



AUSTRALIA'S FUNGI MAPPING SCHEME

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PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Over the years, we have been very fortunate to have a series of dedicated and enthusiastic Coordinators running the Fungimap office. Alas, people with the skills to coordinate everything from conferences to the records database inevitably move on to bigger and better things. Thus, just before Christmas, our most recent Fungimap Coordinator Sarah Jacob took up a position with the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. We wish her well in her new job, where she will have great scope to utilise her enthusiasm and expertise in marine ecosystem management. While at Fungimap, Sarah revamped the Fungimap website, implemented the transfer of the Fungimap finances to MYOB and played a pivotal role in organising the Fungimap IV Conference in southern Queensland. Recruitment has commenced for a new Coordinator, and we hope to have someone in the position by May.

As usual, when the Fungimap office is without a Coordinator, volunteers have been a great help, and I'd like to thank Graham Patterson, Wendy Cook, Geoff Lay and John Carpenter for their efforts in handling records, filling book orders, banking, and all the other tasks that need to be done to keep the office going.

Over the summer Gail Stott, a visitor from the United Kingdom, volunteered to re-organise the myriad images that are associated with records and Fungimap publications. Gail did a great job of locating, sorting and cataloguing images, and organising the growing pile of CD-ROMS. Gail also made some useful recommendations about how to database and store images. One aspect of images that became apparent was that quite a few of the images that appeared in *Fungi Down Under* are not linked to any records in the Fungimap database. Because images are currently managed through the records database, we need to do some re-organising of this so as to track images that do not necessarily have specific records associated with them. Most images now arrive in digital format (which is creating problems in electronic storage space!), whereas a decade ago nearly all the images arrived as prints or transparencies.

A grant has recently been received from The Norman Wettenhall Foundation to assist with development of a Fungimap Fact Sheet Database. This database will run in parallel to the records database, and will contain descriptive information about the target species, and links to photos, maps and graphs. The Fact Sheet Database will be the primary source for a variety of outputs, including text for future editions of *Fungi Down Under* and an updated Fungimap CD-ROM, and stand alone fact sheets on individual target species.

(Continued on Page 3)

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FUNGI INTEREST GROUPS

NSW

Sydney Fungal Studies Group

Fungi forays, talks and workshops in the Sydney area.
Secretary: Donald Gover, Ph: (02) 9661 4898
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Central Coast Fungi Group

Fungi forays in the Central Coast region of NSW.
Contact: Pam O'Sullivan, Ph: (02) 4362 1543
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Queensland Mycological Society

Brisbane

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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

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: Arthur Carew (03) 5968 4505
Web: <http://www.vicnet.net.au/~fncv> then Calender of Events

WA

Perth Urban Bushland Fungi Project

Fungi workshops, walks, surveys in Perth Urban bush areas.
PUBF Team: Neale Bougher, Roz Hart, Sarah de Bueger, Brett Glossop.
Contact: Roz Hart, Community Education Officer.
Email: pubf@inet.net.au
Web: <http://www.fungiperth.org.au>

WA Naturalists' Club, Fungi Study Group

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

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William Bay National Parks

Dale Fewings: mtromance@wn.com.au

(Continued from Page 1)

The database will also greatly facilitate the long awaited goal of providing up-to-date information about the target species on the Fungimap website. In addition, the Fact Sheet Database will allow information on target species to be continually updated, and new target species to be added. We are grateful to the Norman Wettenhall Foundation for their generous support of Fungimap.

At the forthcoming AGM in April, Dr Simone Louwhoff will present an address about lichens. This talk is particularly relevant to Fungimap because we are planning to introduce some lichens as target species. I have been in communication with a number of Australian lichenologists, and received favourable feedback about adding lichen targets. Distribution information is quite good for many Australian lichens. However, including lichens as target species not only will add dots to maps, but will also educate about lichens, and their diversity and important roles in ecosystems. The article by Pat McCarthy in this newsletter on lichens on leaves is a good example of the interesting habitats that lichens can occupy.

In June the Fungimap Committee will be travelling to South Australia for the annual strategy meeting. In the year when there is no Fungimap Conference we aim to hold this meeting in association with an expedition to collect and survey fungi, so as to make it worthwhile for our geographically very widely separated committee members to meet in person. This year we will be working on Kangaroo Island, complementing the considerable survey effort already carried out on the Island by Pam and David Catcheside. Pam has secured funding for the expedition, and is doing a great job of dealing with the

varied logistical aspects of the expedition. While on Kangaroo Island, the Fungimap committee members will be leading some workshops for local land management agency staff and friends groups.

Planning has started for the Fungimap V Conference, to be held in the Armidale region of New South Wales in autumn 2009. We are very pleased that discussion has commenced with the Sydney Fungal Studies Group about co-sponsoring the Conference. We look forward to working together with SFSG to make Fungimap V a great success.

Tom May
Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

FROM THE EDITOR

I always enjoy receiving news and articles for the newsletter – many thanks to all contributors. News of fungi in this issue ranges from feast to famine: a dearth in SA and WA, masses in Qld and NSW. Judging from the large number of activities in the “Forthcoming Events” section it will be a busy season throughout the country.

Please continue to send in your articles, queries, news and information about future events, and don't forget photos for the ‘bumper’ edition later in the year.

Instructions to authors are on page 15 of this newsletter. The deadline for the next issue of *Fungimap Newsletter* is Friday 11th July 2008.

Pam Catcheside

DONOR GIFT RECIPIENT STATUS FOR FUNGIMAP INC.

Fungimap Inc. was granted Donor Gift Recipient (DGR) status on 5th July 2007 by the Australian Taxation Office (ATO). Any donations of \$2 or greater to Fungimap Inc. now have income tax deductibility status.

Fungimap Inc. has a dedicated bank account, the **Austral Fungi Fund**, in which to deposit donations. The Fund is managed by three ‘responsible persons’ proposed by Fungimap and approved by the ATO: Prof. J Ross, previous Chief Botanist at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Melbourne (and Patron of Fungimap), Mr. Leon Costermans, naturalist, author and well-known to Fungimappers for his enormous contribution to the production of *Fungi Down Under*, and Mr. John Carpenter, the Fungimap Public Officer and Treasurer.

As a young Society, the Fungimap finances are not strong and we are in need of funds to keep the Society running. Continual expenses include the Coordinator's salary, the newsletter, insurance and expenses incurred in organising the next conference.

Small donations may be made when purchasing books or renewing membership. Fungimap Inc. will issue income tax deductible receipts for amounts of \$2 or greater. For large amounts, please write a cheque to Austral Fungi Fund, and do not include payment for any purchases.

A major benefit of DGR status is that Fungimap can now apply for funds from the many organisations requiring DGR status as a prerequisite for the award of grants.

John Carpenter,
Treasurer, Fungimap Inc.

Fungimap Annual General Meeting

Date: Monday 7 April 2008

Time: 8.00 pm

Place: Field Naturalists Club of Victoria, 1 Gardenia Street, Blackburn, Victoria.

Agenda

Confirm minutes of previous Annual General Meeting

President's Report

Treasurer's Report

Election of Office bearers

Call for Nominations

For the election of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Ordinary Committee Members.

Nominations must be: made in writing, signed by two members of the Association and accompanied by written consent of the candidate (which may be endorsed on the form of nomination); and delivered to the Secretary not less than 7 days before 7 April, 2008.

Proxy notice: each member is entitled to appoint another member as a proxy by notice given to the Secretary no later than 24 hours before the time of the meeting.

Secretary

Paul George

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The Fungimap AGM will be followed by an address by Dr Simone Louwhoff:

An introduction to the lichens, small but successful communities

Simone will present a general talk on lichens; how they function, where they occur, their ecological importance, and how they are identified and classified.

Dr Simone Louwhoff has studied lichens since 1992, starting with an ecological study of the lichen flora of Mt Donna Buang Scenic Reserve. In 2000 she completed a taxonomic study of the lichen family Parmeliaceae in the Pacific, as part of a doctorate qualification. From 2000-2003 she was employed as lichen curator at the Natural History Museum in London, and in 2004 returned to Australia to carry out lichen research for the Australian Biological Research Study (ABRS) towards taxonomic treatments of lichens for *Flora of Australia*. Simone is currently an Honorary Associate at Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, where she continues research on lichens.

VICTORIAN LEAF-INHABITING LICHENS, PLEASE

Pat McCarthy

Fungimap enthusiasts and other field-naturalists probably spend a fair amount of time tramping around cool-temperate rainforest in Victoria. Occasionally, you might come across foliicolous (leaf-inhabiting) lichens, and I would be most grateful for specimens of these remarkable organisms.

Foliicolous lichens are most diverse and abundant in the tropics and subtropics where a large leaf of a rainforest tree or shrub can support up to 15 or 20 species. Currently, 174 species known from coastal and hinterland areas of Queensland and 62 from New South Wales. There are at least 27 species in Tasmanian cool-temperate rainforest, but only 12 have been reported from similar habitats in Victoria. They are certainly out there, but they have been overlooked or ignored.

In Tasmania, *Atherosperma moschatum* (Southern Sassafras) and the fern *Blechnum wattsii* are by far the best hosts, and I suspect this is also true of southern Victoria. Foliicolous lichens are usually grey, pale greenish or brownish, some species have delicate hairs or swellings, and most produce discoid or flask-shaped ascocarps in a range of colours and 0.2–1 mm in diameter. Although individual colonies are usually no more than a centimetre or two in diameter, in suitable habitats colonies of several species can almost cover the upper surface of a leaf, and well-colonised trees can be readily spotted from a distance of 10 metres or more.

Collection and preservation couldn't be simpler. Once picked, place the leaves between layers of absorbent paper in a low-tech press; I use two stiff pieces of cardboard no bigger than 20 × 10 cm held together by two strong metal clips. Next day, change the paper, replace the metal clips with Cellotape and send the press to me! **Victorian specimens only, please.** For each collection, include details of the collector, host plant (if known) locality, geocode (latitude and longitude or Australian Mapping Grid reference) and habitat (such as the dominant trees and vegetation structure). If you are collecting material in National Parks or other reserves, please ensure that you have the appropriate collecting permits.

Visit <http://www.anbg.gov.au/abrs/lichenlist/foliicolous%20lichens.html> for a list of the foliicolous lichens known from Australia, some with illustrations.

Many thanks

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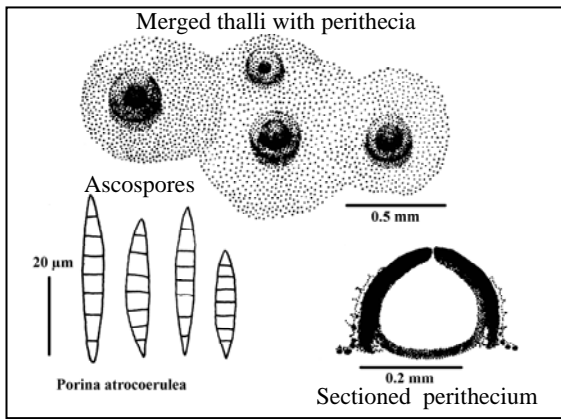
← *Fellhanera
bouteillei*
The pale discs
are apothecia

*Gyalectidium
caucasicum* →

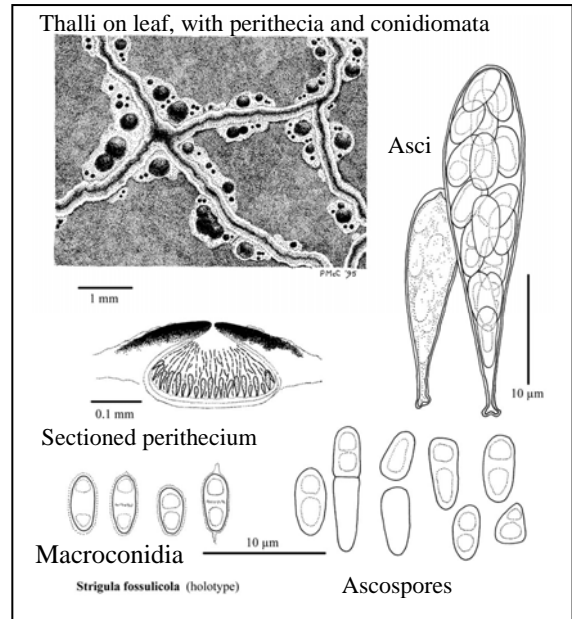
Photos: Bill
Malcolm



© Bill Malcolm 2001



Porina atrocoerulea
Pat McCarthy



Strigula fossulicola
Pat McCarthy

Most lichens are **ascomycetes**. In **ascomycetes** the fruiting body is called an **ascocarp**, and **ascospores** (sexual spores) are produced within microscopic sac-like structures called **asci** (singular **ascus**). An **apothecium** is an open disc with the asci in a layer at the top; a **perithecium** is a flask-like, almost closed, structure containing asci. **Conidiomata** are structures bearing **conidia** (asexual spores). **Macroconidia** are comparatively large conidia (but are still microscopic). **Conidiomata** are fruit-bodies bearing conidia. Perithecia may be seen with the naked eye but are better viewed with a hand lens or stereomicroscope. The asci, ascospores and conidia require high magnification under a compound microscope (Ed.).

18TH MEETING OF AUSTRALASIAN LICHENOLOGISTS, GIPPSLAND April 12-13, 2008

The 18th meeting of Australasian Lichenologists will start in Traralgon, Victoria, Saturday April 12th, at the Regional Office of the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). All day parking is available on Service St at the rear of the building or, alternatively, you can park in the DSE carpark on the corner of Service St and Franklin St (see link to map below). Access is via the front entrance on Hotham St. The meeting commences at 9 am with a variety of talks, followed by fieldwork at nearby Morwell National Park in the afternoon. The Park comprises remnants of the original Strzelecki Ranges forest, including wet forest with fern gullies, and drier Stringy bark vegetation. A group dinner is planned for the evening.

Additional fieldwork will take place on Sunday April 13th, to the Baw Baw ranges, with an 8.30 departure from the DSE Office, Traralgon. The main collecting site will be at Mushroom Rocks which comprises granite outcrops in subalpine habitat. We plan to be back at Traralgon about 3 pm.

If you would like to attend the meeting please contact Simone Louwhoff by March 20th with the following: if you will come along to both days of the meeting (or if you would like to present a talk) and attend the Saturday dinner, and if you need transport on the fieldtrips. Participants need to organise their own accommodation (see link below).

Simone Louwhoff
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Some website information

Map to Traralgon DSE office (Map 5, J7):
<http://www.arta.com.au/vicmaps/traralgon/traralgon5.html>
Accommodation:
<http://www.travelvictoria.com.au/traralgon/accommodation/>
Baw Baw National Park:
<http://www.australialps.deh.gov.au/parks/bawbaw.html>

FUNGI IN A SUBURBAN GARDEN

Heino Lepp

What do you find in a suburban garden? It depends on the garden so I will say something about the fungi (and slime moulds) in mine. It's in a fairly ordinary suburban Canberra setting, not close to any natural bush. Initially it had some mature eucalypts and a few other native plants, but mostly it was lawn bordered by exotic weeds. The lawn and weeds have gone, replaced by native species. There is much twig and leaf litter mulch and some trunks or branches from dead plants have been left on the ground as fungal substrate. I have collected herbarium specimens from the garden, but by no means of all the species to be found there.

The following list (often just to genus) will give you an idea of the variety I've seen. They don't all appear every year and some I've seen only once. Fungimap targets are in bold.

MUSHROOMS: *Agaricus* (at least 2 species), *Agrocybe*, *Coprinus* (several small-capped species), *Cortinarius* (2 or 3 species), *Entoloma*, ***Flammulina velutipes***, ***Gymnopilus junonius***, *Hemimycena tortuosa*, *Hohenbuehelia clelandii*, *Lepiota* (several small-capped species), ***Lepista nuda***, *Mycena* (several species including ***Mycena viscidocruenta***), ***Oudemansiella radicata***, *Psilocybe*. STINKHORNS: ***Anthurus archeri***, ***Aseroe rubra***. PUFFBALLS AND SIMILAR: *Bovista*, *Geastrum pectinatum*, *Pisolithus*, *Scleroderma*. POLYPORES: *Polyporus arcularius*, *Pycnoporus*, *Trametes versicolor*. CORTICIOID FUNGI: *Dacryobolus sudans*, *Gloeocystidiellum*, *Hymenochaete*, *Hyphoderma praetermissum*, *Hyphodontia nudiseta*, *Peniophora* (at least 2 species including *Peniophora incarnata*), *Phlebia*, *Porostereum crassa*, *?Sistotremastrum*, *Tubulicrinis*. TRUFFLES: *Dingleya tessellata*, *Hydnangium carneum*, *Hysterangium*. OTHER FUNGI: *Clavulina*, *Cyathus stercoreus*, *Ductifera*, *Gloniopsis ?praelonga*. SLIME MOULDS: ***Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa***, *Didymium squamulosum*, ***Fuligo septica***.

Clavulina is a coral fungus, *Ductifera* has a convoluted gelatinous fruiting body and *Cyathus* is a Birds Nest Fungus - the fruiting body a small cup which holds tiny 'eggs'. A *Gloniopsis* fruiting body, found on well-weathered but still firm wood, is a **hysterothecium** - like a pair of tiny black lips, only a millimetre or two long. Though individually small they often appear in large numbers.

Of the mushrooms, *Hemimycena tortuosa* has the most interesting story. The species is widespread in Europe and has been found in British Columbia and Hawaii but my backyard is the only reported Australian location. It must be elsewhere in Australia, but the caps are quite small and the species grows in sheltered areas so making it easy to miss.

The word **corticoid** is derived from the Latin *cortex* (= bark or rind) and a corticioid fungus has a two-dimensional fruiting body, typically found on the underside of fallen wood and hugging the wood like a patch of extra skin. The *Dacryobolus sudans* find doesn't have the impact of the *Hemimycena* record, since the former had been reported from Victoria in 1957 and it is widespread outside Australia. However, the Canberra record is still very informative. There seem to be no published Australian records of *Dacryobolus sudans* from outside an area near Melbourne. In the Canberra herbarium there are four specimens - from Canberra, Goobang National Park (north-east of Parkes, NSW), a site north-west of Coffs Harbour (NSW) and Kalamunda National Park (Perth, WA). Given the few Australian specimens identified as this species, each of those records is significant and, taken together, they suggest the species is widespread in Australia in a variety of habitats.

Many corticioid fungi need microscope work even for identification to genus. However, by carefully looking at the fruiting body features with a 10 times handlens you can often tell that A is different to B - even though you cannot identify them any further. *Dacryobolus sudans* is one corticioid species that is fairly distinctive under a 10 times handlens. The pale orange fruiting body consists of a flat sheet from which there arise numerous very short teeth, each with a tiny droplet at its tip. *Sistotremastrum* is listed with a '?', indicating a tentative identification which I must check. If correct it would be interesting since there has been no report of the genus from Australia.

The list is not complete. I've seen fruiting bodies, distinct from anything else seen in the garden, but too rotten for identification. I have unidentified herbarium collections (particularly corticioid) from the garden and there must be species I've missed. What the list does show is that suburban gardens can produce both variety and surprises. What do you have in your garden?

FUNGI RECORDS IN THE MIDDLE, AT THE EDGE AND ON THE TOP

Tom May

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

A record was recently received of *Podaxis pistillaris* from Jel and Ted Brown, reported from the 'Lambert Centre' (25°36'36''S, 134°21'17''E), which is the geographical centre of Australia. This prompted a search of the Fungimap database for other geographically interesting records (discounting records from offshore territories and islands, such as Christmas Is, Lord Howe Is and Norfolk Is).



Podaxis pistillaris at the geographic centre of Australia. Photo: Jel and Ted Brown.

The most northern record (from a specimen collected by Sophie Ducker) is of *Coltricia cinnamomea* from the shores of Fresh Water Lake, near Somerset at the tip of Cape York, Queensland (10°43'S). The most southern records (submitted by Bryony Horton) are of *Marasmius elegans* and *Tubaria rufofulva* from Maatsuyker Island (43°39'146''S), which is 10 km to the south of the south-west coast of Tasmania. The most western record (from a specimen collected by Alex Baynes) is of *Montagnea arenaria* from south of Red Bluff on Quobba Station, in the Carnarvon area of Western Australia (113°27'E). The most eastern record (submitted by Lois Prictor) is of *Aseroe rubra* from Kingsley St, Byron Bay (153°37'E) on the north coast of New South Wales. There are also herbarium specimens of *Coltricia cinnamomea* and *Colus hirudinosus* group from Byron Bay, collected by George Crichton and John Cleland respectively.

In terms of altitude, the highest record (from a herbarium collection by Hans Manson) is of *Aseroe rubra*, from the 'Mount Bogong Saddle, between two cairns', at 1920 m altitude. This is some 66 m shy of the summit of Mt Bogong (1986 m) which is the highest peak in Victoria. There are quite a few records from near sea level (but none yet from below sea level elevations, such as occur at Lake Eyre). Among the 1 m altitude records is one (submitted by Di Williams) of *Coprinus comatus*, from the ex-amusement park carpark in Devonport Tasmania.

It is interesting to see *Aseroe rubra* as both the highest and the most eastern species, and *Coltricia cinnamomea* reported at the most eastern and northern points of the continent—emphasising the large ecological and geographic spread of many Australian fungi.

These extreme records exemplify the variety of records that is held on the Fungimap database, and the different sources that are used for records. In the early days of Fungimap, an attempt was made to trawl through the available literature for records (such as in foray reports in field naturalists journals) and also to sample herbarium holdings for records. As the number of records directly submitted by recorders grew, this process of taking records from literature was discontinued. The creation of herbarium specimen databases also meant that there seemed to be no need to separately database herbarium collections. There are quite likely some interesting records yet to be extracted from literature, and we may well attempt to incorporate them into the Fungimap database in the future. There are also possibilities for combining un-vouchered sight data (which is what most of the Fungimap records are) with herbarium data, although many collections of fungi in Australian herbaria are yet to be databased.

Other aspects of the Fungimap database are revealed by these extreme records. Not only are there numerous records of the formally designated 105 target species, but there is also an increasing number of records of other distinctive species (such as *Coltricia cinnamomea* and *Montagnea arenaria*). Many of these fungi are being trialled as target species, to be launched with full documentation in future editions of *Fungi Down Under* and the *Fungimap CD-ROM*.

The Fungimap database currently holds more than 27,000 records, but there is plenty of scope for more records. There is a lot of country between east and west and north and south in Australia, and many gaps still to be filled!

A NAME AND A NOVEL DISTRIBUTION FOR *HYPOCREOPSIS* SP. 'NYORA'

Tom May

Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne

You don't have to have a formal name for a fungus to be able to record and map it, as long as the species is quite distinctive. This has been exemplified by the Fungimap target species known up to now as *Hypocreopsis* sp. 'Nyora'. It is a very unusual ascomycete, which forms a lobed fruit-body that clasps small branches, usually of tea-tree. Despite having been on the list of Fungimap targets since 1999, it is known from only three near-coastal sites within a 75 km radius in southern Victoria. Due to its rarity, and threats to its habitat, *Hypocreopsis* sp. 'Nyora' has been formally listed under the *Victorian Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act* (the only fungus so far listed).

It was a great surprise, therefore, when a collection of what seemed to be the same *Hypocreopsis* from the South Island of New Zealand turned up in the PDD Herbarium at Landcare Research in Auckland. The collection was made in 1983, and was growing on *Nothofagus* bark. Peter Johnston at Landcare Research made the connection with the Australian species. Examination of morphological characters showed that Australian and New Zealand collections were indeed the same species. As well as the distinctive macroscopic appearance, there are some distinctive microscopic features, such as the presence of four (rather than the normal eight) spores per ascus and the warted surface to the spores, which often have cross walls. The species has now been formally named *Hypocreopsis amplexans* (from the clasping habit).

A sequence of DNA (from the Internal Transcribed Spacer region) was examined from the New Zealand collection and one of the Victorian collections. The two DNA sequences were identical, which usually only occurs for collections from the same species, further confirming the identity based on the morphology.

In Australia, *Hypocreopsis amplexans* is found growing on another fungus, a species of *Hymenochaete*, and seems to be limited to long-unburnt stands of tea-tree. This substrate and ecological specialisation may well explain the rarity of the species in Australia. However, discovery of *H. amplexans* in New Zealand, in quite a different habitat, poses interesting questions about the origin and dispersal of the species.

An intriguing postscript to the formal naming of *Hypocreopsis amplexans* is a report of the species by Lisa Clarkson in January 2006 from north-west Tasmania, at Cloister Lagoon in the Walls of Jerusalem National Park at an altitude of 1040 m. It was growing on live wood of *Leptospermum scoparium* in an old growth sub-alpine tea-tree forest which was unburnt (having missed the 1982 wildfires). Unfortunately, the recorder was 'lost' at the time on an un-marked track (with a party of children) and was not able to get a photograph of the fungus. However, an accurate GPS reading of the location was obtained: 55G E431200 N5362450 (43°53'12"S 146°10'15"E). When the record was submitted, it was flagged as needing confirmation due to the significant range extension, both geographically and as far as habitat. Now that the species has been confirmed from New Zealand, it would not be so surprising to find the species in Tasmania (and in an area where there is *Nothofagus* nearby). So, keep an eye out for this fascinating species, and not just in lowland tea-tree thickets!

Reference

Johnston, P.R., May, T.W., Park, D. & Horak, E. (2007). *Hypocreopsis amplexans* sp. nov., a rare fungus from New Zealand and Australia. *New Zealand Journal of Botany* 45: 715-719.



Hypocreopsis amplexans at Nyora in Victoria. Photo: Tom May

PROJECT: FUNGAL POPULATIONS AND DIVERSITY IN LONG UNBURNT AND RECENTLY BURNT BUSH

Jarred Pedro

From a very young age I have always had a fascination with mycology and have spent many hours looking for fungi on our property in Denmark down in the Southwest of WA which consists of approximately 900 acres of protected native bush, unburnt for over 30 years.

Through my observations I have noticed a wider diversity of fungi in our unburnt bush, compared to some surrounding burnt bush blocks in the area, so when the chance arose to conduct a long term investigation for my biology class at school I took the opportunity to scientifically investigate this phenomenon.

My aim was to determine and compare population and diversity of fungi living in long unburnt and recently burnt bush.

My results showed:

- That a greater diversity of species was found in the unburnt block compared to those found in the burnt block.
- The unburnt bush block supported a greater total population of fungi compared to the burnt block.
- The fruiting bodies continued over a longer period in the unburnt bush block after the rain decreased.
- The population dropped considerably once the rain decreased in the burnt bush block.
- There was a greater diversity of micro (small) fungi in the unburnt bush block, compared to the burnt bush block.
- There were population explosions of specific species seen in the burnt block.
- The decomposing organic mulch was greater in the unburnt bush block.
- Greater moisture content was recorded in the unburnt bush block compared to the burnt bush block.

My investigation was submitted to the WA State Science Talent awards, and initially I won the State award for the

biological investigation category, but once up in Perth to receive my award they announced that I was also the winner of the overall State Science awards, and my investigation now goes into the National awards.

To clarify these data I am in the process of conducting a similar investigation using more recently burnt bush compared to long unburnt bush. This will help to establish any possible correlation of time intervals between fire and population and diversity of fungi.



Jarred with his certificate

Congratulations, Jarred, and very best wishes for the National Awards (from Fungimappers and Fungimap committee)

FUNGAL NEWS

Central Coast News

Pam O'Sullivan

The Central Coast group will be holding a foray or workshop on the second and fourth Tuesday of March, April and May, though these dates may be flexible. There will also be a joint day with the Sydney Fungal Studies Group on the 7th June in Strickland State Forest. For more information ring 02 4362 1543 or e-mail pam@osullivan.com.au

We have been very lucky in our area with a wet summer resulting in a bountiful supply of fungi to look at. Some of the ones already spotted include a number of species of *Russula*, *Coprinus*, *Conocybe*, *Amanita*, *Agaricus*, *Gymnopus*, *Crepidotus*, *Macrolepiota*, *Gymnopilus*, *Hygrocybe*, *Inocybe*, *Laccaria*, *Leucocoprinus*, *Marasmiellus*, *Marasmius*, *Mycena*, *Panaeolus*, *Phylloporus*, *Scleroderma*, some amazing stink-horns, *Amauroderma rude*, numerous brackets and resupinate fungi ... and the list goes on. And the season is just beginning!

News from SA

Pam Catcheside

FUNGIMAP SURVEYS OF FUNGI ON KANGAROO ISLAND

At the end of June 2008, a team comprising Fungimap committee members Tom May, Katrina Syme, Paul George, Pam O'Sullivan and myself, together with Teresa Lebel, Richard Robinson, David Catcheside, Thelma and Phil Bridle (Adelaide Fungal Studies Group) and Helen Vonow (State Herbarium of SA) will be carrying out surveys of fungi on Kangaroo Island. We have obtained grants from the Wildlife Conservation Fund (SA) and the Native Vegetation Council (SA) to cover major expenses.

The surveys, mostly in Flinders Chase National Park, are especially important after the December 2007 bushfires. These fires burnt out approximately 98% of the over 40,000 ha of the Ravine de Casoars in the Chase. I am not aware of any systematic surveys in South Australia of fungi that come up after fire, so our surveys will yield new and important data. David and I have been surveying fungi on KI since 2002 and it will be interesting to compare pre-fire and post-fire sites. While at the Chase we shall also be giving workshops for Rangers, Friends of Parks and Bush Management Groups. There will be more about the surveys in future newsletters.

News from Queensland Mycological Society Inc.

Ray Baxter

The recent rains have brought forth a good show of fungi in most areas so the monthly field trips have been extremely interesting with just too many fungi to study – such a change after the years of drought.

The Queensland Mycological Society continues to meet on the second Tuesday each month in the Bailey Room of the Herbarium at Mount Coot-tha, with the monthly a field trip on the preceding Saturday.

Heavy personal workloads have resulted in a few changes at the Committee level: Diana Leemon is now Acting President and Ray Baxter is Acting Secretary.

Following the purchase of two new microscopes with a grant from the South East Queensland Catchments Diana Leemon conducted an "Introduction into Microscopy" workshop in October and Patrick Leonard conducted a "Fungal Identification Workshop" in October.

Plans are underway to conduct a review survey in some of the IBISCA sites on Green Mountain, Lamington National Park, over the last weekend in February. In preparation for this a workshops on "Describing Fungi", "Survey Procedures", and "Photography" will be conducted.

The January Field Trip to the Chermiside Hills Reserve and the February Field Trip to a privately owned property at Belmont Hills, Carindale (which is being managed as part of the Council's Wildlife Conservation Partnerships Program) provided an interesting array of wildlife and

fungi with *Hygrocybe* spp, *Amanita* spp, and *Russula* spp being seen for the first time since the trips started.

The Lamington Review 2008, held from 29 February to 2 March, was attended by 17 members. Participants considered the weekend to be educational, enjoyable and successful with a number of fungal collections being made for lodging with the Queensland Herbarium. This will be followed by a microscopy workshop at the March meeting.

Please note new QMS Office Bearers:

Acting President Diana Leemon Ph AH (07) 3202 8809; email diana.leemon@dpi.qld.gov.au

Acting Secretary Ray Baxter PH (07) 3202 5008; email fungiqld@yahoo.com.au

News from Tasmania

Sarah Lloyd

Welcome rain over the summer months has alleviated the dry conditions (and stimulated some fungal growth) in parts of the island state.

Those who attended Fungimap III will no doubt remember the beautiful patches of myrtle beech *Nothofagus cunninghamii* rainforest at Iris Farm near Cradle Mountain. As usual the beech orange (*Cyttaria gunnii*) galls produced clusters of fruiting bodies during late spring.

At the Tympanocryptis Fungal reserve (Birrale) the smattering of wetness has seen early season fungi such as the occasional Boletus, several large white *Amanita* spp. and a small colony of *Mycena viscidocruenta* growing on eucalypt litter. *Tubaria rufofulva* has appeared on its usual log in the *Melaleuca ericifolia* swamp, and it doesn't seem to take much moisture for at least one fruit of *Amanita xanthocephala* to appear in the eucalypt forest. Numerous eye-catching patches, most yellow, one orange, of *Fuligo septica* appeared overnight on large logs or stumps spaced 10 or so metres apart. Dinner-size patches of a similar looking (purple) slime mould growing on woodchips at the playground and primary school in Westbury caused consternation in the local community just weeks before school resumed.

Long Point Reserve, a low-lying peninsula in the southwest corner of the internationally significant wetland, the Ramsar listed Moulting Lagoon, is managed by the Tasmanian Land Conservancy, the organisation that purchased Recherche Bay. (Recherche Bay is known to mycologists because it is the place where French explorer and naturalist, Jacques-Julian Houtou de Labillardiere, was the first European to scientifically describe a fungus in Australia after finding anemone stinkhorn *Aseroë rubra*).

The tail end of the rain-bearing systems that broke the drought and replenished the wetlands in Queensland also dampened the usually dry east coast. Fresh *Agaricus* and *Pisolithus* species had just emerged at Long Point in mid February and there were scattered desiccated *Geastrum* spp.

(continued page 12)

(continued from page 11)

There is a high population of Bennett's Wallaby at the reserve and many of the drier scats support colonies of the small dung buttons *Poronia erici*.

There was a completely different fungal experience the following weekend when 14 members of the Central North Field Naturalists ventured west to explore the Tarkine. The largest area of contiguous cool temperate *Nothofagus* rainforest remaining in Australia occurs in this region of Northwest Tasmania, an area known for its fungal diversity after two mycological explorations in 2005 and 2006.

At the start of the walk to Philosopher Falls we were encouraged to see newly emerging fruits of the large *Laccaria* species that grows in association with *Nothofagus*, but the conditions in the rainforest were uncharacteristically dry and, for once, we weren't overwhelmed with an abundance of specimens. Large *Ganoderma* grew like steps up the trunks of the decaying myrtles; we saw dots of blue (underdeveloped) *Mycena interrupta* and *Pluteus atromarginatus* on a saturated log and a small group of another *Nothofagus* associate *M. toyerlaricola* growing in the leaf litter.

Even the rainforest further west at Corinna was dry, and the mosses, liverworts and lichens lacked their glisten and vibrant colours. For those visiting the area for the first time the endemic plants restricted to Tasmania's west coast: the Huon pines *Lagarostrobos franklinii*, leatherwood

Eucryphia lucida and whitey wood *Acradenia frankliniae* make this a special place to visit. For Fungimappers, however, only the tiny *Dictyopanus pusillus* growing on a dead section of the endemic native laurel *Anopterus glandulosus*, desiccated *Anthracoxyllum archeri* on dead *Melaleuca squarrosa* and *Mycoacia subceracea* on a rotting myrtle beech were recorded.

We weren't disappointed; visiting Tasmania's rainforests is always a magical experience and we considered ourselves fortunate that we had seen some fungal species, conscious that some of our mainland colleagues are still experiencing drought conditions and a complete lack of fungi.

HYPHAWEB

Two excellent new websites with images of Australian fungi:

From Genevieve Gates and David Ratkowsky: website detailing Genevieve's research projects
http://www.utas.edu.au/docs/plant_science/tas/fungi/
 or 'Google' "Tasmanian Fungi"

From Michael Pilkington - with a challenge to check out the Latin.
<http://www.mycoimage.co.uk/>

FORTHCOMING EVENTS (MARCH - SEPTEMBER 2008)

Please note that not all these activities are organised by Fungimap

Sydney Fungal Studies Group. Website: www.sydneyfungistudies.org.au

Program and workshop details are on the website. Topics will appear when speakers and their topics have been determined. The website contains interesting images and articles. Reproduction of material is possible and easy to obtain as email links are provided on the website to the relevant author (under each image, also see 'Contacts' in the directory). Forays will commence at 10 a.m. If weather is unsuitable, or you wish to enquire about a particular foray, please contact the relevant co-ordinator listed in the events table above.

Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group. Website: www.vicnet.net.au/~fncv then Calendar of events. All forays start at 10.30am, BYO lunch. Monthly meetings on Monday nights start at 8.00 pm at the FNCV meeting rooms, Blackburn. For non-members there will be a \$5.00 fee per foray for insurance. For further details contact Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505.

Adelaide Fungal Studies Group. (A club of the Field Naturalists Society of SA). Forays: BYO lunch, meet 10 am unless otherwise stated. On the Tuesday after each foray, a meeting will be held at the State Herbarium of SA, Hackney Road at 7.30 pm. Specimens collected on the foray will be examined.

Contact Pam Catcheside, Ph: (08) 8222 9379, email: Catcheside.Pam@saugov.sa.gov.au

Queensland Mycological Society. QMS Inc General Meetings are held in the Bailey Room at the Queensland Herbarium, Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens, commencing at 7pm on the second Tuesday of each month (January excepted). QMS Field Trips are conducted each month at a different venue and are of 3 to 4 hours duration, bookings essential. Meet at 8:45am for 9:00am start (unless otherwise stated) on the Saturday preceding the QMS monthly general meeting. For further information contact the QMS Field Trip Organiser, Jon Atkinson, Ph 04012831 or Email buildingbistro@hotmail.com

Perth Urban Bushland Fungi Project.

For latest information, check website: <http://www.fungiperth.org.au>

WA Naturalists' Club, Fungi Study Group

Fungal forays, workshops, identification evenings and talks, based in Perth.

Contact: WA Naturalists' Club, Email: wanats@inet.net.au Web: <http://www.wanats.inet.net.au/fungigroup.html>

Friends of Warwick Bushland, WA (Friends of Warwick Open Space Conservation Area & Friends of Warwick Senior High School Bushland Bush Forever Site no 202). Meet at Bowling & Tennis Club car park, Lloyd Drive, Warwick, W.A. Co-ordinator: Janina Pezzarini Ph: (08) 9447 9494, neen@ext.uwa.edu.au

Fungi forays in the Denmark area, WA

For further information contact Katrina Syme, Ph: (08) 9848 1293, email: katrina.syme@westnet.com.au

Event	Date	Place	State	Contact
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Talk: Dr Tom May	3 rd MARCH	FNCV Meeting rooms, Blackburn	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Programme meeting & talk.	11 th MARCH	State Herbarium of SA, Hackney Road	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW - The Forgotten Flora Touring Exhibition	13 th MARCH - 9 th JUNE	National Museum of Australia, Canberra	ACT	Teresa Lebel (03) 9252 2361
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	15 th MARCH	Mt Wilson	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	29 th MARCH	Robertson	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Queensland Mycological Society Field trip	5 th APRIL	Linda Garrett Park, Mapleton	Qld	Patrick Leonard Ph: (07) 5456 4135 or 0403 592956
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray	6 th APRIL	The Beeches Picnic Ground, Marysville	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
FUNGIMAP AGM (see separate notice, p. 4) Talk: Dr Simone Louwhoff	7 th APRIL	FNCV Meeting rooms, Blackburn	Vic	Paul George Ph: (03) 9830 1351 psgeorge@bigpond.net.au
Queensland Mycological Society General meeting. Talk: Patrick Leonard: <i>Fungi of New Zealand</i>	8 th APRIL	Bailey Room, Mount Coot-ha Herbarium	Qld	Patrick Leonard Ph: (07) 5456 4135 or 0403 592956
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	12 th APRIL	James Park, Lawson	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Australasian Lichenologists , 18 th meeting & fieldwork	12-13 th APRIL	Gippsland	Vic	Simone Louwhoff Ph: (03) 5195 5006, slouwhoff@hotmail.com
Fungi Lovers Adventure Group Foray - Meet track, end of Denmans Rd, Birrallee	17 th APRIL	Black Sugarloaf, Tymanocryptis Fungal Reserve	Tas	Sarah Lloyd Ph: (03) 6396 1380, sarahlloyd@iprimus.com.au
7th National Conference. Australian Network for Plant Conservation Our declining flora: tackling the threats	21-24 th APRIL	Mulgoa, nr Penrith, western Sydney	NSW	Website: http://www.anbg.gov.au/anpc/conferences.html
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	26 th APRIL	Bola Creek	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Foray - to be confirmed	26 th APRIL	Mount Lofty Botanic Garden	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Meeting	29 th APRIL	State Herbarium of SA	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Queensland Mycological Society Field trip	3 rd -4 th MAY	Springbrook National Park	Qld	Leaders: Nigel Fechner, Diana Leemon {Ph: (07) 3202 8809}
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray	4 th MAY	Upper Yarra Reservoir, Reefton	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Central North Tasmania Field Naturalists Foray	4 th MAY	Private Property near Holwell Gorge	Tas	Sarah Lloyd Ph: (03) 6396 1380, sarahlloyd@iprimus.com.au

Event	Date	Place	State	Contact
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Meeting	5 th MAY	FNCV Meeting rooms, Blackburn	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	10 th MAY	Coachwood Glen	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Queensland Mycological Society Field trip	10 th MAY	Chermside Hills	Qld	Leader: John Wrench Ph: (07) 3256 3310
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray	11 th MAY	Macedon	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Queensland Mycological Society General meeting. Talk: Nigel Fechner, Qld Herbarium	13 th MAY	Bailey Room, Mount Coot-ha Herbarium	Qld	Ray Baxter Ph: (07) 3202 5008 fungiql@yahoo.com.au
22 nd New Zealand Fungal Foray	Sun 11 th - Sat 17 th May	Dunedin	New Zealand	Website: http://www.funnz.org.nz/forays/22/dunedin.htm
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray	18 th MAY	Bunyip State Park (Gembrook)	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Friends of Warwick Bushland Fungi survey & identification	20 th MAY (9 am-12noon)	Meet Lloyd Drive, Warwick	WA	Janina Pezzarini Ph: (08) 9447 9494, neen@ext.uwa.edu.au
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	24 th MAY	Mill Creek	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Foray - to be confirmed	24 th MAY	Jenkins Scrub, Cromer CP	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Meeting	27 th MAY	State Herbarium of SA	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray - to be confirmed	1 st JUNE	Devilbend Reservoir	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Foray	7 th JUNE	Strickland Forest, Narara	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Queensland Mycological Society Field trip	7 th JUNE	Cunninghams Gap vicinity or Mount Lee	Qld	Leader: Klaus Querengasser Ph: (07) 3271 2510
Queensland Mycological Society AGM. Talk: Joan Cribb	9 th JUNE	Bailey Room, Mount Coot-ha Herbarium	Qld	Ray Baxter Ph: (07) 3202 5008 fungiql@yahoo.com.au
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Foray - to be confirmed	14 th JUNE	Porter Scrub CP	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray - to be confirmed	15 th JUNE	Dom Dom Saddle	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Meeting	17 th JUNE	State Herbarium of SA	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Friends of Warwick Bushland Fungi spotting, planting day	17 th JUNE (9 am-12noon)	Meet Lloyd Drive, Warwick	WA	Janina Pezzarini Ph: (08) 9447 9494, neen@ext.uwa.edu.au
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray - to be confirmed	29 th JUNE	Blackwood	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Queensland Mycological Society Field trip	5 th JULY	Venue to be determined	Qld	Leader: Ken Cowell Ph: (07) 3965 5304
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray - to be confirmed	6 th JULY	Green's Bush	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505
Queensland Mycological Society General meeting.	8 th JULY	Bailey Room, Mount Coot-ha Herbarium	Qld	Ray Baxter Ph: (07) 3202 5008 fungiql@yahoo.com.au
Friends of Warwick Bushland Fungi spotting, bush regeneration	15 th JULY (9 am-12noon)	Meet Lloyd Drive, Warwick	WA	Janina Pezzarini Ph: (08) 9447 9494, neen@ext.uwa.edu.au
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Foray - to be confirmed	19 th JULY	Mt Panorama, Kuitpo Forest	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Field Naturalists Club of Vic, Fungi Group Foray - to be confirmed	20 th JULY	Emerald Lake	Vic	Arthur Carew, Ph: (03) 5968 4505

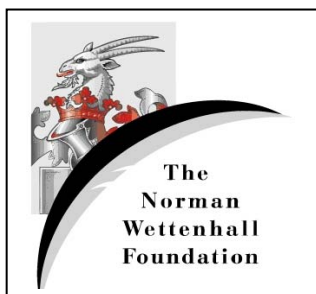
Event	Date	Place	State	Contact
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Meeting	22 nd JULY	State Herbarium of SA	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Foray - to be confirmed	2 nd AUGUST	Mt Billy CP	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Adelaide Fungal Studies Group Meeting	4 th AUGUST	State Herbarium of SA	SA	Pam Catcheside Ph: (08) 8222 9379
Queensland Mycological Society General meeting.	9 th AUGUST	Bailey Room, Mount Coot-ha Herbarium	Qld	Ray Baxter Ph: (07) 3202 5008 fungiqld@yahoo.com.au
Queensland Mycological Society Identification & microscope workshop	12 th AUGUST	Bailey Room, Mount Coot-ha Herbarium	Qld	Diana Leemon Ph: (07) 3202 8809
HIDDEN IN PLAIN VIEW - The Forgotten Flora Touring Exhibition	16 th AUGUST - 16 th NOV.	Queen Victoria Museum & Art Gallery, Launceston	Tas	Teresa Lebel (03) 9252 2361
Sydney Fungal Studies Group Workshop (program TBA)	23 rd AUGUST	Joseph Banks Lab, Macleay Bldg, Science Road, Uni. of Sydney	NSW	Don Gover Ph: (02) 9661 4898
Queensland Mycological Society Field trip	6 th SEPTEMBER	Lamington	Qld	Leader: Dr Tony Young. Contact Ray Baxter Ph: (07) 3202 5008 fungiqld@yahoo.com.au

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

Members and non-members of Fungimap are welcome to publish in the Fungimap Newsletter. Articles should be no more than 800 words, news items no more than 500 words; images should preferably be jpg, resolution at least 300dpi and submitted in at least the size that they are to be published. Avoid images larger than 1Mb (preferably copied to CD-ROM and posted). You're your contributions to Pam Catcheside (Catcheside.Pam@saugov.sa.gov.au) or Fungimap, RBG Melbourne, Private Bag 2000, South Yarra, Victoria 3141 (fungimap@rbg.vic.gov.au). Articles submitted for publication in the Fungimap Newsletter should not be submitted to any other journal or newsletter awaiting publication or have been previously published in another Newsletter or journal. Authors submitting manuscripts are responsible for obtaining the copyright holder's permission to reproduce any material for which the author does not hold copyright.

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FUNGIMAP SUPPORTERS



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DONORS TO AUSTRAL FUNGI FUND

The newly created **Austral Fungi Fund** is Fungimap's Donor Gift Recipient Fund (see p. 3).

Roger Hilton

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: FUNGIMAP RECORDERS

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(state not known)	30
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This Fungimap Newsletter was edited by Pam Catcheside & Tom May.

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