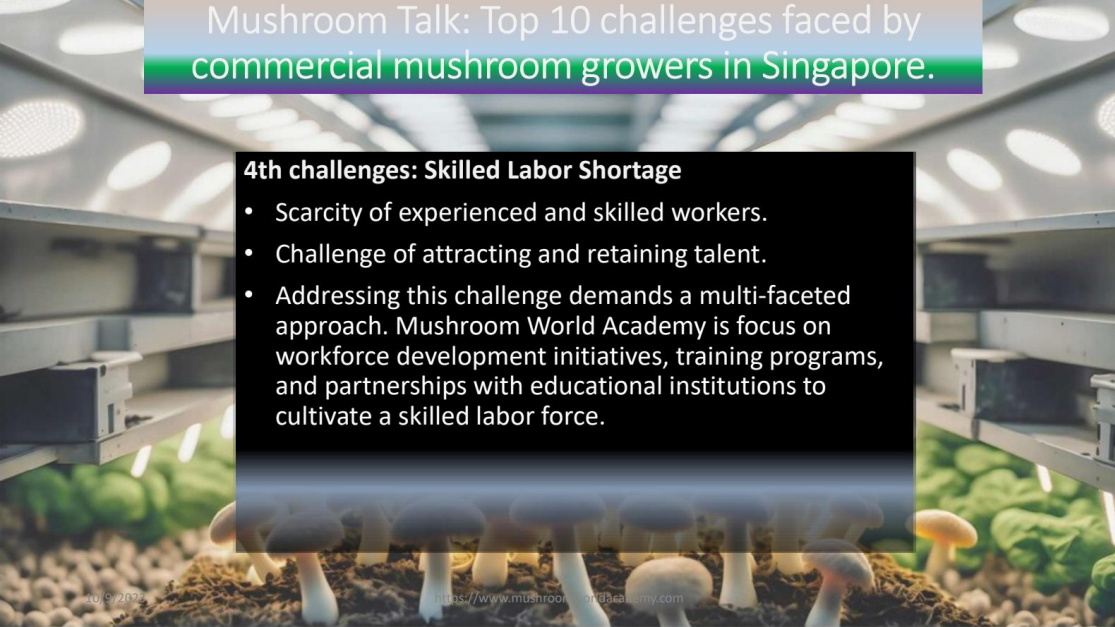
- Mushroom commercial growers face in Singapore revolves around tropical climate of the region.
- To overcome this challenge, growers often invest in advanced climate control systems.
- In conclusion, the climate constraints posed by Singapore's tropical environment demand meticulous attention from mushroom growers. Adaptation and innovation are key as they work to harness the benefits of this climate while countering its potential challenges.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

3rd challenges: High Production Costs

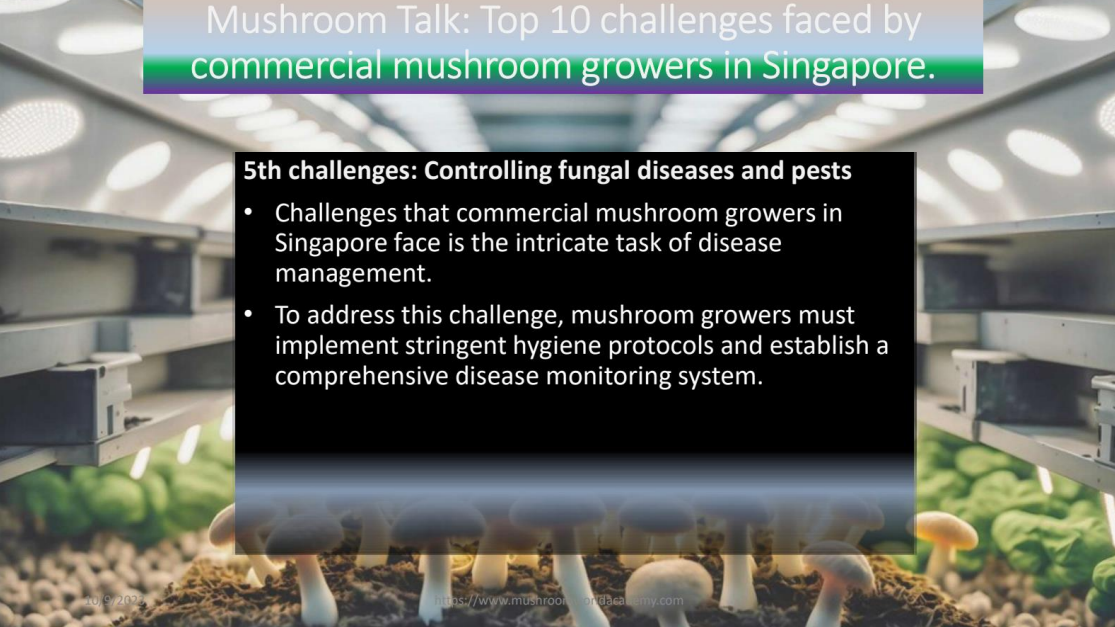
- Equipment Investment.
- Labor Expenses.
- Resource Allocation.
- Profitability Impact.
- Addressing the challenge of high production costs requires a strategic approach.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

4th challenges: Skilled Labor Shortage


- Scarcity of experienced and skilled workers.
- Challenge of attracting and retaining talent.
- Addressing this challenge demands a multi-faceted approach. Mushroom World Academy is focus on workforce development initiatives, training programs, and partnerships with educational institutions to cultivate a skilled labor force.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

5th challenges: Controlling fungal diseases and pests

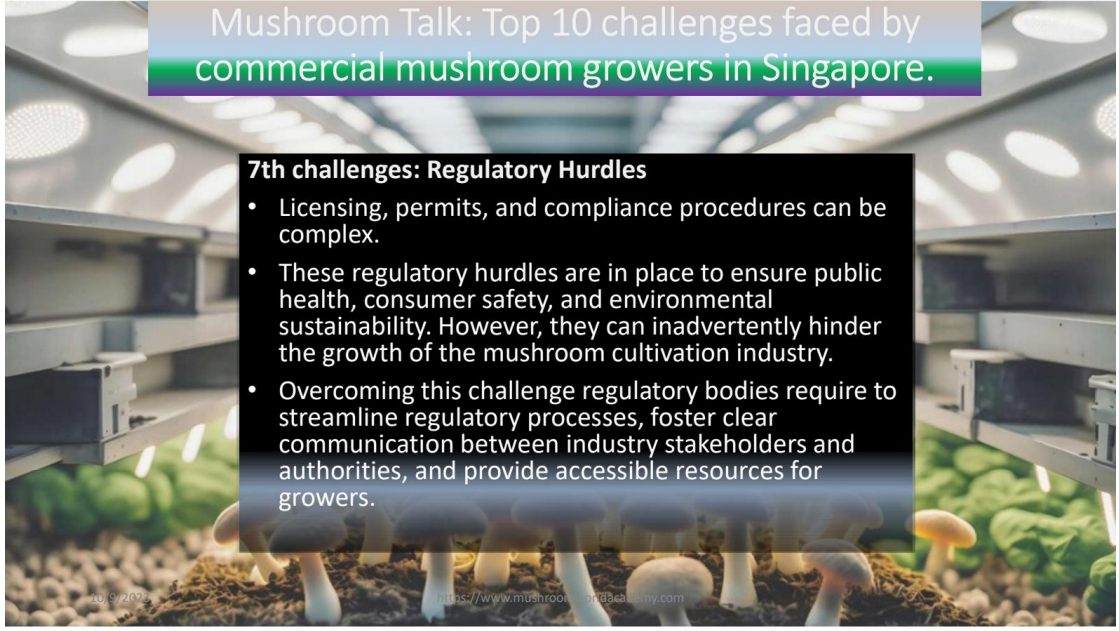
- Challenges that commercial mushroom growers in Singapore face is the intricate task of disease management.
- To address this challenge, mushroom growers must implement stringent hygiene protocols and establish a comprehensive disease monitoring system.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

6th challenges: Market Competition

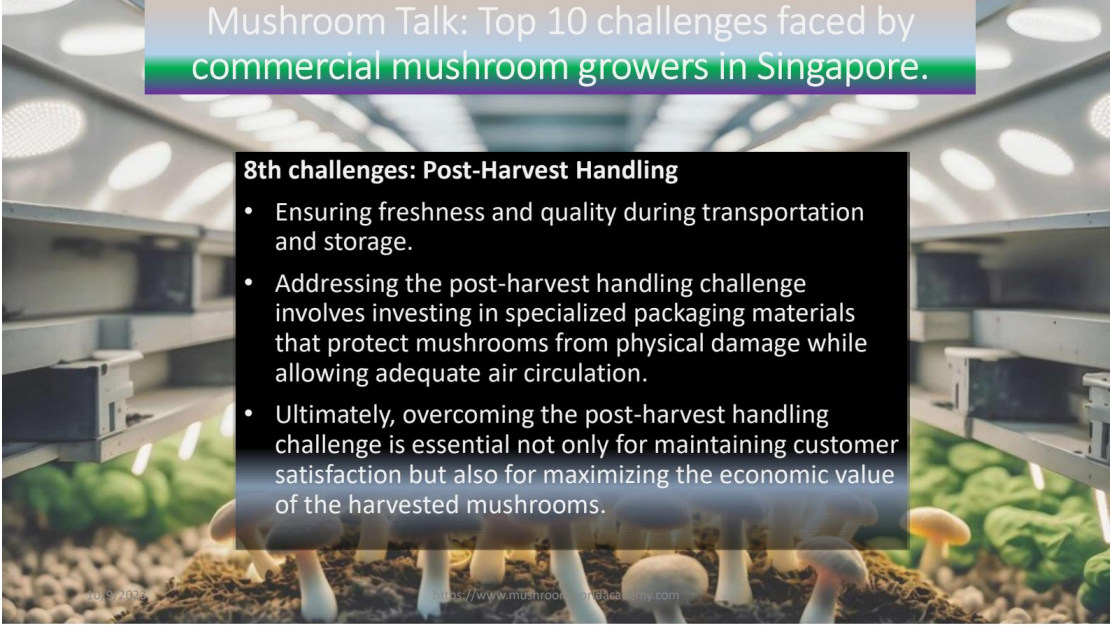
- Imported mushrooms pose competition to locally grown varieties.
- For local growers, this challenge encourages growers to explore innovative cultivation methods and diversify their product range to captivate consumer interest.
- By focusing on authenticity, traceability, and superior taste.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

7th challenges: Regulatory Hurdles

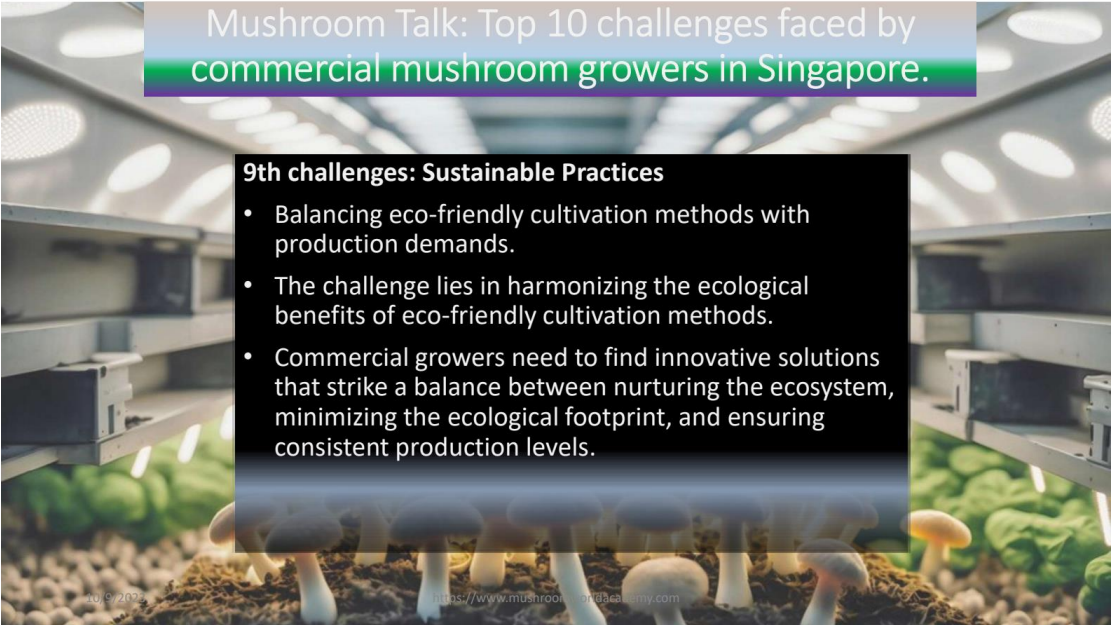
- Licensing, permits, and compliance procedures can be complex.
- These regulatory hurdles are in place to ensure public health, consumer safety, and environmental sustainability. However, they can inadvertently hinder the growth of the mushroom cultivation industry.
- Overcoming this challenge regulatory bodies require to streamline regulatory processes, foster clear communication between industry stakeholders and authorities, and provide accessible resources for growers.



Mushroom Talk: Top 10 challenges faced by
commercial mushroom growers in Singapore.

8th challenges: Post-Harvest Handling

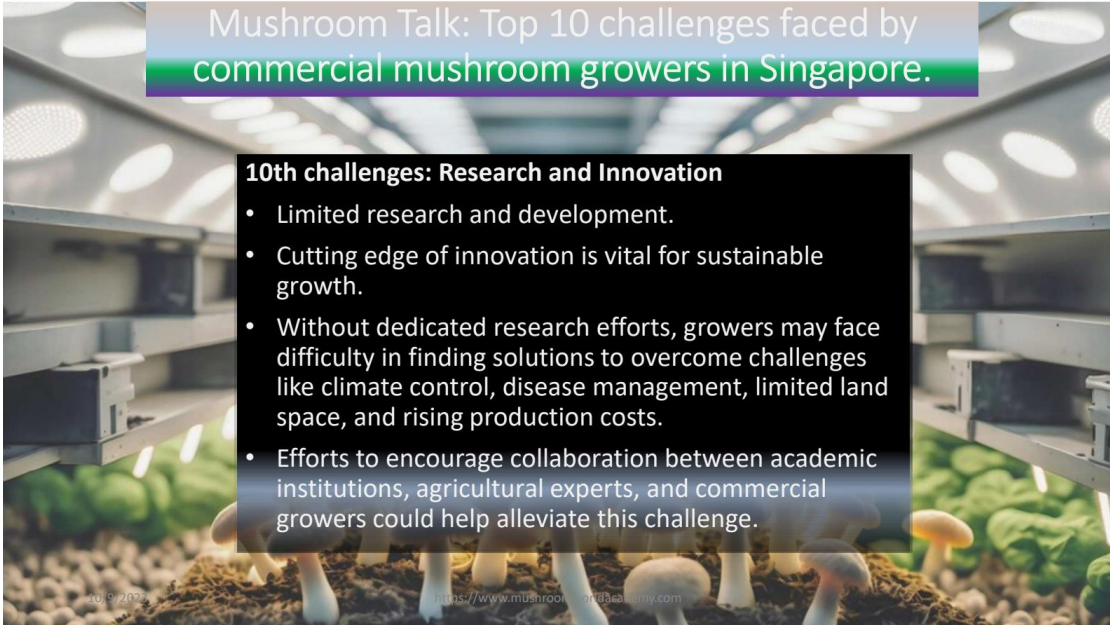
- Ensuring freshness and quality during transportation and storage.
- Addressing the post-harvest handling challenge involves investing in specialized packaging materials that protect mushrooms from physical damage while allowing adequate air circulation.
- Ultimately, overcoming the post-harvest handling challenge is essential not only for maintaining customer satisfaction but also for maximizing the economic value of the harvested mushrooms.



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9th challenges: Sustainable Practices

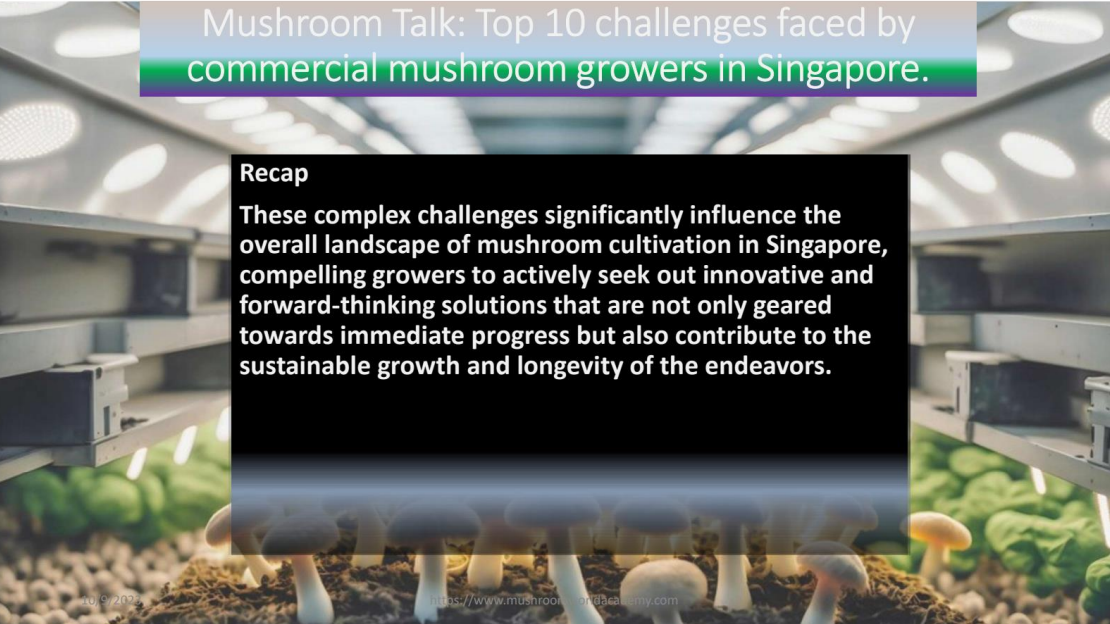
- Balancing eco-friendly cultivation methods with production demands.
- The challenge lies in harmonizing the ecological benefits of eco-friendly cultivation methods.
- Commercial growers need to find innovative solutions that strike a balance between nurturing the ecosystem, minimizing the ecological footprint, and ensuring consistent production levels.



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10th challenges: Research and Innovation

- Limited research and development.
- Cutting edge of innovation is vital for sustainable growth.
- Without dedicated research efforts, growers may face difficulty in finding solutions to overcome challenges like climate control, disease management, limited land space, and rising production costs.
- Efforts to encourage collaboration between academic institutions, agricultural experts, and commercial growers could help alleviate this challenge.



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Recap

These complex challenges significantly influence the overall landscape of mushroom cultivation in Singapore, compelling growers to actively seek out innovative and forward-thinking solutions that are not only geared towards immediate progress but also contribute to the sustainable growth and longevity of the endeavors.

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Q&A

