

## **Seminar**

### **Mycorrhiza and Its Importance in Agriculture and Forestry**

Mycorrhizal fungi are unique soil organisms that form symbioses with almost all terrestrial plant species and are important for the sustainability and functionality of ecosystems. There are seven different types of mycorrhizae produced by plants and fungi. Currently, 80% of all known terrestrial plant species and 92% of families form one or other type of mycorrhiza. Some plants always form mycorrhiza and cannot grow productively without them, while others can grow without mycorrhiza. More than a couple of decades ago, ectomycorrhizal fungal inoculants for covering the roots of tree seedlings were introduced in Lithuania. Mycorrhizal inoculants are also used in agriculture, either by incorporating them into the soil with plant seeds or by using them to coat the roots of seedlings and sprouts. In addition to mycorrhizal inoculants, mycorrhizal stimulants are also used.