



The Wisconsin Mycological Society NEWSLETTER

Volume 31

Number 4

Winter 2014-15



Beautiful mushrooms were everywhere at the 2014 Northwoods Foray. Make plans to go in July 2015!



IN THIS ISSUE:

- WHAT'S COMING FOR 2015...A FULL CALENDAR OF EVENTS
- WE HAVE EXCELLENT WINTER LECTURES SCHEDULED
- COMPLETE SPECIES LIST FOR THE PAST YEAR...2014 WAS GREAT!

Plan to Attend the WMS January Social

Be sure to join us at the **Annual WMS January Social**. It seems like the Social is usually held on the coldest night of the year. But things will be plenty warm and cheery inside. Always plenty of great food and wine (or anything else you want to drink—just bring it!). **And don't forget to bring your best digital photos or slides to show** (try to keep it to a dozen or fewer). Never got a name on that rare mushroom you photographed? Put the experts of the WMS to the test!

DO YOU ENJOY THE WMS NEWSLETTER?

EVER WISH YOU COULD DO IT YOUR WAY?

Here is your chance! The WMS needs to find a new newsletter editor. Britt has been doing it for seven years and is ready for a break. For enquiries or questions, simply call or send us an email to bbunyard@wi.rr.com or colleen.vachuska@gmail.com or see one of us at the January.

President's Message

Greetings to everyone in this brand new year of 2015. After an unusually cold November, we enjoyed a relatively balmy December. I wonder what January will bring. Regardless of the weather or season, there is usually a WMS event in the not-too-distant future to look forward to.

As was noted in several foray reports in the last newsletter, we had a great fall foray season. This year's total species count for all 2014 WMS forays (excluding the Northwoods Foray) stands at 294, quite a bit better than the 250 we had in 2013, which was itself a very good year. Perhaps all those extra *Amanita* species that Britt identified at Devil's Lake had something to do with these big numbers?

Something I neglected to mention in the last newsletter was the Mushroom Madness held in September at the Polish Center in Franklin. For those of you that have not attended Mushroom Madness before, this enjoyable event offers an opportunity to spend some time with mushrooms. Features usually include a morning and afternoon foray, one or two lectures, cooking demonstrations, a mushroom cafe, a mushroom display, and mushroom – related items for sale. This event has been held on and off since 2007 and is primarily organized by Bernie Jendrzczak, who was one of the folks that helped to restart the WMS in 1982. For its first few years, Mushroom Madness was

held in August, but in more recent years, it has been held on a Sunday in September, so that we can display mushrooms collected at a foray the day before. A hearty thank you goes out to those WMS members who helped out at the recent Madness: Alan Parker, who was the featured speaker, John Steinke, who led a foray on the Polish Center grounds, and Dann Wilke and Bob and Judy Kaplan who talked to visitors and answered their questions, and all of you that came to the Glacier Hills Foray the day before and collected mushrooms for the display at Mushroom Madness. To keep it fresh, this event is being held only every other year. So, as of right now, the next Mushroom Madness will take place in 2016.

Our winter/spring lecture series will be starting up in February and it promises to be very exciting. We will be welcoming back Pat Leacock of the Field Museum and Joe Krawczyk of Field and Forest Products. In addition, we will hear from two speakers, Lisa Grubisha and Robert Cummings, that have never presented to the WMS before. So, mark your calendars for these four special lectures. Coming up even sooner is our January potluck – hope to see you there!

Best wishes for 2015!

Colleen Vachuska

SEE YOU AT THE
JANUARY
SOCIAL AND
SLIDE SHOW!!!

2015 Winter / Spring EVENTS CALENDAR (all dates tentative)

Wednesday, January 21....Annual Membership Slide Show & Potluck Winter Social
7 pm, Greenfield Park Pavilion, 2028 South 124th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

2015 Winter Lecture Series...All lectures 7 pm at New Berlin Library

Wednesday, February 18..... Patrick Leacock, PhD, mycologist of Field Museum, Chicago.

Wednesday, March 18.....Lisa Grubisha, PhD, mycologist of UW-Green Bay.

Thursday, April 2.....Joe Krawczyk from Field and Forest Products of Peshtigo, WI, will present "**Specialty Mushroom Cultivation in Japan and China**" with scenes and tales from his travels.



Wednesday, May TBD.....Robert Cummings, PhD, presents "**Red Amanitas, Black Trumpets, and White Porcini: Mushrooms of California's Central Coast.**" Retired California professor Bob Cummings will pay us a visit and discuss beautiful mushrooms in his neck of the woods. Bob is a wonderful lecturer and educator for audiences of every level. You will really enjoy coming out to see Dr. Cummings!

2015 Spring / Summer Forays...and More!

Saturday, May 23.....Spring Foray in North Kettle Moraine

Sunday, May 24.....Spring foray in the Madison area

Saturday, June 27.....Annual WMS Picnic, Bunyard Farm Always a great time! More info as the date draws near.

July 23-26 (Thur-Sun).....Annual Northwoods Foray Bigger and better every year! You won't want to miss out this year. Details and registration coming soon...stay tuned!

Saturday, August 1.....A Midsummer's Foray

Foray leader: John Steinke. Meet at 9:45 am sharp at South Kettle Moraine Ranger Station and drive to the foray location. Bring a lunch. Directions at WMS website.

Saturday, September 5.....Sami Saad Foray at Mauthe Lake

Foray leaders: Peter and Colleen Vachuska

Saturday, September 12.....Glacier Hills Foray

Foray leader: Susan Selle. Third year for this popular fall foray!

Sunday, September 13.....Devil's Lake / Wollersheim Foray
Foray leader: Britt Bunyard. Two consecutive years, a great success!

Saturday, September 19.....Walking Iron County Park Foray
Foray leaders: Bob and Judy Kaplan

Sunday, September 26.....Annual Foray at Coral Woods (with the Illinois Myco Assoc)
Foray leader: Bob and Judy Kaplan and the IMA.

Saturday, October 3.....Fred Hainer/Tula Erskine Foray at Point Beach
Foray leader: Chuck Soden. Bring a picnic!

Saturday, October 10.....Monches Woods Foray
Foray leader: Bill Blank

Where is the New Berlin Public Library? It's easy to find, located in the New Berlin City Center, (E. of Moorland Rd. and S. of National Ave.)

15105 Library Lane New Berlin



HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

Wisconsin Mycological Society annual membership dues are collected in December and January. If you have not yet paid, please mail in your dues. Prompt payment of dues helps us better plan Society events.

Unless you have a change in address, email, etc., or if you want to send comments, you do not need to fill out another application form.

To renew membership, just send a check (with your name) made out to WMS for \$20. You can mail your check to:

Peg Oberbeck
WMS Secretary/Treasurer
6707 Maple Terrace
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

NAMA has changed their dues structure for 2015, so here is the new info for those that are joining both WMS and NAMA.

2015...1 Year WMS + NAMA Membership with electronic NAMA newsletter, \$45

2015...1 Year WMS + NAMA Membership with hardcopy NAMA newsletter, \$60



**Fresh “wild”
mushrooms ... in
winter**



Haven't seen any mushrooms in a while? The last ones I saw were a late fall flush on my shiitake logs—and they're frozen rock hard now. What to do? No need to wait for warm temps to get busy with mushrooms. Winter is a great time to begin cultivating **indoor** mushrooms and namekos (aka *Pholiota nameko* or namekotake) couldn't be easier. Or tastier! These namekos were started from a kit and began fruiting in my cellar in early January. —Britt



MYCOBRIEFS
Colleen Vachuska

One of the mushroom species we found this fall was *Lactarius camphoratus* or a variant, found at the Mauthe Lake Foray and possibly other forays (pictured above). These mushrooms are commonly known as candy-caps because their flavor and smell are reminiscent of maple syrup. It was recently reported that, after 27 years of research, scientists have figured out why this is happening. Evidently, as the mushroom dries, an ester is formed named *quabalactone* III, which when combined with water, forms something else called *sotolon*. Sotolon is what gives artificial maple syrup, which I'm sure all but the most selective of us have consumed at some point, its maple flavor. As the author of the article stated, "Essentially, the mushrooms are making unnatural maple syrup through natural processes." (Esther Inglis-Arkell, "Chemists Discover Why this Mushroom Tastes like Maple Syrup," *i09 blog*, 10/20/2014)

Another fungal news item that intersected with our fall forays was one about black truffles. Titled "Truffles contain bliss molecule" (Nic Fleming, *bbc.com*, 12/21/2014) the article stated that black truffles produce *anandamide*, a compound similar to the THC in marijuana. Though anandamide can trigger mood changes, it does not produce the same high as cannabis

does because it breaks down quickly. It is speculated that truffles use the anandamide to attract animals to eat them and spread their spores. The article mentioned that the name anandamide comes from the Sanskrit word "ananda" for extreme delight or bliss. Now, you may wonder how this news item intersected with our fall forays. Well, no, we did not find any

black truffles, at least not that I know of. We did, however, enjoy the presence of a new member named *Ananda*. When Ananda mentioned her name, I must have puzzled over it, as she mentioned that her hippie parents had given her a Sanskrit name. What a coincidence!

The third brief item may not involve a species we found exactly this fall, but as we do often walk on bridal trails, we certainly must have found it at one or more forays in past years. Researchers have discovered that *Coprinopsis cinerea* (sometimes called the "grey shag" and formerly known as *Coprinus cinereus*), an inky cap that grows on horse dung, contains a substance with antibiotic properties. This new substance, called *copsin*, is different from traditional antibiotics in that it is a protein. It belongs to a class of substances called *defensins* which as the name implies, are produced by organisms to protect themselves against disease-causing microorganisms. Though copsin has the potential for applications in medicine or food safety, the scientists who are studying it are primarily interested in fundamental questions such as how fungi have used defensins for millions of years to protect themselves against bacteria, while humans have been using antibiotics for only a few years and already bacteria have developed resistance to many of them. ("New antibiotic in mushroom that grows on horse dung," *phys.org*, 11/07/2014).

Complete Mushroom List for the year 2014,

2014/07/26 Summer Foray S. Kettle,1
2014/09/06 Mauthe Lake R. A.,2
2014/09/13 Glacier Hill C. P.,3
2014/09/20 Devil's Lake S. P.,4

2014/10/04 Point Beach S. F.,7
2014/09/27 Bigfoot Beach State Park,5
2014/09/28 Coral Woods (IL),6
2014/10/11 South Kettle Moraine-visitor's center,8

- 1 Agaricus sp.,7
- 2 Agrocybe erebia,6
- 3 Albatrellus ovinus,4
- 4 Albatrellus cristatus,4
- 5 Albatrellus sp,3
- 6 Aleuria aurantia,6
- 7 Amanita brunnescens,1
- 8 Amanita bisporigera,1,3,4,5,7
- 9 Amanita citrina,1
- 10 Amanita citrina var. lavendula,4,6
- 11 Amanita flavoconia,2,3,7
- 12 Amanita fulva,1,2
- 13 Amanita jacksonii,4
- 14 Amanita lavinulus,4
- 15 Amanita magnivelaris,4
- 16 Amanita multisquamosa,4
- 17 Amanita muscaria,2,7
- 18 Amanita pantherina,1,3,4
- 19 Amanita rubescens,2
- 20 Amanita russuloides,4
- 21 Amanita vaginata,1,4,7
- 22 Antrodia malicola,6
- 23 Apiosporina morbosa,4,5
- 24 Armillaria gallica,8
- 25 Armillaria mellea,4,8
- 26 Armillaria cf. sinapina,6
- 27 Arrhenia epichysium,6,5
- 28 Artomyces (Clavicornia) pyxidata,3,4
- 29 Ascocoryne sarcoides,6
- 30 Auriscalpium vulgare,3
- 31 Bisporella citrina,2,4
- 32 Boletus bicolor,1
- 33 Boletus chromapes,1
- 34 Boletus pallidus,7
- 35 Boletus (Chalciporus) piperatus,3
- 36 Bondarzewia berkeleyi,3
- 37 Bovista pila,4,5
- 38 Bovista plumbea,5
- 39 Calvatia gigantea,3
- 40 Camarops petersii,2,4
- 41 Cantharellus cibarius,1,2,3,4
- 42 Cantharellus cinnabarinus,2
- 43 Cantharellus lutescens,7
- 44 Cantharellus tubaeformis,1,2
- 45 Cerrena unicolor,3,6
- 46 Chlorosplenium aeruginascens,2
- 47 Clavulinopsis laeticolor,4
- 48 Climacodon septentrionale,3
- 49 Clitocybe gibba,4
- 50 Clitocybe nuda,5
- 51 Clitocybe odora,4
- 52 Clitocybe sp.,2,6,5
- 53 Coltricia cinnamomea,1,4,5
- 54 Coltricia montagnei,5
- 55 Coprinus comatus,5
- 56 Coprinus sp,2,4
- 57 Coprinellus disseminatus,6
- 58 Coprinopsis atramentaria,6,5
- 59 Coprinellus micaceus,2
- 60 Parasola plicatilis,5
- 61 Cortinarius atkinsonianus,3,6,8
- 62 Cortinarius corrugatus,1,2
- 63 Cortinarius spp.,2,3,4,6,7
- 64 Cortinarius violaceus,7
- 65 Craterellus fallax,2,4
- 66 Crepidotus applanatus,4
- 67 Crepidotus crocophyllus,6
- 68 Crepidotus sp.,8
- 69 Crucibulum laeve,4
- 70 Dacrymyces palmatus,3,4,7
- 71 Daedalea quercina,1,3,4,6,5
- 72 Daedaleopsis confragosa,6,8
- 73 Daldinia concentrica,3,8
- 74 Diadrype stigma,6
- 75 Ductifera pululahuana(Exidia alba),3,4
- 76 Elaphomyces sp.,7
- 77 Entoloma abortivum,2,6,8
- 78 Entoloma rhodopolium,6
- 79 Entoloma sp.,3,6,5,7
- 80 Exidia recisa,3
- 81 Flammulina velutipes,5,8
- 82 Fomes fomentarius,4,7
- 83 Fuscoporia gilva,6
- 84 Galerina marginata,3,6,7,8
- 85 Ganoderma applanatum,1,2,4,6,5,8
- 86 Ganoderma lucidum,8
- 87 Geastrum saccatum,4
- 88 Gloeoporus dichrous,6,5
- 89 Gomphus floccosus,7
- 90 Gomphidius glutinosus,4
- 91 Grifola frondosa,2,6,5,8
- 92 Gymnopilus luteus,6
- 93 Gymnopilus aff. sapineus,6
- 94 Gymnopus (Collybia) dryophila,3
- 95 Gyrodon meruloides,2,4
- 96 Gyroporus cyanescens,1
- 97 Gyroporus purpurinus,3
- 98 Hapalopilus (Phyllotopsis) nidulans,7,8
- 99 Hebeloma sp.,8
- 100 Helvella acetabulum,4
- 101 Helvella crispa,2,7
- 102 Helvella sulcata,4
- 103 Helvella infula,2
- 104 Helvella lacunosa,7
- 105 Helvella macropus,4
- 106 Hericium americanus,3
- 107 Hohenbuehelia angustata,4
- 108 Hohenbuehelia mastrucata,6
- 109 Hohenbuehelia petaloides,2
- 110 Hydnellum aurantiacum,1
- 111 Hydnellum caeruleum,1
- 112 Hydnellum spongiosipes,1,2,3,7
- 113 Hydnum repandum,3,7
- 114 Hydnum umbilicatum,1,3,7
- 115 Hygrocybe acuticonica,2,3,4
- 116 Hygrocybe conica,2,4
- 117 Hygrocybe miniota,1,2,6
- 118 Hygrocybe flavescens/chlorophanous complex,4
- 119 Hygrocybe psittacina,4
- 120 Hygrocybe sp.,7
- 121 Hygrophorus cantharellus,1,7
- 122 Hygrophorus eburneus,4
- 123 Hygrophorus praetensis,4,6
- 124 Hygrophorus russula,2,3,4,6
- 125 Hypomyces hyalinus,1,6
- 126 Hypoxylon sp.,3
- 127 Hypsizygus ulmarius,5,8
- 128 Inocybe albodisca,2,3
- 129 Inocybe pyriodora,3,6
- 130 Inocybe rimosa,2,5
- 131 Inocybe sp.,4,6
- 132 Inonotus cuticularis,6
- 133 Irpex lacteus,1,3,4,6,5,8
- 134 Ischnoderma resinose,2,3,4,6,8
- 135 Jafnea semitosta,2,6
- 136 Laccaria amethystina,4
- 137 Laccaria bicolor,6
- 138 Laccaria laccata,1,2,3,4,5
- 139 Laccaria ochropurpurea,2,3,4,6,5
- 140 Lactarius argillaceifolius,6
- 141 Lactarius atroviridus,1
- 142 Lactarius camphoratus,2,4
- 143 Lactarius chrysorheus,2
- 144 Lactarius deliciosus,1
- 145 Lactarius fumosus,1
- 146 Lactarius glaucescens,6
- 147 Lactarius lignyotus,7
- 148 Lactarius piperatus,2,3
- 149 Lactarius psammicola,3,6
- 150 Lactarius quietus var. incanus,6
- 151 Lactarius scrobiculatus,1

- 152 *Lactarius* sp.,2
 153 *Lactarius subpurpureus*,3,7
 154 *Lactarius subvellereus* var. *subvellereus*,6
 155 *Lactarius tomentosus*,1,3
 156 *Lactarius uvidus*,3,7
 157 *Lactarius vinaceorufescens*,7
 158 *Laetiporus* (white-pored on dead wood off ground),5
 159 *Laetiporus cincinnatus*,1
 160 *Laetiporus sulphureus*,4
 161 *Leccinum aurantiacum*,1
 162 *Leccinum holopus*,7
 163 *Leccinum scabrum*,7
 164 *Leccinum* sp.,3,7
 165 *Lentinellus cochleatus*,4
 166 *Lentinellus ursinus*,3
 167 *Lenzites betulina*,2
 168 *Leotia lubrica*,2,4,6,7
 169 *Lepiota cristata*,5
 170 *Lepiota* sp.,5
 171 *Limacella glioderma*,4
 172 *Lycogala epidendrum*,2,3,4,5,7,8
 173 *Lycoperdon perlatum*,2
 174 *Lycoperdon pyriforme*,4,6,5
 175 *Lyophyllum decastes*,5
 176 *Macrolepiota procera*,4
 177 *Marasmius capillaris*,4
 178 *Marasmius siccus*,3,4
 179 *Melanogaster* sp.,3
 180 *Mycena filipes* (*iodiolens*),2,6,5
 181 *Mycena galericulata*,6,8
 182 *Mycena haematopus*,3,4,6,5
 183 *Mycena leaiana*,2,3,4,5
 184 *Mycena luteo-pallens*,4,6
 185 *Mycena* sp.,4,5
 186 *Omphalina ericetorum*,4
 187 *Omphalotus illudens*,4,6
 188 *Otidea onotica*,4
 189 *Oxyporus populinus*,6
 190 *Panellus serotinus*,4,7
 191 *Panellus stipticus*,4
 192 *Paxillus atrotomentosus*,1,2,4
 193 *Paxillus involutus*,7
 194 *Peniophora rufa*,3
 195 *Peziza* spp.,6
 196 *Phaeolus schweinitzii*,2
 197 *Phallus hadriani*,5
 198 *Phellinus gilvus*,5,8
 199 *Phlebia radiata*,6
 200 *Phlebia tremellosa*,6,8
 201 *Pholiota adiposa*,3
 202 *Pholiota aurivella*,6
 203 *Pholiota polycroa*,6
 204 *Pholiota* sp.,6,7,8
 205 *Pholiota squarrosa*,4,7
 206 *Piptoporus betulinus*,3,4,7
 207 *Pleurotus dryinus*,4
 208 *Pleurotus ostreatus*,2,5
 209 *Pleurotus pulmonarius*,6
 210 *Plicaturopsis crispa*,3,4
 211 *Pluteus cervinus*,1,3,4,6,5
 212 *Pluteus petasatus*,6
 213 *Pluteus* sp.,1
 214 *Pluteus* sp. (white),2
 215 *Polyporus (Favolus) alveolaris*,1,3,4,5
 216 *Polyporus badius*,3,4,5,8
 217 *Polyporus brumalis*,6,8
 218 *Polyporus elegans* (*varius*),1,6,5,8
 219 *Polyporus radicans*,2,3,4,6,5,8
 220 *Polyporus squamosus*,1,3,4,6,5,8
 221 *Poronidulus (Trametes) chonchifer*,3,6,8
 222 *Postia caesia*,6
 223 *Psathyrella echiniceps*,6,5
 224 *Psathyrella* sp.,2,6
 225 *Psathyrella velutina*,5
 226 *Pseudohydnum gelatinosum*,7
 227 *Pycnoporus cinnabarinus*,3,4
 228 *Ramaria* sp.,2,3
 229 *Resinomycena rhododentia*,6
 230 *Rozites caperata*,7
 231 *Russula brevipes*,1,7
 232 *Russula crustosa*,1,2
 233 *Russula foetentula*,1
 234 *Russula laurocerasi*,1
 235 *Russula nigricans*,1
 236 *Russula* spp.,2,3,4,6,5
 237 *Russula* sp. (red),1,7
 238 *Sarcodon imbricatum*,1,2,3
 239 *Schizophyllum commune*,3,6,5,8
 240 *Scleroderma areolatum*,1,2,3,4,6
 241 *Scleroderma citrinum*,1,2,3,4,5
 242 *Scleroderma michiganense*,4
 243 *Scleroderma* sp.,6
 244 *Scutellinia scutellata*,1,2,3
 245 *Scutellinia* sp.,6
 246 *Sebacina* sp.,5
 247 *Spinellus fusiger*,6
 248 *Steccherinum ochraceum*,6
 249 *Stereum complicatum*,3,4,6,5,8
 250 *Stereum ostrea*,1,3,4,6,5,8
 251 *Stereum gausapatum*,6
 252 *Stereum hirsutum*,3,6
 253 *Strobilomyces floccopus*,1,2,3,4,8
 254 *Strobilomyces*,6
 255 *Stropharia kauffmanii*,4
 256 *Suillus americanus*,1,2,3,4,5
 257 *Suillus granulatus*,7
 258 *Suillus pictus* (*spragueii*),7
 259 *Suillus puctipes*,7
 260 *Suillus (paragyrodon) sphaerosporus*,3
 261 *Thelephora* sp.,3
 262 *Thelephora terrestris*,1
 263 *Trametes elegans*,4,5
 264 *Trametes gibbosa*,6
 265 *Trametes hirsuta*,6
 266 *Trametes versicolor*,4,6,5
 267 *Tremella concrescens* c.f.,2,3,4
 268 *Tremella foliacea*,4
 269 *Tremella reticulata* (*Sebacina sparassoidea*),1,2,3,4,8
 270 *Tremellodendron pallidum*,1,4
 271 *Trichaptum abietinum*,3
 272 *Trichaptum bifforme*,3,4,6,5,7,8
 273 *Tricholoma aurantium*,7
 274 *Tricholoma caligatum*,2
 275 *Tricholoma magnivelare*,7
 276 *Tricholoma sejunctum*,2,4,7
 277 *Tricholoma sulphureum*,4
 278 *Tricholoma* sp.,7
 279 *Tricholoma terreum*,4
 280 *Tricholomopsis platyphylla* (*Megacollybia Rodmanii*),1,4,6
 281 *Tricholomopsis rutilans*,1,4,5
 282 *Tylopilus felleus*,1,2,4
 283 *Tyromyces caesius*,4,5,7,8
 284 *Tyromyces chioneus*,6
 285 *Tyromyces gracilis*,7
 286 *Tyromyces* sp.,1,2,3
 287 *Vararia* cf. *investiens*,6
 288 *Xeromphalina campanella*,4
 289 *Xerula furfuracea*,4
 290 *Hymenopellis (Xerula) megalospora*,1,2,4,6
 291 *Xerula radicata*,3
 292 *Xylaria longipes*,6
 293 *Xylaria polymorpha*,1,2,3,5
 294 *Xylobolus frustulatus*,6,5
 11 identifications are made by non-professionals and no voucher specimens are kept.

Scenes from the Annual WMS Northwoods Foray held near Hiles, WI. Pictured are some of the more spectacular mushroom finds (oh yes, there were tons of chanterelles too!): below are the rarely seen *Pseudoarmillaria ectypoides*, and *Helvella vespertina* (= *H. vespertina*); right is *Amanita sinicoflava* and below B. Bunyard discusses chaga with P. Vachuska. Photos by B. Bunyard and P. Leacock.



Scenes from the Annual WMS Summer Picnic held at the Bunyard farm in Germantown. Pictured are, below: life in the (bbq) pits, David Menke makes the rounds of the potluck tables; right, Peter Vachuska shares knowledge and helps with IDs, bottom right, a positive ID is made on two different *Helvella* species using the new Midwestern Mushrooms book by M. Kuo. Photos by B. Bunyard who stayed sober long enough to take them ... barely.



undersurface and a young margin that curves upward rather than downward.

HELVELLA LATISPORA BOUDIER

Ecology: Possibly saprobic and/or mycorrhizal; growing scattered or gregariously under hardwoods; often on lawns and roads in disturbed soil; appears in late spring and early summer to fall; widely distributed. **Cap:** 1–4 cm across; 1–4 cm tall; first cup-shaped with the margin curved inward; in maturity saddle-shaped with a deep cleft, or with 3 lobes, or lobed and irregular; upper surface bald, tan to buff or whitish; undersurface fuzzy, whitish, rarely ingrown with the stem where contact occurs. **Stem:** 1–6 cm; 2–10 mm thick; more or less equal; bald or somewhat fuzzy; hollow; whitish. **Flesh:** Thin; brittle; whitish. **Spore Print:** White. **Microscopic Features:** Spores 17.5–20 × 11–13.5 μm; ellipsoid; smooth with 1 central oil droplet and, occasionally, several smaller polar droplets. Paraphyses clavate; hyaline. **Comments:** Also known as *Helvella stevensii*. Compare with *Helvella elastica* (p. 202).



HELVELLA MACROPUS (PERSOON) KARSTEN

Ecology: Possibly saprobic and/or mycorrhizal; growing alone or gregariously on the ground under hardwoods or conifers, on rotting wood; summer to fall; widely distributed. **Cap:** 1–5 cm across; 1–5 cm tall; convex, or occasionally nearly flat; upper surface brownish to black, or occasionally nearly black; finely hairy, especially near the margin. **Flesh:** Thin; brownish. **Stem:** 1–5 cm long; to 0.5 cm thick; equal; occasionally with clefts near the base in age; brownish; finely hairy. **Microscopic Features:** Spores 21–25 × 10–15 μm; fusiform; smooth; slightly roughened with 1 large central oil droplet and another smaller oil droplet at the base. Paraphyses clavate; hyaline to pale brown. **Comments:** Compare with *Helvella queletii* (p. 204). *Helvella queletii* is similar but jet black northern species. *Helvella capuliformis* is nearly identical to the next page but features ellipsoid spores.





Wisconsin Mycological Society
c/o Fred Kluhsman
5315 S. Sunnyslope Road
New Berlin, WI 53151