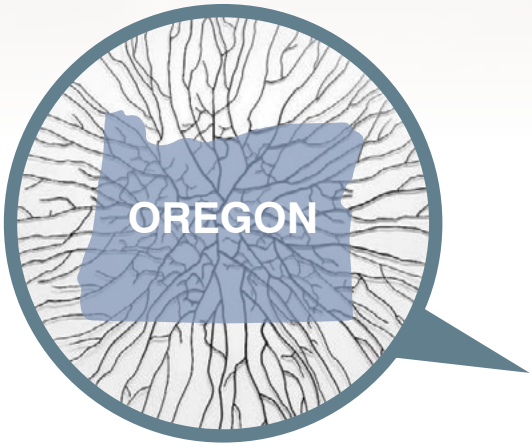
Interesting facts About Mycelium

Composed of vegetative matter the structural part of fungi which forms its vegetative growth and mass is mycelium, a eukaryotic cell encapsulated by a rigid cell wall.

Mycelium (the root-like structure of mushrooms) is a Fungi which occupies an unusual position in our world as having characteristics of both a plant and animal and thus their own kingdom.

Mycology materials have only recently begun to be explored as an engineering material, and thus far research into their mechanical properties has been very limited. Mycelium is currently being commercially developed for packaging materials, insulation, structural insulating panels, and acoustical tiles.

Due to their high growth rates, non toxicity and sustainability mycelium based materials are being explored for use in structural and architectural applications, including using mycelium based building blocks for avant-garde structures termed Mycotechure.



Mycelium has a fast growth rate and will continue to grow without limitation with sufficient nutrients - the largest known mycelium growth is in eastern Oregon, covering over 2,400 acres and estimated at over 2,200 years old.

Mycelium materials can be grown in large volumes from waste feed-stocks such as:

Cotton carpels

Corn husks

Wood chips

Being able to use materials like this eradicate the need for costly manufacturing processes and offer improved environmental safety.

Mycelium are an important part of our ecosystem, and play a vital role in the recycling of minerals and carbon and in the nitrogen-fixing cycle.

Mycelium material had an average density and strength comparable to polystyrene, indicating properties closest to Polystyrene expanded foam.

Oceans & waterways would be so much cleaner in the future by deploying floating sacks of mycelium mixed with straw or wood chips. The sacks can absorb and constrain oil slicks, or be placed downstream from farms to catch E. coli before it reaches essential waterways.

Mycelium can completely break down in under 5 months in saltwater