

European Science Photo Competition takes Wikipedia

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CEE meeting 2015

Scientists + photography?

- * Visual literacy is a fundamental skill for scientists.
- * Huge amount of photos are taken each year, but their spread is hindered.
- * Images are often the best way to present information.

Science photography?

- * Concept is ambiguous, but is that a problem? Wiki loves everything!
- * Those images are created to show something specific. We need exactly that!
- * There is a good description and person behind it capable of working with sophisticated information.

Why should we cover that?

- * Science has an enormously important part in European cultural history.
- * We already have articles about these topics and they are lacking the images.
- * It is easily doable. Tested!

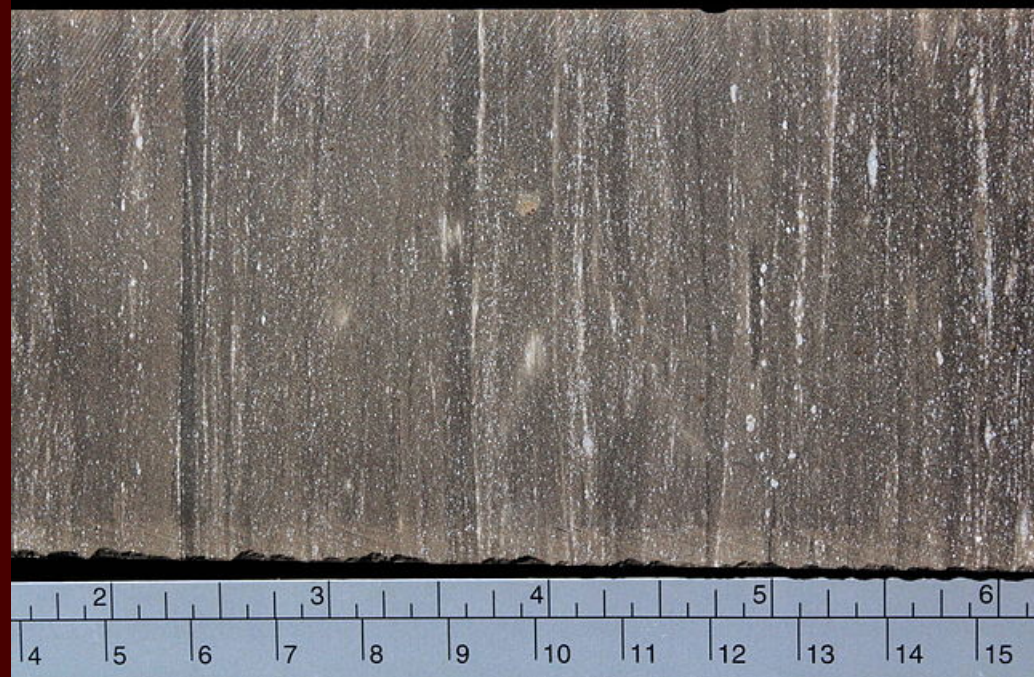
Anything else?

- * That is an excellent promotional activity.
- * Cooperation with the universities.
- * Science popularisation is hot topic.
- * Superb way to get newcomers.
- * Documenting local science scene.

We need that



Stromatolites at Kübassaare
beach in Saaremaa
Tõnu Pani



Jordan oil shale
Ain Anepaio

And that

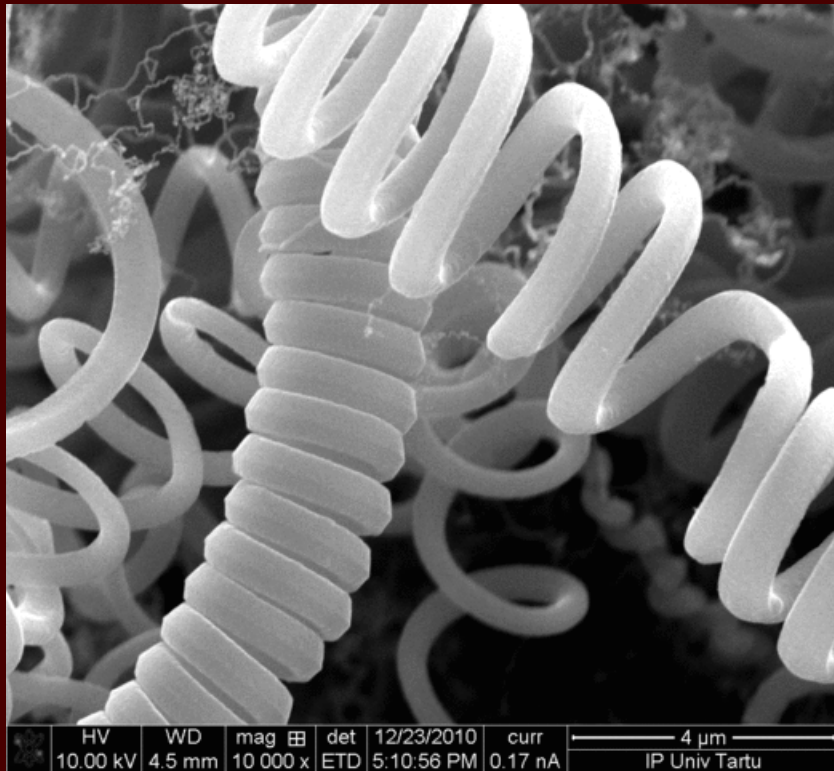


Scientists from Estonian Marine Institute
Mati Kose

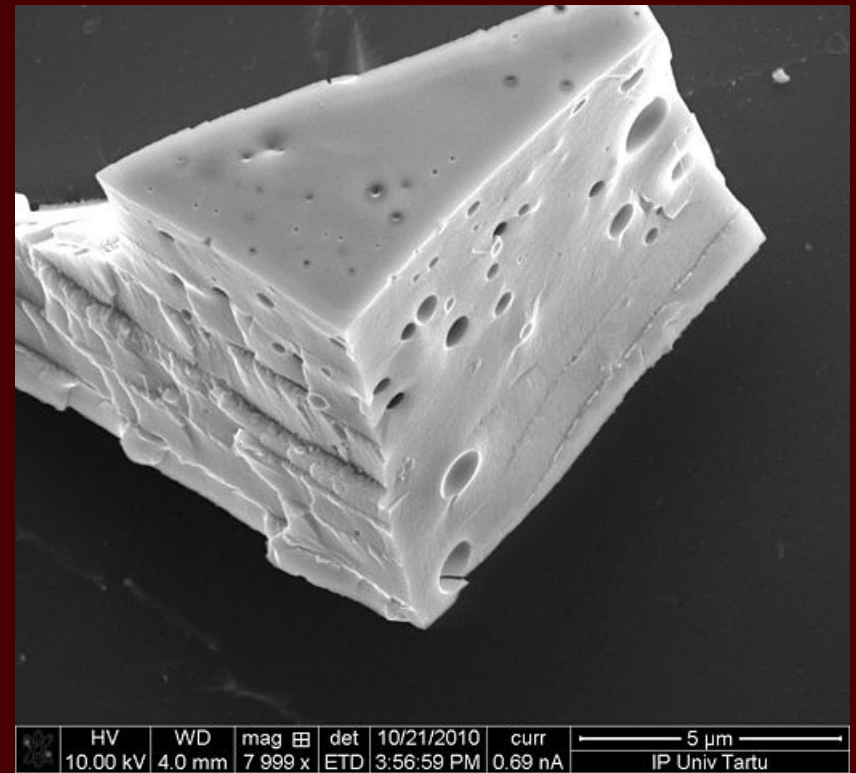


Geneticist Riin Tamm
Lauri Kulpsoo

And that



Carbon nanotubes
Ilmar Kink



Smart glass structure
Rünno Lõhmus

And that

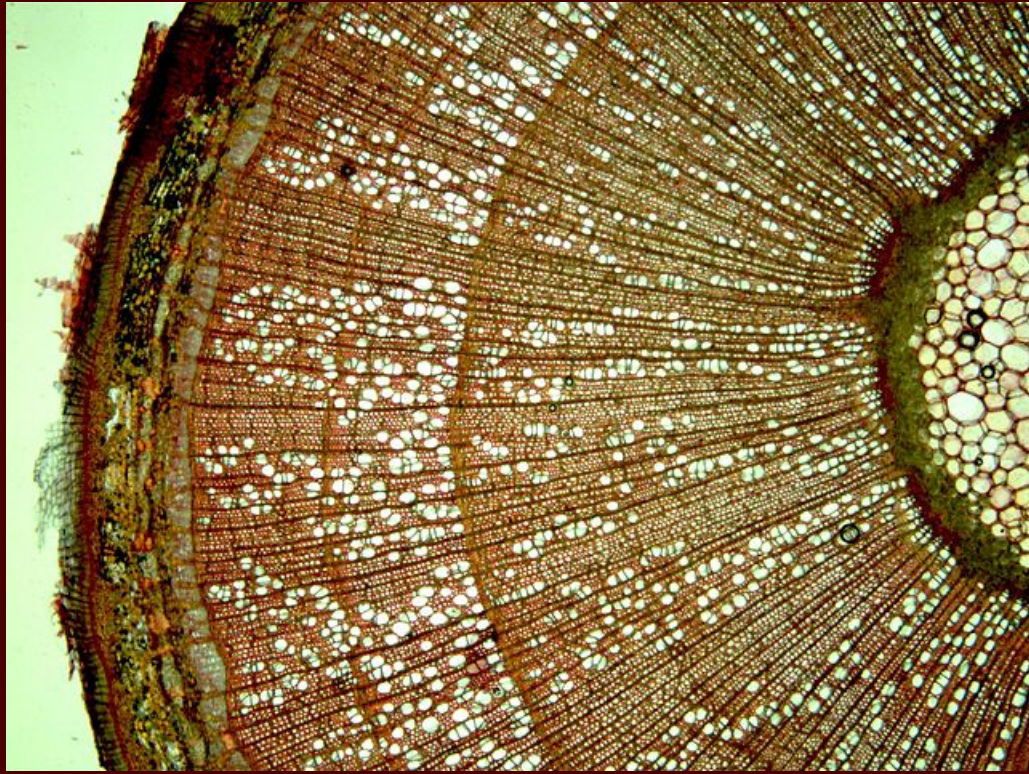


Sweet Cherry 'Ene'
Elina Mark



Geotrupes stercorosus
Heiti Paves

And that



Bole cross section of *Corylus avellana*
Annukar1



DC MMA welding
Tanel Eensoo

And that

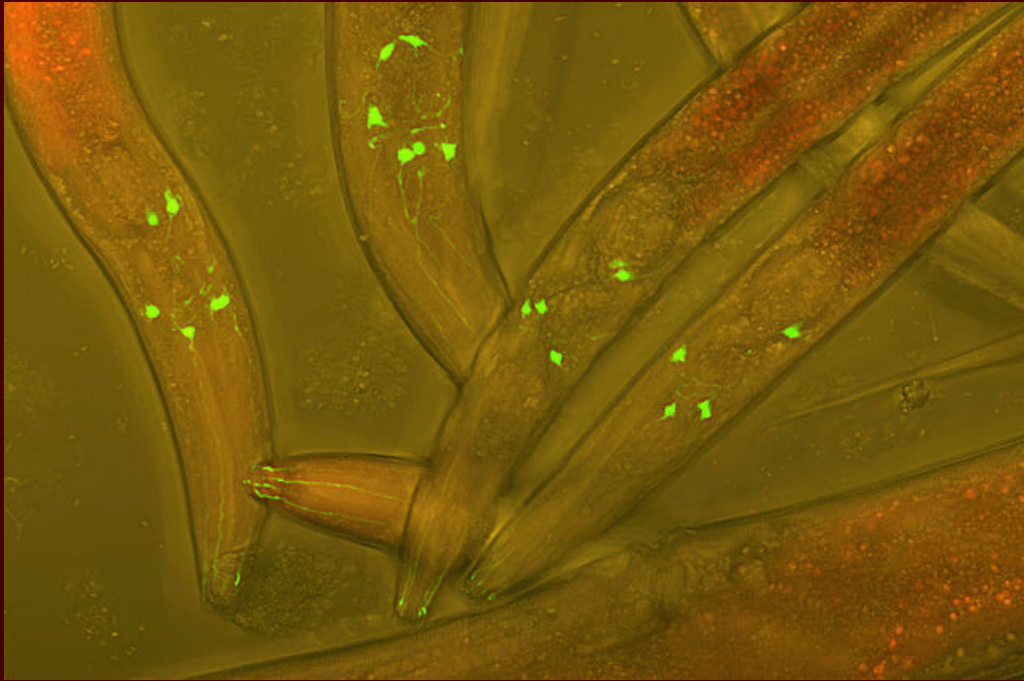


Measuring *Grus grus*
Robert Treier



Working on the sea ice of Arctic Ocean
Timo Palo

And that



Caenorhabditis elegans with GFP in neurons
Heiti Paves



Just hatched *Oncorhynchus mykiss*
Toomas Jagomäe

Estonian Science Photo Competition

- * Held 3 times in Wikipedia (2011–2013)
- * Ca 230 images per year.
- * Low-cost project.
- * Decent media coverage.
- * Shows that photo-sets are valuable.

European Science Photo Competition

- * Participation for all countries
- * In November
- * International jury (2 of them)
- * You are expected to help with promotion
- * Spending is not necessary

(Image) categories

- * People in Science
- * Microscopy images
- * Non-photographic media
- * Image sets
- * General category

Description!

What makes photos scientific, is a precise concise description.

Only relevant info should be added.

Every photo must have a description at least in English.

What next?

I'd like to have a meeting with everyone who's interested of helping us out in this effort.

Things to do NOW:

- * find local jury (preferably some very notable persons; example: science journalist; professional photographer; some well-known scientists from different fields to cover possible entries)
- * seek contact with some local science associations who could spread the word (many of them may even have science popularization work-groups who would love to deal with that!)

Things to do NOW:

- * ask for support from various relevant publications (like: can they give their yearly subscription as a prize for the best photo in their field?)
- * ask around about sponsorship for the prize fund for local competition (NB! companies prefer to give their products and not money)

Things to do NOW:

- * prepare to give interviews

 - "what is a science photo?"

 - "why is photography extremely important in science?"

 - "why is Wikipedia a perfect place to have this competition?"

 - "how that competition allows to show what the scientists are up to"

 - etc

Things to do NOW:

- * look up example photos from Commons (to show what you are looking for) and present them in a Wikipedia page and in social media campaign
- * give a lot of attention to the rules (like that you need very good descriptions (also in English))
- * do whatever else you think is necessary.

Things to do NOW:

What we have also done in Estonia:

- * photo exhibitions from the best work (via sponsors); also virtual exhibition

Or will do this year:

- * use a best specialist to give public lecture(s) about the importance of photography in science

Thanks!

Lets get to work now.