

# SOMANEWS

SONOMA COUNTY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION / Edition 26/6 February 2014

VOLUME 26 : 6

FEBRUARY 2014

## SYDNEY GLASSMAN

SPEAKS FEBRUARY 20:

Sydney Glassman is interested in the interactions between aboveground and belowground terrestrial communities, in particular the effects of mycorrhizal symbioses on plant community composition and function. She is also interested in understanding broad patterns of fungal and microbial diversity and the role of dispersal in shaping ectomycorrhizal communities. Sydney received her BA in Biology in 2008 from the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, PA, where she also received a Masters of Environmental Studies in 2010. Sydney joined the Bruns lab at UC Berkeley in August of 2010 and became a PhD candidate in May of 2012. Sydney is working on several projects investigating ectomycorrhizal fungal ecology, including a study of ectomycorrhizal fungi associated with tree islands in a subalpine habitat in Yosemite National Park and a survey of ectomycorrhizal fungal spore bank diversity in pine forests across N. America. She is also investigating the cascading effects of Sudden Oak Death induced mortality of tanoak trees on ectomycorrhizal fungal communities in redwood tanoak forests across Big Sur and Marin County. She also is a past recipient of a SOMA scholarship. Hear her at 7:30 at the Sonoma County Farm Bureau, Santa Rosa, CA, 94931 (*See the last page of this newsletter for map and directions*).



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

PRESIDENT'S LETTER-----	p.2.	February 15th, 10:00AM-----	Lichen Walk, Olompali State Park
SOMA CAMP FORAY LIST-----	p.3.	February 16th, -----	San Diego Fungus Fair, Balboa Park
THE FORAGER'S REPORT-----	p.4. & 5.	February 20th, 7:30PM---	SOMA Meeting Speaker: Sydney Glassman
PHOTOS FROM SOMA CAMP-----	p.6.	February 22nd, 10:30 AM-----	Foray at Salt Point Park
SOMA & OTHER NOTICES-----	P.7.	October 9th, NAMA Annual Foray-----	Eatonville, WA

### CALENDAR

## Photo of the Month

Credit:  
Taylor Lockwood



### EMERGENCY MUSHROOM POISONING ID



After seeking medical attention, contact Darwin DeShazer for identification at (707) 829-0596. Photos should be emailed to: [muscaria@pacbell.net](mailto:muscaria@pacbell.net) and need to show all sides of the mushroom. Please do not send photos taken with cell phones – the resolution is simply too poor to allow accurate identification.

NOTE: Always be 100% sure of the identification of any and all mushrooms before you eat them!

This is a free service for hospitals, veterinarians, and other concerned citizens of Sonoma County.

THE SONOMA COUNTY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION (SOMA) IS AN EDUCATIONAL ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO MYCOLOGY. WE ENCOURAGE ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS BY SHARING OUR ENTHUSIASM THROUGH PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND GUIDED FORAYS.

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# President's Letter

## DISPATCH FROM THE DUFF:

SOMA Camp was very successful, again, for all those who attended. Our hearty thanks to all the volunteers that put in the extra efforts to make it so enjoyable. Special thanks to Julie Schreiber, Rachel Zierdt, Lee McCarthy-Smith, Karen Kruppa and, of course, "The Cheese Dude", for their guidance, organization of the Camp schedule and long hours. I also want to thank Paul Stamets and Taylor Lockwood for coming to Occidental and presenting such interesting, thoughtful ideas and concepts to SOMA camp.

For a few, some of the fun might be dulled because they lost or left

something at CYO, the SOMA camp location. Below are the items found on Tuesday, the day after, by the CYO cleanup crew:

- Fleece lined denim jacket;
- Two medium size plastic bowls;
- Black fleece jacket (North Face; owner may live in proximity to a pet with white hair);
- Blue JBL Wireless Microspeaker;
- Socks; grey and white stripe, loose knit;
- Sleeping garments (black pants, pink top);
- House moccasins; plaid lined.

Normally, this notice would run at the bottom of the dispatch. But, in the last five years, no one has ever claimed a found item. I am hoping for a little human contact here! All usable things will be donated to local hospice after 60 days. So, they will go to good use.

Please note the current Special Event Permit which allows SOMA to conduct forays at Salt Point State Park requires changes to the organization and regulations that we must follow. Forays will be limited to the first 40 people who sign up or show up at the Woodside Campground. In addition, alcohol is not allowed at the Pot-Luck after the foray. There are Special Event Permits issued and do cover serving and consuming alcohol. But they require payment of a large additional fee. Something we choose not to pay. The requirements are not new, since they were written in the late 1990's. But they were never published within the membership. There is still a season of potential mushroom collection ahead of us and we must adapt to the State Park regulations that are published and now enforced. If you have any questions or comments, please call or write to me.

I'm sure you have recently read or heard about articles in various publications describing the horrors associated with the, mostly or partially illegal, collection of wild mushrooms at Salt Point State Park. The SOMA Board recognizes the club has a role to play in protection and maintenance of a valuable resource for all Californians. We will propose a plan to the membership to ensure our activities support the current goals and requirements of the Department of California State Parks. We believe there is more to the story than what has been written and will add our voice to those who are concerned and want to improve Salt Point State Park, as well as other parks in the system.

**Best regards,  
Jim Wheeler**



# SOMA CAMP 2014 FORAY: List Compiled by George Riner

The SOMA Camp Foray at the CYO Center in Occidental was a raging success despite the drought. George's intrepid team of photographers captured the specimens, including new entrants. The impressive list this year included:

*Agaricus subrutilescens*  
*Alboleptonia sericella*  
*Amanita constricta*  
*Annulohyphoxylon*  
*thouarsianum*  
*Armillaria mellea*  
 (& rhizomorphs)  
*Arrhenia epichysium* (\*)  
*Auriscalpium vulgare*  
*Bolbitius reticulatus* (\*)  
*Boletus edulis*  
*Bovista pila*  
*Caulorhiza umbonata*  
*Cetraria orbata* (\*\*)  
*Cheimonophyllum*  
*candidissimum* (\*)  
*Chroogomphus vinicolor*  
*Cladonia* (\*\*)  
*Clavulina cinerea*  
*Clavulina cristata*  
*Clitocybe avellaneo-*  
*alba* (\*)  
*Clitocybe deceptiva*  
*Clitocybe fragrans*  
*Clitocybe nebularis*  
*Clitocybe nuda*  
*Conocybe*  
*Coprinellus micaceus*  
*Coprinopsis*  
*atramentaria*  
*Coprinus calyptratus* (\*)  
*Cortinarius*  
*Cortinarius smithii*  
*Cortinarius*  
*speciosissimus* (\*)  
*Crepidotus mollis*  
*Cuphophyllum virgineus*  
*Cystoderma amian-*  
*thinum*  
*Cystolepiota seminuda*  
*Dacrymyces*  
*Entoloma cetratum* (\*)  
*Entoloma sericellum*  
*Evernia prunastri* (\*\*)  
*Flavoparmelia*  
*caperata* (\*\*)  
*Flavopunctelia*  
*flaventior* (\*\*)  
*Galerina clavata*  
*Galerina marginata*  
*Ganoderma applanatum*  
*Ganoderma brownii*  
*Ganoderma oregonense*

*Geopora* (\*)  
*Gomphidius oregonensis*  
*Gymnopilus*  
*Gymnopilus bellulus*  
*Gymnopilus*  
*ventricosus* (\*)  
*Gymnopus*  
*Hebeloma*  
*crustuliniforme*  
*Helminthosphaeria*  
*clavariarum* (\*)  
*Hevella vespertina*  
*Hydnellum*  
*cyanopodium* (\*)  
*Hygrocybe coccinea*  
*Hygrocybe conica*  
*Hygrocybe miniata*  
*Hygrocybe singeri*  
*Hygrophoropsis*  
*aurantiaca*  
*Hygrophorus*  
*roseibrunneus*  
*Hypholoma capnoides*  
*Hypholoma fasciculare*  
*Hypogymnia physodes*  
*Hypogymnia*  
*tubulosa* (\*\*)  
*Hypotrachyna*  
*revoluta* (\*\*)  
*Inocybe fuscodisca* (\*)  
*Inocybe geophylla*  
*Inocybe pudica*  
*Inocybe sororia*  
*Irpex lacteus* (\*)  
*Jahnoporus hirtus*  
*Laccaria amethysteo-*  
*occidentalis*  
*Lactarius atrobadius* (\*)  
*Lactarius fallax* (\*)  
*Lactarius rubidus*  
*Lactarius subviscidus* (\*)  
*Lactarius xanthogalactus*  
*Leccinum manzanitae*  
*Lenzites betulina*  
*Lepiota neophana* (\*)  
*Lepraria* (\*\*)  
*Leptonia decolorans*  
*Leptonia pseudo-*  
*carneum* (nom. prov.)  
*Leptonia serrulata*  
*Leucopaxillus albissimus*  
*Leucopaxillus gentianeus*  
*Lichen* (\*\*)

*Lycoperdon umbrinum*  
*Marasmius*  
*Marasmius plicatulus*  
*Melanoleuca*  
*Micromphale sequoiae*  
*Mycena*  
*aurantiomarginata*  
*Mycena haematopus*



*Mycena leptoccephala*  
*Mycena maculata*  
*Mycena pura*  
*Mycena purpureofusca*  
*Mycena tenerrima* (\*)  
*Myxomphalia maura*  
*Neolentinus*  
*kauffmanii* (\*)  
*Nidula niveotomentosa*  
*Nolanea*  
*Oligoporus fragilis*  
*Omphalotus olivascens*  
*Onnia triquetra*  
*Otidea leporina*  
*Parmotrema*  
*arnoldii* (\*\*)  
*Parmotrema*  
*perlatum* (\*\*)  
*Pertusaria amara* (\*\*)  
*Peziza badia*  
*Peziza praetervisa*  
*Phaeolus schweinitzii*  
*Phellinus*  
*Phycomyces*  
*blakesleeanus*  
*Phylloporus arenicola*  
*Pleurotus ostreatus*  
*Pluteus cervinus*  
*Pluteus petasatus* (\*)  
*Porodaedalea*  
*cancriformans* (\*)

*Porodaedalea pini*  
*Psathyrella piluliformis*  
*Pseudocyphellaria*  
*anthraspis* (\*\*)  
*Psilocybe allenii*  
*Punctelia*  
*perreticulata* (\*\*)  
*Ramalina farinacea* (\*\*)  
*Ramalina menziesii* (\*\*)  
*Ramaria*  
*Ramariopsis laeticolor*  
*Rhizopogon occidentalis*  
*Rhodocollybia maculata*  
*Rhodocybe nitellina*  
*Rhodocybe nuciolens* (\*)  
*Rhodophana nitellina* (\*)  
*Russula cerolens* (\*)  
*Russula densifolia* (\*)  
*Russula xerampelina*  
*Schizophyllum commune*  
*Scleroderma polyrhizum*  
*Stereum hirsutum*  
*Stropharia ambigua*  
*Suillus caeruleus*  
*Suillus lakei*  
*Suillus ponderosus*  
*Suillus pungens*  
*Thelephora palmata*  
*Thelephora terrestris*  
*Trametes hirsuta*  
*Trametes versicolor*  
*Tremella aurantia*  
*Tremellodendropsis*  
*tuberosa*  
*Trichoglossum*  
*Tricholoma imbricatum*  
*Tricholoma myomyces*  
*Tricholoma saponaceum*  
*Tricholoma vaccinum* (\*)  
*Tricholomopsis*  
*decora* (\*)  
*Tubaria furfuracea*  
*Tuber melanosporum* (\*)  
*Urnula padeniana*  
*Usnea* (\*\*)  
*Xerocomus chrysenteron*  
*Xerocomus zelleri*  
*Xeromphalina*  
*cauticinalis*  
*Xylaria hypoxylon*  
 Note:  
 (\*) = new to list (fungi)  
 (\*\*) = new to list (lichen)

## THE FORAGER'S REPORT: February 2014

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### Musings On Mushrooms And Its Money -- Just One Man's Opinions (And Punctuations)

By Patrick Hamilton



We who are mushroom people have been confronted by a quandary surrounding this article's subject, especially in the past few years, and the questions and answers have over time morphed with our perspectives on such.

Before restaurants began offering wild mushrooms--not all that long ago, mostly in the late 1980's--mushroomers could pretty much have their patches to themselves except when shared occasionally with special friends. Because of the now common appearance of wild mushrooms regularly on restaurant menus folks have been turned on to our once almost private treasures more than ever before. And as we all know the public places to legally pick have not kept up with the demand.

On the East Bay mushroom club's (BAMS) Yahoo talk group the leaders have lately been trying to compare illegal commercial collecting at Salt Point State Park (SPSP) to guided educational mushroom hikes people pay to be on in the same park. The paid-for forays are termed by the Russian River (Ranger) District a "commercial event."

To be clear: Picking mushrooms for sale is illegal at SPSP and commercial events are legally permitted there (for a fat fee). BAMS leaders compare and talk of the two very separate endeavors as if they of the same type. They truly aren't. A typical, but always illegal, commercial hunt there will be driven by the goal of picking as many mushrooms as can be for sale.

The legal "commercial event" forayer might gather a few pounds (not so far this season) or maybe more in a good year, but always within the daily allowable limit. The goal of these hikes is to learn how to pick safely and cleanly, respect the forest, learn the habitats, and find some fungi.

Time to say that one of the mushroom jobs I do is lead forays for hire (I also teach classes on wild mushroom cooking and give talks for fees). Some of the other local people who do foray leading for hire are SOMA's Charmoon Richardson and David Campbell with their Wild About Mushrooms and David alone with his MycoVentures. They as well go to Salt Point, West Marin, and far beyond.

David Rust (in addition to co-founding BAMS is the current president of NAMA) wrote on their group list: "Mushroom hunting in state parks should be free or regulated under a nominal fee through a permit system. . . like in Oregon." Good so far but he goes on, "There should be NO form of commercial hunting in state parks, which includes charging fees for attendees. For members of non-profit mushroom clubs to make a living doing this is wrong." Yo--really?, Mr. Rust.

Like many others associated with mushrooms, including me, I imagine he and his wife have been given travel expenses, paid speakers' fees, maybe proffered lodging perks, etc, for appearing at mushroom events. That may not be as he wrote, "to make a living," but it certainly is receiving money for mushroom work. It's about mushrooms and its money.

The part of his statement about "members of non-profit mushroom clubs," etc, does not apply to his own club because BAMS isn't a non-profit, but NAMA is. Hmm. Or is he saying that if it is a sole source of income ("make a living") for someone it is not right? Or that volunteers for non-profits have no right to have just some income around mushrooms? (That would certainly restrict the membership of many clubs including theirs.) Or is it about any who enjoy leading forays for profit should quit volunteering just for SOMA? I have to ask.

Others have wondered if it is okay to lead forays in the Sierras on public lands for pay and is it fair to charge folks to teach them about fungi and any other wild foods or herbs like The Late Great Dr. Ryane Snow did for years in Jackson State Forest.

Is it the place--or the activity--from where the objections come?

I don't get any of that but I do get that you've just got to laugh or at least snicker (thinking Beavis and Butt-Head dark giggles here) at the sliding scale of ethics and trying to allow for one's own philosophical pardons while frowning upon some standards of others.

More thoughts, if not bon mots. . . . Thinking that what is more important here than me trying to explain (as if) and expose the idea of the BAMS honchos' apparent unwillingness to understand a greater picture around mushrooms and its money is: how other, yet even-minded, people can be against the idea of charging for forays. Bugs me.

So I ask: Who amongst us does not profit in some way from mushrooms or know someone who does? There was a get-together Super Bowl Sunday and a friend was asked to look around and see who in the room did not profit in some way from mushrooms. He is a stalwart at an upscale produce company so he does gain such income and as we looked around the room there were at least six chef types, a wild foods' harvester and seller, and a few other friends. Most people there were profiting off wild mushrooms in some way. Admittedly this was a real food-oriented group but it's easy to take a look around other rooms in all of our lives and make a list.

The biggest thing I can think of is also the most obvious--our club--which takes in money because of wild mushrooms (think "SOMA Wild Mushroom Camp").

We can easily look at the commercially permitted circuit pickers who harvest them for sale. Before adding them to this list we might

# THE FORAGER'S REPORT: February 2014

begin with their gasoline sellers and others related in ways to the pickers' vehicles and the food places where the pickers buy goods or where they eat and then look at the suppliers for those groceries and cafes, often located in remote areas of the west, which, if there were no fungi around, mushroom revenue would not exist. There are the busses and airlines which ship them to a wholesaler and then that company's employees and carton vendors and packing materials' manufacturers, etc, make some mushroom money. Now the mushrooms move on to the restaurants and everyone who works for them or to upscale markets, their employees, and on-line mushroom vendors too gather some income from fungi. It goes on and on and on.

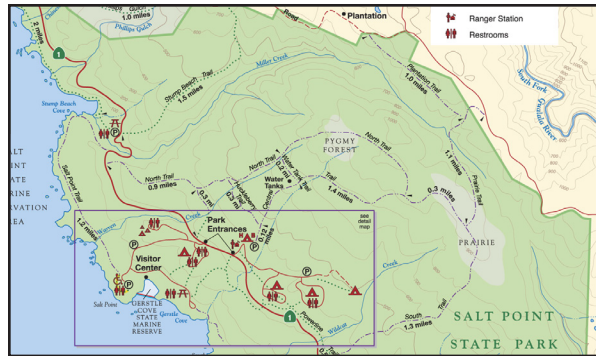
It's readily seen just how many receive if not depend upon income from wild mushrooms. I have zero argument with any of this, obviously, but I do have with those who are able to split all this from those who get paid for leading forays. (You can partake in the concept of mushrooms and its money for speaking, for writing books, selling art work, for picking and selling, for cooking and serving, etc, and yada yada--but not for leading forays? . . .)

Oh--it is that we lead folks on our few available public lands? And what is the argument there? As simple as an opinion like David Rust has ("NO") or is it a thing based in science and observation? Something about overusing the public resources? Remember that SPSP is over 6,000 acres big.

Since before I was associated with SOMA it's held fabulous forays for anyone, at no charge, at SPSP, other places, and the Mycological Society of San Francisco has there too. One can have had about 9 forays per year, then times low) per event, is what? Around 4,500

Forays I lead which are not associated 10-15 folks really can't compare as far as

Plus, I do not think SPSP is coming contrary. Last time we were on such a prime and we saw exactly two folks walking guy who came up to us at our pullout to 5 vehicles parked for surfing, no other parked at Woodside CG. This was on a Sat-Anybody else here?



compute that SOMA, for over 20 years an average of 25 people (that is probably different visits, it is.

with our club and attended by around impact. Can't.

close at all to being overused--quite the vate foray there were 14 of us including their dog on a trail (not allowed), one ask how was the mushrooming, maybe cars parked on the highway, and no one urday during stunning weather! Hello?

6,000 beautiful public acres, up and down canyons and valleys, on ridges and bordering the ocean. Lots and lots of room for the 4,500+ SOMA forayers calculated to have spread over more than 20 years to enjoy the lands, eh? Overused? Hmm. Must be other reasons why some get so darn rankled and their community panties so twisted up that way. I'm thinking way up. Yikes! And must be really uncomfortable to try and control others doing legally permitted endeavors. Causes wrinkles, I'd wager.

Somewhat guided but not guarded musings continue. . . I clearly do not understand the difference between clubs using the park and paid forayers utilizing it the very same way but on a smaller and less impactful scale.

Oh--the problem is we have so little public space open to picking? I do agree absolutely. But how do these small paid forays effect that any differently from anyone else using the space? I think this thought can lead to an idea that people with funds to pay for semi private guiding are of the privileged class. Is that part of it? Is it that Capitalism is involved? I'm trying to figure this out.

Something else I've written of before is that my feelings about showing others "my spots" have changed radically from one extreme to another. Back in our mushroom hunting youths David Campbell and I would do whatever we could to hide everything about our presence in the woods. From clandestine dark green and brown clothing to moving with sneaky stealth we wanted no one to see where we were going or had been. We still don't want others to see evidence of our forays but we now teach and show as many people as possible our once-clandestine hobby's ways and means. He and I used to feel we "owned" SPSP and other points north like The Sea Ranch and on up the coast into Oregon. (Ah--the simple and innocent folly of our youth(s).)

My reasoning for showing these spots now and getting new folks all excited about mushrooming is that I strongly feel the more people dedicated to being eager stewards of the forest (as taught in our classes and those of other clubs) the better it will be for all of us as a more powerful and large group to bring some change to the damnable politics of limiting access to so many of our public parks.

That pronounced, here's more wanderings. . . . I personally evaluate getting paid for leading forays by the fact that I give a very lot of myself to the attendees and that I have knowledge people ask to learn from. I try to give them their money's worth as we also all do who put on SOMA Wild Mushroom Camp in January. We give them what they paid for and try to do more.

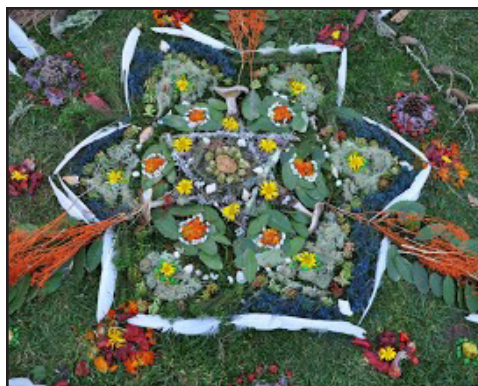
For SOMA's monthly forays I'll willingly schlep, cook, feed, lead forays, talk and generally just be there for newbies, especially, to greet and meet as do some of the other SOMA principals but I rarely feel obligated to give any of them their "money's worth." Know what I mean? It's different when no green changes hands, just is. People have little trouble understanding this concept yet receiving money for doing similar things is questioned.

In closing this mushroom musing, noted for you here is one of the three official objectives in our Department of Parks and Recreation Mission Statement: "To develop and maintain facilities and programs aimed at providing high quality recreational experiences for state park visitors."

SOMA, MSSE, BAMS (if they'd just get liability insurance so they can legally hold group forays at Salt Point State Park), forageSF, MycoVentures, WAMS, or whomever, all can do this.

Cotati, February 4, 2014

# SOMA Camp 2014 Photos



**Credit: various camp attendees.**

## WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO BE A MEMBER OF SOMA?

### JOIN TODAY!

Membership in the Sonoma County Mycological Association (SOMA) is a great way to meet and interact with other mushroom enthusiasts, learn more about identifying fungi, and share interests such as cooking and cultivating mushrooms. Sure, most of what SOMA does is open to the public, but wouldn't you rather join SOMA and get all the goodies? Head to <http://somamushrooms.org/membership>; this the mushroom season is just beginning!

**Head to *<http://somamushrooms.org/membership>* and sign up!**

# More SOMA Camp 2014 Photos



**Credit: various camp attendees.**

## David Arora to Present in Inverness

David Arora will present his famous Bingo Wheel Talk in Point Reyes Station on April 5. The event, sponsored by the Pt. Reyes Farmers Market and the Pt. Reyes Bookstore, will take place in the heart of town - Toby's Feed Barn. The program will begin at 5:30 and will include light, catered supper offerings. The event is a fundraiser for the Porrata Family of Inverness.

This beloved family is reeling from recent death of Ron Powell, husband and father, and the diagnosis of spinal cord cancer in their four year old, Zekie.

For more information contact Mary Olsen at (415) 669-9872

# SOMA

PO Box 7147  
Santa Rosa, CA 95407

## SOMA News

Edition 26/6 February 2014

**SOMA usually meets on the third Thursday of the month throughout the year (September through May), at the Sonoma County Farm Bureau , 970 Piner Road, Santa Rosa, California, 94931. Fungi are displayed at 7 PM, and speakers begin around 7:30 PM. Bring in your baffling fungi to be identified!**

### Directions to the Sonoma County Farm Bureau

From the south:

- Go north on Hwy 101
- Pass the Steel Lane exit then take the Bicentennial Way exit
- Go over Hwy 101 (heading west) and then right on Range Ave
- Turn left on Piner Rd and go about 1/4 mile
- Turn left into Farm Bureau parking lot at 970 Piner Rd

From the north:

- Go south on Hwy 101
- Take the first Santa Rosa exit for Hopper Ave/Mendocino Ave
- Stay left on the frontage road (it becomes Cleveland Ave)
- Turn right on Piner Rd and go about 1/4 mile
- Turn left into Farm Bureau parking lot at 970 Piner Rd

