



ARTHROPOD-FUNGAL ASSOCIATIONS

FROM PARASITES TO PATHOGENS, 3RD EDITION

CONFERENCE, 20-22 MAY 2026

REGISTER HERE

WEDNESDAY, 20TH MAY

 FACULTY OF BIOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ
141/143 BANACHA STR., ŁÓDŹ

10:00-10:15 Conference Opening

10.15-11.00 Redefining Entomopathogens: Taxonomy and Evolution in *Clavicipitaceae* and *Cordycipitaceae* by Jennifer Luangsa-ard

11.00-11.45 Arthropod-Fungal Associations in Biocontrol Contexts by Ibtissem Ben Fekih

12.15-13.00 Fungal pathogens of bees and related associations by Annette Bruun Jensen

13.00-13.45 *Laboulbeniales*, outliers among the fungi by Danny Haelewaters

15.00-17.00 Travel to Spała (Field Station of University of Łódź)

18.30 Get-together-party (optional)



THURSDAY, 21ST MAY

Spała, FIELD STATION OF UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ 
14 WOJCIECHOWSKIEGO STR., SPAŁA

9.00-9.45 Beyond Zombie Ants: Hidden Diversity and Lifestyle Transitions in *Ophiocordyceps* by João Araújo

9.45-10.30 Generalists or Specialists? Rethinking the Ecology of *Aegeritella* by Marta Wrzosek

11.00-11.45 *Entomophthoromycotina*: Taxonomy, Ecology, and Infection Biology by Ibtissem Ben Fekih

11.45-13.30 Elevator pitches and posters by participants (by choice)

15.00-18.00 Field work

19.00 Conference dinner (optional)

FRIDAY, 22ND MAY

 Spała, FIELD STATION OF UNIVERSITY OF ŁÓDŹ
14 WOJCIECHOWSKIEGO STR., SPAŁA

9.00-9.45 Fungal Pathogens of Mites (*Acari*) by Cezary Tkaczuk

9.45-10.30 Preserving, Curating and the Use of Entomopathogenic Fungi by Lee Davies

11.00-16.00 Microscopy practicals by Ibtissem Ben Fekih, Annette Bruun Jensen, Jennifer Luangsa-ard & Aimée Blondelle

16.00-17.00 Round table discussion by Ibtissem Ben Fekih & Małgorzata Ruszkiewicz-Michalska

17.00 closing of conference and invitation to 4th AFA edition

email: sknb.mykonation@gmail.com; website: <https://sites.google.com/view/afa2026>

ORGANIZERS:

Małgorzata Ruszkiewicz-Michalska, PhD, DSc (UniLodz), **Sebastian Piskorski**, MSc (PMS), **Ibtissem Ben Fekih**, PhD (GxABT, ULiège) & **Danny Haelewaters**, PhD (BC, CAS), and **Julia Mejbaum**, **Barbara Adamiec** & **Anna Galińska** (MS BSSS UniLodz), in cooperation with **Anna Biedunkiewicz**, PhD, DSc (UWM, PBS), **Monika Kozłowska**, PhD (UMCS) & **Kamil Kisło**, MSc (BG UW)