



The Other Dictionary (1)

The hidden meaning behind real species names.

By Jörn Glöckler.

1) *Abudefduf luridus*

A lecture rendered unintelligible due to a strong foreign accent, speech impediment or forgotten / misplaced dentures.

2) *Boophilus microplus*

One drop too many in any given pH titration experiment.

3) *Conwentzia psociformis*

A typical group of smokers gathering outside the congress building.

4) *Deinococcus radiodurans*

A long term social experiment. Two students with a mutually exclusive preference for background radio music are put into one lab during their PhD studies. The winner is the one to finish the thesis first.

5) *Oopsacas minuta*

The very moment you realise that you really shouldn't have pipetted this into that.

6) *Rama chandramara*

The Asian deity of molecular biology. He can hold and handle up to eight pipettes at a time (see illustration of ancient tapestry, right). His high-throughput reincarnation uses multichannel to process entire microtitre plates in parallel.



Rama chandramara

7) *Ramalina obtusata*

The modern and more stylised statue of *Rama chandramara*

(q. v.). *Ramalina* can be found in almost every lab around the world. Ignorant western scientists only know and use it as a pipette holder.

8) *Roncus dragobete*

The guy that always talks about doing an important experiment whenever you meet him but never gets around to actually doing it.

9) *Undosa undulata*

An immediate attempt to rescue the sample right after the oopsacas minuta (q. v.) occurred.

10) *Zyzyzus floridanus*

The last author position in a high-impact consortium publication.