

The story of fungal endophytes in grapes - Plant bioactives lab at CCARM

Plant fungal endophytes are diverse microbial sources that reside inside the plants. Grapes (*Vitis vinifera*) are rich in polyphenols with health benefits and recent research showed fungal endophytes in grapes may contribute to the production of these polyphenols and as biocontrol agents. Wijekoon lab at CCRM investigated the fungal microbial endophyte diversity in fruit of the North American table grapes found in Winnipeg market. The information can be found in the article titled 'Fungal endophyte diversity in table grape berries' which was accepted in Canadian Journal of Microbiology, <https://doi.org/10.1139/cjm-2020-0293>.

The results provided evidence of diverse fungal endophytes isolated and identified from the fruit of the table grapes and these fungal endophytes may have potential in agricultural, industrial, and pharmaceutical applications. Co-author Zoe Quill was recruited under the Indigenous Health Summer Student Program with the affiliation of St. Boniface hospital.

