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Identification of Common *Aspergillus* species (2002), by Dr. Maren A. KLICH (*United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Southern Regional Research Center, PO Box 19687, NEW ORLEANS, LA (Louisiana), 70179 U.S.A. (e-mail: mklich@nola.srrc.usda.gov)*); published and distributed by the Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures, P.O. Box 85167, 3508 AD Utrecht, The NETHERLANDS. In addition, this book may be purchased via the internet from: www.cbs.knaw.nl

Aspergillus is a large genus which is important economically, ecologically and medically. Species of it are most abundant and widely distributed in soil, water, air, seed, food, etc. Although molecular, biochemical and physiological methods are important in the systematics of *Aspergillus* species, morphological properties are commonly used for identification. This new book focuses on the morphological characteristics of the common *Aspergillus* species for identification. In addition, there are descriptions of some uncommon species. Although there are nearly 200 accepted *Aspergillus* species, this book considers only the morphology of the 45 most common species; it is not intended to be a monograph of the genus. New approaches are available in this book and

it is highly recommended for *Aspergillus* taxonomists and MSc and PhD students studying mycology.

This book is printed on good quality paper in an easily readable font (*Times New Roman*). The strength of the book is that it contains over 270 photographs and electron micrographs, and an identification key. In addition, there are 36 colour plates. The book is 21.0 x 27.9 cm in size and has 122 pages. The contents are as follows: introduction; economic and medical importance of *Aspergillus*; systematics; morphological features of importance for identification, learning to recognize morphological features, media and incubation, using this book, hints for making observations and using the key, identification key, species descriptions, literature cited, appendix 1- a table of some major characteristics of *Aspergillus* species, and appendix 2- data sheet. Species descriptions are arranged alphabetically by species name. Each species description contains sections on colony diameters, colours and textures, microscopic characteristics, distinguishing features, taxonomic references, habitats and (if present) common synonyms and major mycotoxins. On the pages facing the species descriptions are photographs of colonies, conidial heads and other important features.