



PUTTING AUSTRALIAN FUNGI ON THE MAP

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NEWS FROM THE FUNGIMAP PRESIDENT

The last few months have been a busy time for Fungimap on several fronts. The very successful Fungimap III Conference was held in Tasmania in May, and at the Conference *Fungi Down Under: the Fungimap Guide to Australian Fungi* was launched. Formal steps for incorporation of Fungimap have also now been completed.

A new management committee was set up at the Fungimap III Conference, consisting of Tom May (President), Katie Syme (Vice-President), John Carpenter (Treasurer) and Committee members Pam Catcheside and Sarah Lloyd. Subsequently, Teresa Lebel was co-opted onto the committee as Secretary. Teresa is a Senior Mycologist at Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, and brings to the committee a great knowledge and enthusiasm for fungi, especially native truffles.

Administration and finances are being updated for the new organisational structure. We are grappling with merging three different financial systems (the old accounts at RBG Melbourne and the FNCV and the new Fungimap accounts). Once these are streamlined, everything should be much simpler for day to day operations of Fungimap. In the meantime, there have been some delays in processing book and other orders. We thank you for your patience during this period of adjustment.

Fungimap is not registered for GST, so we will not be charging GST on sales. We have passed on this saving to members as reduced prices for most books and other sales (see updated book prices on p. 7). The exception is *Fungi Down Under*, which will continue to be sold via RBG Melbourne (order details on p. 7). The price for this book was deliberately set relatively low, and it remains excellent value at \$29.95 for a full colour, highly illustrated book packed with information about the target species and fungi in general.

The Fungimap Office will still operate from Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, and we are very grateful for the continuing support of the Gardens in providing office space and facilities for Fungimap.

Cassia Read departed the Fungimap Office recently to take up postgraduate studies in Botany. Cassia did a fantastic job as Co-ordinator over the last 18 months, and set up excellent procedures in the Fungimap Office for dealing with the huge variety of enquiries and other correspondence. She also ensured (with Sarah Lloyd) the success of the Fungimap III Conference. Cassia's calm and efficient presence will be missed, but we wish her well in her studies, which involve cryptogamic soil crusts. Pina Milne is the new Fungimap Co-ordinator, working half a day a week. We hope to increase the hours for the Co-ordinator position towards the end of the year. (Continued page 3)

FUNGIMAP WEBSITE:

<http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au/fungimap/>

The Fungimap Website is in the process of being updated. It is now in a format that is much easier to edit. The book sales page has been updated and an order form for *Fungi Down Under* added. However, some parts of the old website have not yet been migrated to the new system (notably the Newsletters and the information on the 100 target species). We hope to have these portions updated over the next couple of months. In the meantime, access to the old website is still possible for a limited time via:

<http://fungimap.rbg.vic.gov.au/fmn/fmn.html>

(for Newsletters) and

<http://fungimap.rbg.vic.gov.au/fsp/fsp.html>

(for target species).



CONTACTING FUNGIMAP

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INTERESTING GROUPS

SA

Adelaide Fungal Studies Group

Monthly meetings and forays during the fungi season.
Contact: Pam Catcheside, Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Email: Catcheside.Pam@saugov.sa.gov.au

Qld

Far north Queensland, Cairns region

Contact: Sapphire McMullan-Fisher if interested in going on casual fungi walks. Ph: 07 4093 8556
Email: smcmulla@postoffice.utas.edu.au

Tas

Fungi Lovers Adventure Group (FLAG)

Fungi activities in northern Tasmania.
Contact: Sarah Lloyd Ph: (03) 6396 1380
Email: sarahlloyd@iprimus.com.au

Vic

Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, Fungi Group

Forays, monthly meetings & presentations.
Contact: Geoff Lay, Ph: (03) 9898 4816
or Arthur Carew (03) 5968 4505
Web: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~fncv> then Calender of Events

WA

Perth Urban Fungi Project

Fungi workshops, walks, surveys in Perth Urban bush areas.
Contact: Roz Hart, Ph: (08) 9334 0500
Email: rozh@calm.wa.gov.au

WA Naturalists' Club, Fungi Group

Fungal forays, workshops, identification evenings and talks, based in Perth.
Contact: WA Naturalists' Club
Email: wanats@iinet.net.au
Web: <http://www.wanats.iinet.net.au/>

William Bay National Parks

Association, Fungi Studies Group
Fungi forays around Denmark.
Contact: Katrina Syme email: syme@westnet.com.au

NSW

Sydney Fungal Studies Group

Fungi forays, talks and workshops in the Sydney area.
Secretary: Donald Gover, Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Email: djgover@bigpond.com

Central Coast Fungi Group

Fungi forays in the Central Coast region of NSW.
Contact: Pam O'Sullivan Ph: (02) 432 1543, or
Nikki Bennetts Ph: (02) 4392 1728

(Continued from Page 1)

Volunteers have always been integral to the success of Fungimap, especially for contributing records, but also on the Committee and at the Fungimap Office. There are some very dedicated people who have been entering records in the database, filling book orders and assisting with the website and general correspondence. I'd like to especially thank Wendy Cook, Geoff Lay, Graham Patterson, Libby Read, Ros Shepherd and Steven Wilkinson, who have regularly put in time at the Fungimap Office over the last year.

I enjoyed attending the celebration for *Fungi Down Under* at FNCV Hall in June, when many of the contributors to the book were able to meet with Ed & Pat Grey and Leon Costermans. I gave a presentation about the evolution of field guides to Australian Fungi, and it made me realise how far things have come over the last few decades. Until the 1970s, the sole field guide to Australian fungi was *Victorian Toadstools and Mushrooms* by Jim Willis, a very handy book in its day, but without the extensive use of colour images that we are now fortunate to enjoy in field guides. The format of *Fungi Down Under*, with each of the 100 species illustrated in colour by several images and with comprehensive text that points out distinguishing characters, all on the one page, sets a new benchmark for field guides to Australian fungi. The maps for all species are also an innovation.

With the rains of the last two months over many parts of Australia, I hope that fungimappers have been enjoying spotting new and interesting fungi, and that *Fungi Down Under* has been making identification of the target species easier.

Tom May

From the Editor

Pam Catcheside

I have agreed to be Editor of the Fungimap Newsletter now that Cassia Read has left. Cassia did a fantastic job as editor and it will be difficult to follow in her footsteps. I will try.

In the next issue of Fungimap Newsletter, we plan to have a section on your recollections of the very successful Fungimap III Conference in Tasmania.

Please would you send your (preferably happy or fond!) memories about the conference to fungimap@rbg.vic.gov.au or to me Catcheside.Pam@saugov.sa.gov.au

FUNGI DOWN UNDER

VOLUNTEER

Fungi Down Under: the Fungimap Guide to Australian Fungi is a wonderful publication that comprehensively deals with all the 100 Fungimap target species, with copious illustrations and maps. The book has been published by Fungimap, and profit from sales of the book will be an important source of funds for Fungimap.

As well as promptly handling incoming orders for the book, we would like to increase the visibility and availability of the book. We are looking for a volunteer to spend a few hours a week in the Fungimap office at RBG Melbourne looking after: direct sales (from fliers), sales to booksellers and agents, and publicity (such as sending out review copies). Familiarity with databases such as Access (where we keep the financial records of book sales) would be advantage. Training will be provided.

If you would like to be involved in promoting and distributing this exciting publication, please contact Tom May (03 9252 2319, tom.may@rbg.vic.gov.au) or Teresa Lebel (teresa.lebel@rbg.vic.gov.au).

STOP PRESS

***Chlorovibrissea* found**

From Reporter Ian Bell.

Two species of *Chlorovibrissea*, *C. bicolor* and *C. melanochlora* were found at Marysville, Victoria on 31st July 2005. They were discovered on a foray of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria by a member, Arthur Carew.

C. bicolor is a Fungimap target species. Both *C. bicolor* and *C. melanochlora* are on the NZ 'Nationally Critical' fungal species list.

(See *Fungi Down Under* page 116.)

STOP PRESS 2

***Favolaschia calocera* now in Australia**

This very distinctive fungus has recently been spotted in Australia (Victoria) for the first time. It is a well-known fungal weed in New Zealand, originally from Madagascar. It looks a little like *Dictyopanus pusillus* but is bright orange.

See: IMC8 Fungus of the Month - July 2005 at: http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au/research_and_conservation/fungi

FUNGI STUDY IN THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK, TENNESSEE AND NORTH CAROLINA, USA

Letter from Sandy and Jerry Sheine

The Third National Fungimap Conference held in Gowrie Park, Tasmania, April 29-May 03, 2005, was a huge success. Jerry and I were privileged to attend the Conference and appreciated the hospitality we received. The Australians were so friendly and made us feel very welcome. Most of all, we admire the prodigious amount of work that the Fungimap participants have done in just a few years, namely to map, describe and photograph the fungi of Australia. Your new book, *Fungi Down Under*, is one of the best mushroom books that we have seen. We also enjoyed your FNCV CD-ROM, *Fungi Group Forays 2004*. We hope that, in the future, some of you can attend one or more of the monthly Fungi Conferences in the USA. Information on them can be found on the websites for the North American Mycological Association, www.namyco.org, the Northeast Mycological Federation, www.nemf.org and the Mycological Society of America, www.msafungi.org

For the past six years, Jerry and I have participated, as advanced amateurs and volunteers, in a fungi study in Great Smoky Mountain National Park in Tennessee and North Carolina, along with both amateur and professional mycologists. Jerry has done the photography for the project. The Fungi study is only part of a huge project in the Park called the All Taxa Biodiversity Inventory (ATBI), a 10-15 year project to study all the life forms in the Park. The ATBI concentrates on 20 taxa, each studied by a Taxon Working Inventory Group or TWIG. We are part of the Fungi TWIG. Some other ongoing TWIG studies include slime moulds, algae, ants, birds, frogs, beetles, butterflies and moths, fish, mammals, reptiles, trees and shrubs and wildflowers. The goal of the ATBI is the identification of all life forms in a given geographic area by building a list of species, describing survey methods and drawing up an account of the natural history of the area. Originally, the study was based on a model used by American and Costa Rican mycologists to study the Fungi of Costa Rica. Dr. Roy Halling from the New York Botanical Garden, who attended your Fungimap Conference, was part of that project.

Jerry and I, as part of the Fungi Twig, spend 1- 4 weeks each summer, volunteering as parataxonomists and photographers, studying the macrofungi in the Park. In 2002, at the suggestion of Dr. Rytas Vilgalys from Duke University, Dr. Dennis Dreihmel from North Carolina State University, adapted some of the Fungimap protocols for our ATBI study. We have 50 target species, all taken from the book, *Mushrooms of the Great Smokies*, by L.R. Hesler (now out of print).

Members of the local Asheville Mushroom Club have been trained to identify collections, record information on data sheets and photograph the collections. So far, we have over 500 vouchered and photographed species. Many other fungi collections are in the process of being identified. With the help of professional mycologists, we have recorded over 2000 species of Fungi and Slime Molds in the Park. In July 2004 we took part in a 'Mycoblitz'. About sixty mycologists, graduate students and parataxonomists from all over the U.S.A and around the world, covered several areas of the Park and collected, photographed and recorded their finds.

Why did the National Park Service, part of the United States Department of the Interior, choose Great Smoky Mountain National Park for the ATBI study?

- The Park contains the greatest diversity of life forms of any National Park in the United States.
- It has more visitors annually than any of the other National Park in the United States.
- It covers 800 sq. miles, ranges in altitude from sea level to over 6000 ft, contains several ecosystems, three distinct geologic zones and is 90% forested.
- It contains the Appalachian Mountains, a very old mountain chain running from Georgia in the south to Maine in the north. The portion within the Park remained glacier free during the last ice age. A part of the famous Appalachian Trail falls within park boundaries.
- Pollution from industry, acid rain, ozone, insects and fungi are killing tree species such as beech, spruce, hemlock and red pine, particularly at the higher altitudes. Scientists monitor air quality daily.
- The Park has a paid staff of professionally trained naturalists who have mapped out transects in the Park to study, and who collect and record the ATBI data and assist the TWIGS.

The main support for the study comes from Discover Life in America (www.dlia.org), a non-profit organization which receives grants from the Great Smoky Mountains Association and Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park. The study is also supported by the National Park Service, through National Science Foundation grants to Universities, private foundation grants and individual contributions.

Jerry and I plan to continue our work on the ATBI this summer. We would like to think that the ATBI is a sister study to Fungimap and that we continue exchanging our information and ideas.

SIMPLY *PODOSERPULA*

Kevin Thiele

Podoserpula pusio is a common Fungimap species found in Tasmania, southern New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Western Australia and New Zealand, in wetter forests on rotting wood or sometimes on humus-rich soil or tree-fern trunks. It's unlike any other fungus, with tiers of soft, buff to pinkish caps on a common stipe. The spore-bearing surface on the underside of the caps is pinkish and irregularly wrinkled.

While searching for Fungimap species in East Gippsland, I have frequently seen what appear to be two separate species of *Podoserpula*. One is the typical pinkish, tiered form (Fig. 1). The other is a paler, simple (non-tiered) form, in which each fruiting body comprises a single, spoon-shaped, flattened cap with a lateral stipe (Fig. 2). The fruiting bodies have the same distinctively soft texture as the tiered form, but are usually paler and with a less pinkish and less wrinkled undersurface. Fruiting bodies are usually found in groups on treefern trunks and are sometimes caespitose (with several stipes arising from the same point of the substrate).

The tiered form and the simple form often occur in close proximity, and extensive searches have not revealed any intermediates (intergrades) between them. This suggests that they are distinct species.

Podoserpula pusio was first described as *Craterellus pusio* by Berkeley in 1856, using material collected in Tasmania. Subsequently, another name, *Craterellus*

multiplex, was coined by Cooke and Massee, also for Tasmanian material. It's clear that these fungi are not closely related to *Craterellus* (compare with *Craterellus cornucopioides*, another Fungimap species and a microscopically and macroscopically very different fungus). For this reason, the new genus *Podoserpula* was created by Reid in 1963. Reid argued at the time that the simple form and tiered forms known by the epithets *pusio* and *multiplex* were identical, and the species took the earliest name, *Podoserpula pusio*.

However, if the observations in East Gippsland are correct, and there are indeed separate tiered and non-tiered species, then it's unclear which name or names should be used.

To help sort out the taxonomy of this interesting little group, it would be very helpful if Fungimap volunteers could keep an eye out for *Podoserpula* and record any information that might shed light on the relationships of the simple and tiered forms. In particular, if you find both simple and tiered forms growing together, have a good look around to see if they are distinct or tend to grade one into the other. Please photograph anything you see, and contact me directly at kevin.thiele@bigpond.com with observations and/or photos.

Who knows, maybe one form is a new species, which could even be called *Podoserpula mycocarta* (I'll leave you to work out the Greek)!



Fig. 1. *Podoserpula*, tiered form.
Photo: Kevin Thiele



Fig. 2. *Podoserpula*, simple form.
Photo: Kevin Thiele

BOOK REVIEW

COMMON MUSHROOMS OF THE TALAMANCA MOUNTAINS,
COSTA RICA

by Roy E. Halling & Gregory M. Mueller (2005)

The New York Botanical Garden [Memoirs of the New York Botanical Garden Volume 90] ISBN 0-89327-460-7.

The Talamanca Mountains of Costa Rica are a 300 km long range extending to the border with Panama. Vegetation is tropical wet montane forest dominated by species of *Quercus*. In these 'cloud forests' there is a prolonged dry season, but annual precipitation can exceed 3000 mm. *Quercus*-dominated forests extend from the southern U.S.A. to Colombia, and contain many interesting species of mycorrhizal and other fungi.

This field guide to the fungi of the Talamanca Mountains covers 101 'mushrooms' (i.e. agarics and boletes) from ten families. For each included species there is a colour photograph, sometimes a studio shot, otherwise in the natural habitat. Photos are not large, but they are all clear, and with at least one fruit-body turned over so that lamellae and stipe details are visible. Each species is also accompanied by a description of macro- and micro-characters, and information on substrate, distribution, mycorrhizal hosts (where relevant) and a short commentary mentioning the distinguishing characters. Names are up-to-date, and commonly used synonyms are provided. Genera are pretty much the same as in current Australian publications, except that *Nolanea* and *Pouzarella* are used (rather than sinking these under *Entoloma*).

Some gorgeous species are illustrated, such as the bright red bolete *Boletus frostii* (with deeply reticulate stipe surface) The marvelous *Nolanea murraii* is another highlight (with its cuboid spores and yellow pileus apex drawn into a long apex). However, the best feature of *Common Mushrooms of the Talamanca Mountains* is the novelty of most of the species included. There is a refreshing lack of what could be called the 'usual suspects' (those oft-illustrated species such as *Amanita muscaria*, *Leccinum scabrum*, *Lactarius deliciosus* or *Russula emetica*). Instead, there are 36 species endemic to montane *Quercus* forest, such as *Rhodocybe mellea*, *Phaeocollybia oligoporpa*, *Amanita costaricensis* and *Laccaria gomezii*, as well as neotropical species like *Leucocoprinus sulphurellus* and *Lentinula boryana*. Very few of the included species extend further south than Colombia, although many extend northwards from Costa Rica (often to Eastern North America).

The species depicted were selected because they are readily recognisable and easily identified; thus the absence of more species in difficult genera such as *Cortinarius*. The species included would thus seem excellent candidates for a mapping scheme in the same fashion as Fungimap.

A welcome innovation is the inclusion for most species of colour photographs from the light microscope of spores and other diagnostic microscopic features (and a few black and white shots from the Scanning Electron Microscope). The micro-photos are small, but all of exceptional quality, exemplified by the depiction on the spores of *Boletellus ananas* of the extremely fine cross walls between the longitudinal striae. Often details of spore surface or edge are in crisp focus on different spores (presumably by use of montages in some cases). There are some great examples of the colour of spores and their ornamentation in stains such as Melzer's Reagent (dextrinoid for *Rhodocollybia* and amyloid for *Russula*) and Cotton Blue (cyanophilous for *Clitopilus* and *Lepista*).

There is an index and a glossary, handy for explanations of technical terms encountered in the descriptions of microcharacters. There is also a useful section on collecting mushrooms for scientific study. The inclusion of a list of voucher specimens for images in the book is to be commended. Citing specimens enables confirmation of identifications with future changes in taxonomy, and is a feature which would be good to see in more Australian field guides, especially where there are illustrations not identified to species.

A few layout features can be disconcerting, such as the interruption of keys to species by the title page for the particular family. In the descriptions of each species, the microcharacters would have been better as a separate paragraph. However, the whole volume is attractively laid out, with clear text and good colour reproduction. The spiral binding is unusual, but does at least allow the pages to lie flat when the book is opened.

Very few, if any, of the species in *Common Mushrooms of the Talamanca Mountains* will be encountered in Australia, but I can highly recommend the book as a guide to the appearance (macroscopic and microscopic) of mushroom genera that are common the world over (such as *Amanita* or *Lactarius*). Moreover, the book offers an intriguing view of genera that might possibly occur in Australia (*Ripartitella*, *Megacollybia*, *Phyllotopsis* and *Tricholosporum*), and provides a fascinating snapshot of a largely unique mycota, highlighting the great diversity of macrofungi that exists in different forest types around the world.

Tom May (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne)

FUNGIMAP BOOK SHOP

UPDATED PRICE LIST August 2005

Fungimap Inc. is not registered for GST, so we have been able to lower the price of books sold through Fungimap. Pay by cash or cheque to 'Fungimap'. **New this month is *Common Mushrooms of the Talamanca Mts, Costa Rica* and *A Field Guide to Australian Fungi*.** Note that *Fungi Down Under* is sold through RBG Melbourne (see separate ordering details).

FUNGIMAP BADGE (ASEROE)	\$10.00 (Plus Postage & Handling \$0.50)
AUSTRALIAN FUNGI ILLUSTRATED Ian McCann	\$27.00 (P&H \$3.00)
A FIELD GUIDE TO THE FUNGI OF AUSTRALIA Tony Young	\$27.00 (P&H \$10.00)
A FIELD COMPANION TO AUSTRALIAN FUNGI Bruce Fuhrer	\$22.50 (P&H \$3.00)
A FIELD GUIDE TO AUSTRALIAN FUNGI Bruce Fuhrer	\$45.40 (P&H \$10.00)
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FNCV FUNGI KIT	\$4.00 (P&H \$0.60)
VICTORIAN NATURALIST FUNGI ISSUE	\$4.55 (P&H \$0.50)
FUNGIMAP NEWSLETTER 20	\$4.00 (P&H \$0.50)
FUNGIMAP CD-ROM	OUT OF PRINT (REPRINT DUE SOON)

Please send your order (with payment in Australian dollars by cheque or money order) to:
FUNGIMAP, Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Private Bag 2000, South Yarra, Vic., 3141

For orders from overseas, please enquire about postage charges before sending your order.

FUNGI DOWN UNDER ORDER FORM

Send ___ copies of *Fungi Down Under* @\$29.95 each _____
 Postage & handling @\$3.00 per copy _____
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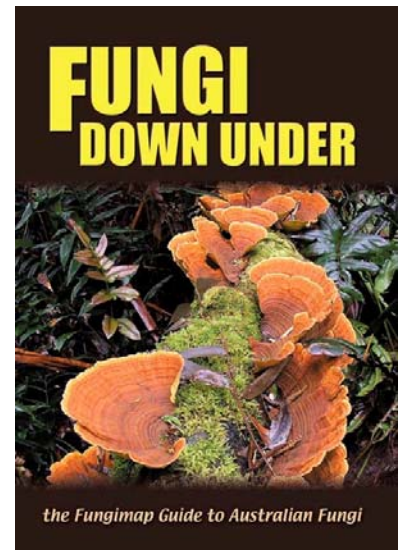
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FUNGIMAP MEMBERSHIP

ITS TIME TO JOIN

If you do not choose to become a member of Fungimap Inc., this will be your last Newsletter.

MY DETAILS:

Name:

Address:

.....

State: **Postcode:**

E-mail

Telephone: **FAX:**

I heard about Fungimap from:

Signature:

MEMBERSHIP (Annual, renewal due on anniversary of joining)

- Full** (\$30)
- Concession** (\$25)
- Associate** – for additional members at the same address (\$10)

Name of Additional member:

Note that Fungimap membership does not attract GST.

INFORMATION

If you are a new member of Fungimap and have not already received introductory information about the mapping scheme:

Please **post me** **OR** **email me** a copy of the introductory information

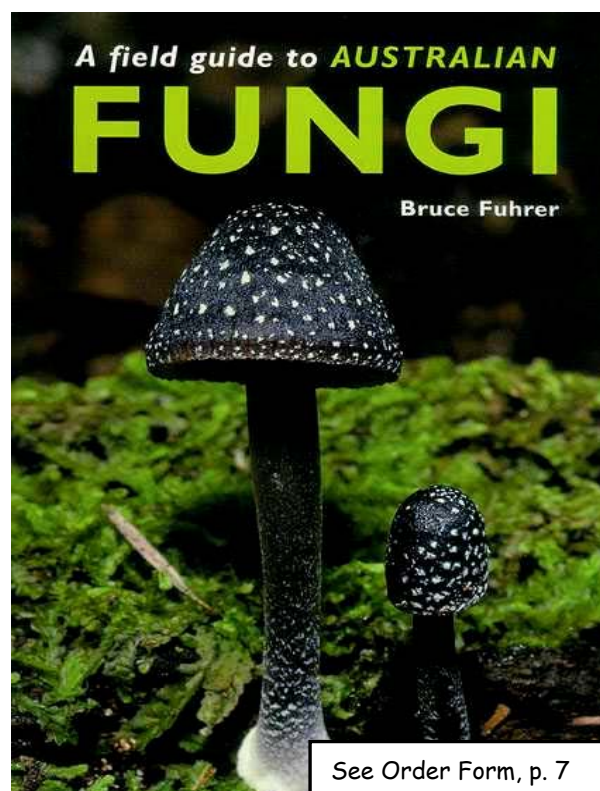
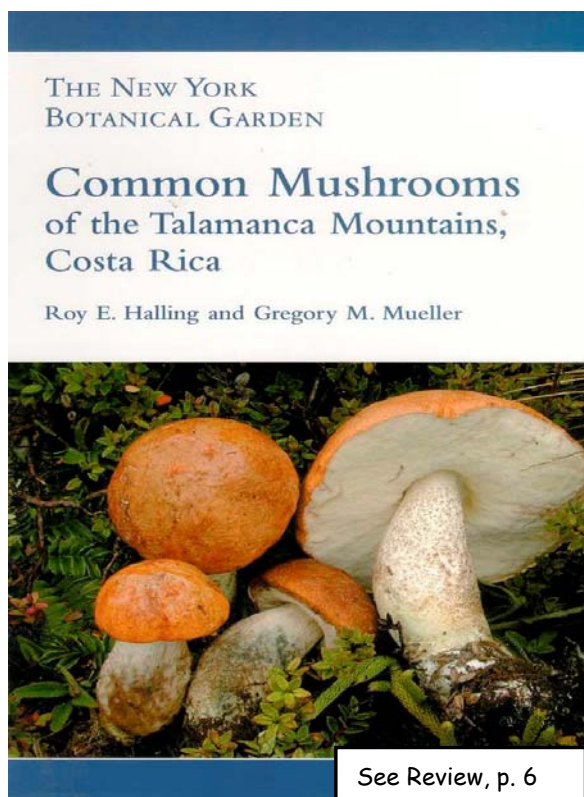
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- Please put me on the Newsletter **mailing list** **OR**
- let me know by email** when each *Fungimap Newsletter* appears on the Fungimap website (access to current Newsletter is immediate for members)

Please return this form, with your cheque or money order, to:

Fungimap
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne
Private Bag 2000
South Yarra, Victoria, 3141

TWO NEW BOOKS



FUNGAL NEWS

News from SA

Pam Catcheside

Adelaide Fungal Studies Group surveyed Deep Creek Conservation Park in mid-June and Kuitpo Forest in early July 2005. Fewer species were recorded at each site than in 2004, reflecting the late start to the season. At Deep Creek we found groups of beautiful, white-lilac fruit bodies of *Cortinarius alboviolaceus*, a striking stand of Shaggy Ink Cap *Coprinus comatus* on cleared land but Russulas and Lepiotas, usually fruiting in June, were notable by their almost total absence. At Kuitpo, as at Deep Creek, most of the fungi were 'little rotters', with very few mycorrhizal species.

However, I was cheered to find on a visit to Deep Creek two weeks ago that mycorrhizal species were magnificent: masses of Green Skinhead *Dermocybe austroveneta*, Vermilion Grisette *Amanita xanthocephala* and yellow funnels of *Austropaxillus muelleri* as well as several truffle species.

In mid-May at Penambol Conservation Park near Mount Gambier, David and I again found many fruit bodies of the Dark Vegetable Caterpillar *Cordyceps gunnii* (see Fungimap Newsletter 24, p.5).

News from A.C.T.

Heino Lepp

I've just finished my annual fungal course, at the Australian National Botanic Gardens (ANBG) in Canberra. The sessions are open to anyone and I had between 15 and 30 participants per week. The course lasted 9 weeks, one longer than last year, and covered topics such as: mycelium vs. fruiting body; ascomycetes & basidiomycetes; methods of spore release; various aspects of fungal ecology; fungal life cycles - from haploid spore to dikaryon and back to haploid spore; history of the discovery and understanding of spores, hyphae, asci and basidia between about 1500 and 1850; the changing approaches to how fungi are classified; fungi and humans. As well as the weekly talks there were walks in the ANBG to look at fungi in situ plus some sessions to look at microscopic features (with the help of a video camera attached to a compound microscope). A half dozen participants spent an afternoon working through some basic agaric keys to see the ease/difficulty of identifying something to genus.

This year, as in past years, stinkhorns have dominated the enquiries I get from the general public. As always, I am thankful that stinkhorns are so distinctive that identification to genus is possible on fairly meagre information!

News from Tasmania

Sarah Lloyd

Fungi (and birds) around Tasmania

On June 11th the Fungimap excursion to Notley Gorge Reserve attracted five people who braved the downpour. With only light patchy rain in the previous month, the hitherto dry conditions had not stimulated much fungal growth. Leeches, however, respond quickly to any moisture and newly hatched young outnumbered the fungi by about ten to one!

During a trip to the east coast to participate in the annual winter waterfowl count, our team, assigned to survey the northern section of Moulting Lagoon, (in the Freycinet National Park) counted over 4,000 swans, several hundred grebes, one White-bellied Sea Eagle and NO fungi. However, while visiting a wet forest area after the count I found, along with a few "targets", several exquisite fruit bodies of *Favolaschia* sp. growing on a dead leaf of cutting grass (*Gahnia grandis*) - an exciting moment indeed.

At Lake St Clair (the southern end of the Cradle Mt. NP) the fungi season was all but over, which made me realise just how fortunate the timing of Fungimap III had been. The most prevalent fungi were many *Heterotextus miltinus* and the beautifully coloured *Pleurotopsis longinqua* (formerly *Panellus longinquus*). The visit to Lake St Clair was en route (albeit a very circuitous one) to the far northwest of the state. Here the extensive mudflats exposed at low tide attract thousands of migratory waders. Some overwinter in Tasmania and an annual summer and winter count is conducted in the area. Channels separating the island from the mainland can only be crossed at low tide, but the counts are conducted at high tide as it is then that birds are unable to feed and congregate at favourite roosting sites. This leaves plenty of time to explore the island while waiting for the tide to be low enough to get home. While walking to the roost I noticed scattered among the Spinifex (*Spinifex sericeus*) growing on the sand dunes, many fungi, possibly *Mycenastrum corium*.

There are no Fungimap outings scheduled for the remainder of the year. However, if anyone would like to explore the fungi of an area please contact me on 6396 1380 or sarahlloyd@iprimus.com.au

News from southern WA

Katrina Syme (Denmark, WA)

One of my favourite areas in the South Coast Region is the Fitzgerald Biosphere, an area of 1.3 million hectares. It stretches from Pallinup River in the west to east of Ravensthorpe and has an annual rainfall ranging from 360 to 600mm.

In its heart, the Fitzgerald River National Park has around 1,900 plant species, 72 of which are endemic with 250 declared rare or priority taxa. Fitzgerald River/Ravensthorpe is one of 15 Federal Government-recognised national biodiversity hotspots, but this does

not include fungi, because fungal knowledge of the entire region is very poor, with only 76 fungi (including 38 unknown species) recorded to 2003.

I've managed to visit the area four times in the past few months and, in late June, travelled with friends to Ravensthorpe after good winter rains had fallen in the region. We went via Stirling Range National Park, where the first discovery was the enormous bolete *Phlebopus marginatus*! This impressed my friends and they were hooked. Two days later, seventy-three species, including seven different Amanitas, were listed and twenty one fully documented collections, including *Russula*, *Galerina*, *Peziza* and *Cortinarius erythraeus*, were made. The most exciting discovery was of a magnificent group of grey-gilled fungi I'd never seen before, found when we pulled up to photograph a group of flowering Sandalwood trees. It will take some time, but we'll gradually improve the fungal knowledge of this fascinating region.

P.S. I've been working away from home for much of the fungus season and have been unable to fulfil requests to run workshops. Fortunately, a very knowledgeable young Fungimapper - Jarred Pedro - has stepped in and conducted five very popular fungi forays and workshops at local schools and kindergartens this year. I was accosted by an excited participant in the supermarket the other day and told all about it! Congratulations and thanks to Jarred (now in year 10, for those who remember him from the 2001 conference).

News from Cairns

Sapphire McMullan-Fisher

The cool has finally arrived. An exciting mycological find was *Phallus indusiatus*, with a lovely, lacy indusium.

News from New South Wales

Betty Rees

A variety of interesting talks and demonstrations were arranged for the annual day-long Workshop held at the University of New South Wales by the Sydney Fungal Studies Group Inc. on Saturday, 23rd July. Informative and entertaining talks were presented on the History and practice of medical mycology, Fungal diversity in soils, Sex and community (with special interest in *Penicillium*) and Good guys Bad guys (a talk about the positive and negative effects fungi have on our lives). An excellent display featuring lichens heralded a new direction of interest for some members of the group. A superb fungal slide show and a talk dealing with ongoing work in the taxonomy of *Cortinarius* in Australia rounded out the day. The secretary, Don Gover, and his wife Judith are to be congratulated for putting so much effort into the day, and the usual sumptuous lunch contributed by people attending was enjoyed by all.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Please note that not all these activities are organised by Fungimap

Event	Date	Place	State	Contact
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne Plant Sciences & Biodiversity Seminar. Speaker: Tom May	Wednesday, 3 rd AUGUST, 1 pm	Mueller Hall, RBG Melbourne	Vic	Tom May Ph. (03) 9252 2319 tmay@rbg.vic.gov.au
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group	7 th AUGUST	Cathedral Range	Vic	Geoff Lay Ph: (03) 9898 4816 (ah) Arthur Carew Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group	21 st AUGUST	Hamer Arboretum, Olinda	Vic	Geoff Lay Ph: (03) 9898 4816 (ah) Arthur Carew Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Excursion	27 th AUGUST	Hale CP & Mt Crawford Forest	SA	Pam Catchside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Specimens: identification/discussion	30 th AUGUST	Plant Biodiversity Centre, Adelaide	SA	Pam Catchside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group	4 th SEPTEMBER	Big Pats Ck Warburton	Vic	Geoff Lay Ph: (03) 9898 4816 (ah) Arthur Carew Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Excursion	10 th SEPTEMBER	Springmount CP	SA	Pam Catchside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Specimens: identification/discussion	13 th SEPTEMBER	Plant Biodiversity Centre, Adelaide	SA	Pam Catchside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Queensland Fungi Conference	5 th NOVEMBER	Parliament House, Brisbane	Qld	mail@cubberlawitton.org or Ph: (07) 38784581
Sydney Fungal Studies Group	26 th NOVEMBER	Christmas luncheon	NSW	Judith and Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898

FUNGI CONFERENCE, BRISBANE

Saturday, 5 November 2005

Undumbi Room, Parliament House
Parliamentary Annexe, Cnr George and Alice St, Brisbane

Introduction to the World of Fungi; their Use in Revegetation; Invertebrates and Fungi; Approaches to Fungi Conservation; Community Involvement in Fungi Projects; Lichen; and more.....

Speakers: Dr Tony Young (Mycologist Qld); Nigel Fechner (Qld Herbarium); Dr Tom May (Senior Mycologist Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne); Dr Neale Bougher (Mycologist WA Herbarium); Dr Rod Rogers (Lichenologist Qld); Dr Chris Burwell (Entomology Curator Qld Museum); Katrina Syme (Hon. Assoc. Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne, Botanical Artist, Environmentalist WA)

For more information contact Cubberla-Witton Catchments Network Inc mail@cubberlawitton.org or phone 07 38784581

Other Fungimap Contacts

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Hunters Hill NSW 2110
Email: B.Rees@unsw.edu.au

Perth Urban Bushland Fungi

The PUBF, led by Neale Bougher and Roz Hart, has had a very successful season. They have had wonderful community participation and have recorded and vouchered lots of interesting fungi.

The PUBF website is www.fungiperth.org.au

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: FUNGIMAP RECORDERS

ACT		VIC	
Jack Simpson	1	Richard Appleton	3
		Elaine Bertotto	10
		Arthur & Denise Carew	30
NSW		John Eichler	16
Jel & Ted Brown	4	Sally Green	2
Barry Kemp	6	Jean Lightfoot	4
David Read	1	Tom May	1
Margery Smith	2	Marie McIntyre	3
Sydney Fungal Studies Group	6	Sharon Morley	3
		Joan Patrick	2
		Nigel Sinnott	1
		Kevin Thiele	20
TAS			
Andrew North	8		
Roy Skabo	6	USA	
		Taylor Lockwood	9

FUNGIMAP FOUNDING DONORS

Fungimap Founding Donors have generously made donations during the period when Fungimap was being incorporated (during which we were limited in our capacity to seek funds from government and non-government sources). We are most grateful for contributions from the following:

- Barbara Baird
- Caroline Casey
- Eileen Collins
- Valda Dedman
- Ian & Margaret Endersby
- Patricia Gurry
- Roger Hilton
- Sheila Houghton
- Jackie Miles
- Dave & Lyn Munro
- Ethel Perry
- W.K. Pietsch
- Lois Pricor
- 2 Anonymous

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FUNGIMAP WEBSITE:

<http://www.rbg.vic.gov.au/fungimap/>

The Fungimap Website is in the process of being updated.

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This Fungimap Newsletter was edited by Pam Catcheside & Tom May.

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