
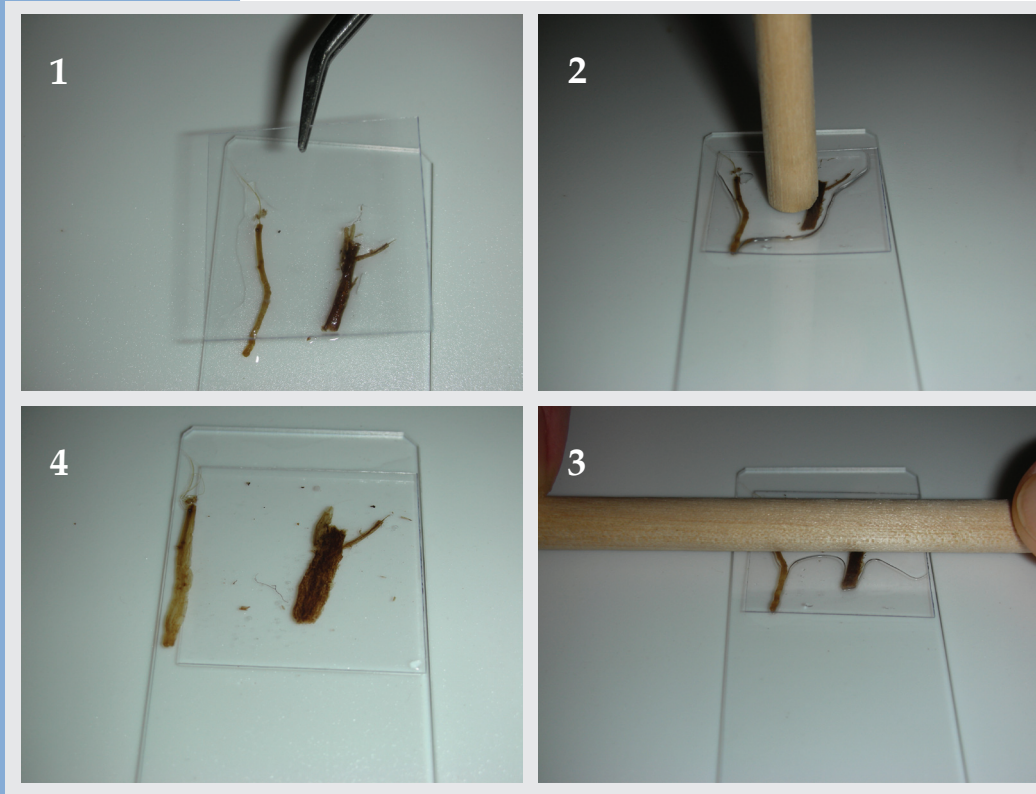


Use of Plastic Coverslips for 'Squash' Mounts

Tom Creswell and Gail Ruhl, Purdue University, Plant and Pest Diagnostic Lab

Are you tired of shards of glass when pressing a little too heavily on your coverslip? Plastic coverslips and the use of the wooden handle of a dissecting needle allow for less hazardous consequences when 'squashing' root tissue or fungal structures prior to viewing with your compound

microscope. Place the tissue on the slide with a drop of water, add the plastic coverslip and press down firmly with the flat end of the wooden handle or use the handle as a rolling pin, to flatten the bulky specimen. A cork will also work well as a 'pusher' to avoid fingerprints. To improve clarity after the squash mount is made, try replacing the plastic coverslip with a glass coverslip prior to observation with your microscope. 



IT News

Security Tip: Cyber Security Awareness Month

Michael Hill, Purdue University, CERIS



Since 2004, October has been recognized as National Cyber Security Awareness (NCSA) month. This is a national campaign to promote awareness on cyber security related topics. The message for this year is STOP | THINK | CONNECT. According to Michael Kaiser,

Executive Director of NCSA, "STOP | THINK | CONNECT is about taking a moment to stop and think about the places we visit online, the information that we share, and the communities in which we participate before and while we are connected to the Internet."

In the true spirit of Cyber Security Awareness Month, I encourage everyone to visit the National Cyber Security Alliance website at <http://staysafeonline.org> to learn additional information on how to stay safe online. 