EU-RECIPE: Charquemont meeting, 23th-27th October, 2003

Minutes of "Microbial ecology group" sessions (by A. Gattinger)

1st session, Saturday, 25th, October, 2003:
(Partcipants: R. Artz, A. Chatzinotas, A. Gattinger, A. Siegenthaler, assistent of D. Gilbert??? Emilie)

1. It is still not clear which DNA extraction protocol is used for prokaryotic and fungal DNA fingerprinting within RECIPE. The decicision for the protocol is also based on the exact fingerprinting approach of GSF: bacterial or archaeal communities?
2. Samples 2-8 of the "sampling strategy figure" are investigated for PLFA and DNA fingerprinting
3. The upper layer (sample 2) is fixed with glutaraladehyde (GA) for protozoan analyses following the FISH approach. The layers 3-8 are deep frozen after sampling and are provided for Antonis Chatzinotas for further analysis.
4. There is no need for anoxic sampling within the "Microbial ecology group"
5. The "Microbial ecology group" supports the importance of determining the fresh volume/pore water content of the different layers in the peat core (2-8) during field sampling
6. The group intents to establish an eukaryotic clone library by analysing two contratsing samples following D. Gilberts results.

2nd session, Sunday, 26th, October, 2003:
(Partcipants: R. Artz, L. Comont, J.-R. Disnar, A.-J. Francez, A. Gattinger, F. Laggoun-Defarge)

1. The group agreed to analyse fungal DNA and PLFA in the fine and coarse fractions of some selected peat samples according to F. Laggoun-Defarge and J.-R. Disnar suggestions
2. Comparisons between organic matter and microbial analyses can be performed like: lignin content versus fungal : bacterial ratio
3. It has to be sorted out which analyses can be done at ECO-BIO with regards to the experiment of labelled plant litter degradation
4. It needs also to be clarified who is doing the isotopic CH_4 measurements during the experiment of labelled plant litter degradation