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Establishment and management of natural products bank from wildlife

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Ancestors greatly depended on local flora and fauna for their survival and would experiment with various fruits, roots, animal parts and minerals to find out what effects they had. As a result, broadly-based biological resources have been used as therapeutic agent or their raw materials for long periods of time and are as relevant today as ever. Particularly the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit-sharing is an innovative multilateral environmental agreement, which has considerable implications for the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, for research and commercial development activities in various sectors, as well as for food security, health, trade, oceans, and development cooperation. Therefore, the government-driven, National Institute of Biological Resources in Korea (NIBR), declared establishment of infrastructure for natural products bank is necessary for the recognition of our right on biological resource. Natural products may be extracted from tissues of terrestrial plants, marine organism or microorganism fermentation broths. A crude extract from any one of these sources typically contains novel, structurally diverse chemical compounds, which the natural environment is a rich source. NIBR developed and established the natural products bank of biological resources from wild, uncultivated populations for the first time in Korea. It is well recognized that there is a high correlation among identification, collection, extraction of the biological resources for research on natural products. Hence approximately 500 accessions were collected and 2178 extractions were prepared of biological resources in company with taxonomists and researchers of natural products. Furthermore, NIBR ensured the standardized application of preconditioning process and extraction protocol for mid/long term management. And a stock of extraction is maintained as dry powder according to the standardized procedure. These standardized and normalized extracts are far quicker and easier to screen and analyze than self-extraction, and then will be used for the raw materials of application of industrialization.

Biography

Eun Sil Kim belongs to National Institute of Biological Resources as a researching official, and she's in charge of establishment and management of Wildlife Natural Products Bank of the Ministry of Environment.

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