Xylarium database and its network

(Laboratory of Biomass Morphogenesis and Information, RISH, Kyoto University)

Junji Sugiyama

Inter-university network on wood diversity

Wood collections are indeed important historical as well as academic records not only in wood science, but rather broad area including chronology, climatology, archeology, history, and so on. Therefore, by making use of the cooperative research function equipped in our institute, the attempts to unify wood database, with participation of Hokkaido University, Tohoku University, the University of Tokyo, Forest and Forest Product Research Institute, Kyoto University and Kyushu University, has been started, and first preliminary results came out. This year, for instance, SEM digital image database from "Ohtani Collection" in Hokkaido University(Fig. 1), digital list of Tohoku University's fossil wood collections, became in good order, and furthermore, regeneration of deteriorated preparation for optical microscopy in Kyushu University have been started.

As for our xylarium database, detailed descriptions and digital data on old wood collections from historical buildings are added. The data includes, dimension, density, high-resolution scan on the transverse face, color, age, usage, and geographic information of the corresponding buildings or artefacts, from nearly 400 specimens.

In addition, in order to visualize our activity better (mi-e-ru-ka), digital archives for visitors were newly prepared and the contents are available by mobile multimedia devices equipped in the virtual field.

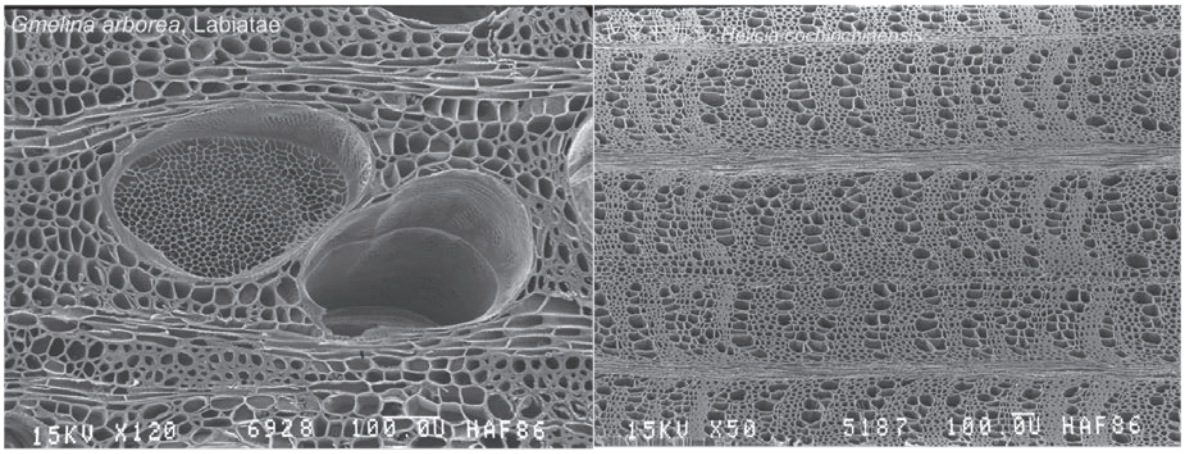

Figure 1 An example of SEM micrographs from "Ohtani collection" (Hokkaido University Database) . Courtesy of Dr. Yuzo Sano.

Acknowledgements

The project was supported by Grant-in-Aid for Publication of Scientific Research Results (database) from The Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology (MEXT) as well as RISH cooperative research project (Humanosphere database).