

Mushrooms I have known

Richard D. Gill

Mathematical Institute, Leiden University

<http://www.math.leidenuniv.nl/~gill>

This version: March 21, 2019



Dedicated to Rosa and Rianne

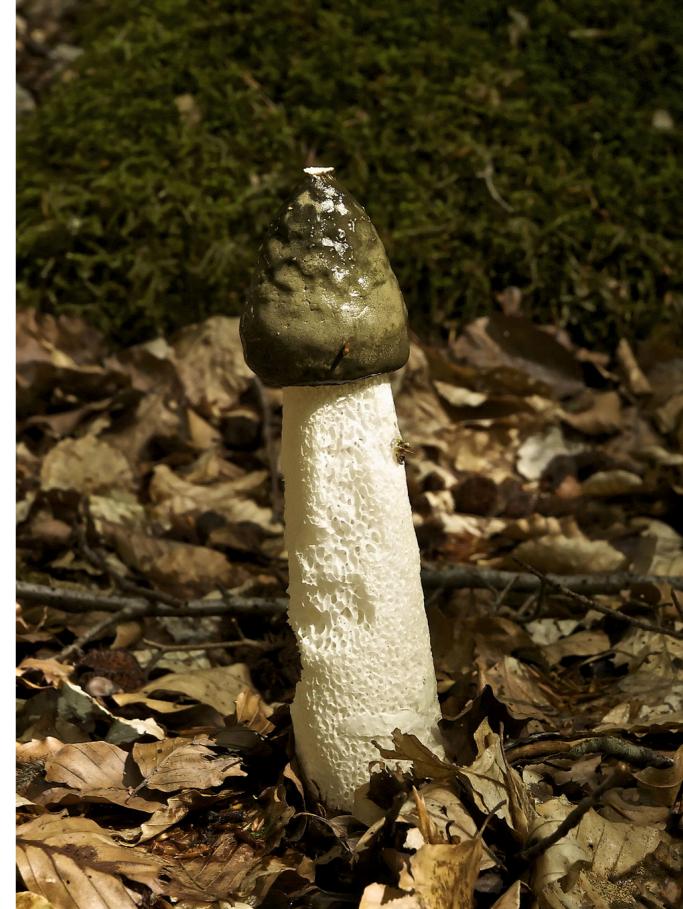


Warnings

- All mushrooms are edible – but some, only once
- There are old mushroom hunters, and bold mushroom hunters ... but there are no old bold mushroom hunters



Fungi



- Closer to animals than plants
- The thing you see above ground (that you call a “mushroom”) is just a temporary reproductive organ
- See Wikipedia (next few slides)

De grote stinkzwam (*Phallus impudicus*) is een paddenstoel uit de familie *Phallaceae*

Phallus impudicus, known colloquially as the **common stinkhorn**, is a widespread fungus recognizable for its foul odor and its **phallic** shape when mature, the latter feature giving rise to several names in 17th-century England.

Fungi

Temporal range: Early Devonian–Present (but see
text) 410–0 Ma

PreЄ Є OS D C P T J K PgN



Clockwise from top left:

Amanita muscaria, a basidiomycete;

Sarcoscypha coccinea, an ascomycete;

bread covered in mold;

a chytrid;

an *Aspergillus* conidiophore.

Wikipedia: “fungus”

A **fungus** (plural: **fungi**^[3] or **funguses**^[4]) is any member of the group of **eukaryotic** organisms that includes microorganisms such as **yeasts** and **moulds**, as well as the more familiar **mushrooms**. These organisms are classified as a kingdom, **fungi**, which is separate from the other eukaryotic life kingdoms of **plants** and **animals**.

A characteristic that places fungi in a different kingdom from plants, bacteria, and some protists is chitin in their **cell walls**. Similar to animals, fungi are **heterotrophs**; they acquire their food by absorbing dissolved molecules, typically by secreting **digestive enzymes** into their environment. Fungi do not **photosynthesise**. Growth is their means of mobility, except for spores (a few of which are flagellated), which may travel through the air or water. Fungi are the principal decomposers in ecological systems. These and other differences place fungi in a single group of related organisms, named the *Eumycota* (*true fungi* or *Eumycetes*), which share a **common ancestor** (form a **monophyletic group**), an interpretation that is also strongly supported by **molecular phylogenetics**. This fungal group is distinct from the structurally similar **myxomycetes** (slime moulds) and **oomycetes** (water moulds). The discipline of **biology** devoted to the study of fungi is known as **mycology** (from the Greek μύκης *mykes*, mushroom). In the past, mycology was regarded as a branch of **botany**, although it is now known fungi are genetically more closely related to animals than to plants.

Discovery About Evolution Of Fungi Has Implications For Humans

Date: October 23, 2006

Source: University of Minnesota

Summary: A University of Minnesota researcher says as early fungi made the evolutionary journey from water to land and branched off from animals, they shed tail-like flagella that propelled them through their aquatic environment and evolved a variety of new mechanisms, including explosive volleys and fragrances, to disperse their spores and reproduce in a terrestrial setting.

[FULL STORY](#)

As early fungi made the evolutionary journey from water to land and branched off from animals, they shed tail-like flagella that propelled them through their aquatic environment and evolved a variety of new mechanisms (including explosive volleys and fragrances) to disperse their spores and reproduce in a terrestrial setting.

Fungi are also intriguing because their cells are surprisingly similar to human cells, McLaughlin said. In 1998 scientists discovered that fungi split from animals about 1.538 billion years ago, whereas plants split from animals about 1.547 billion years ago. This means fungi split from animals 9 million years after plants did, in which case fungi are actually more closely related to animals than to plants. The fact that fungi had motile cells propelled by flagella that are more like those in animals than those in plants, supports that.



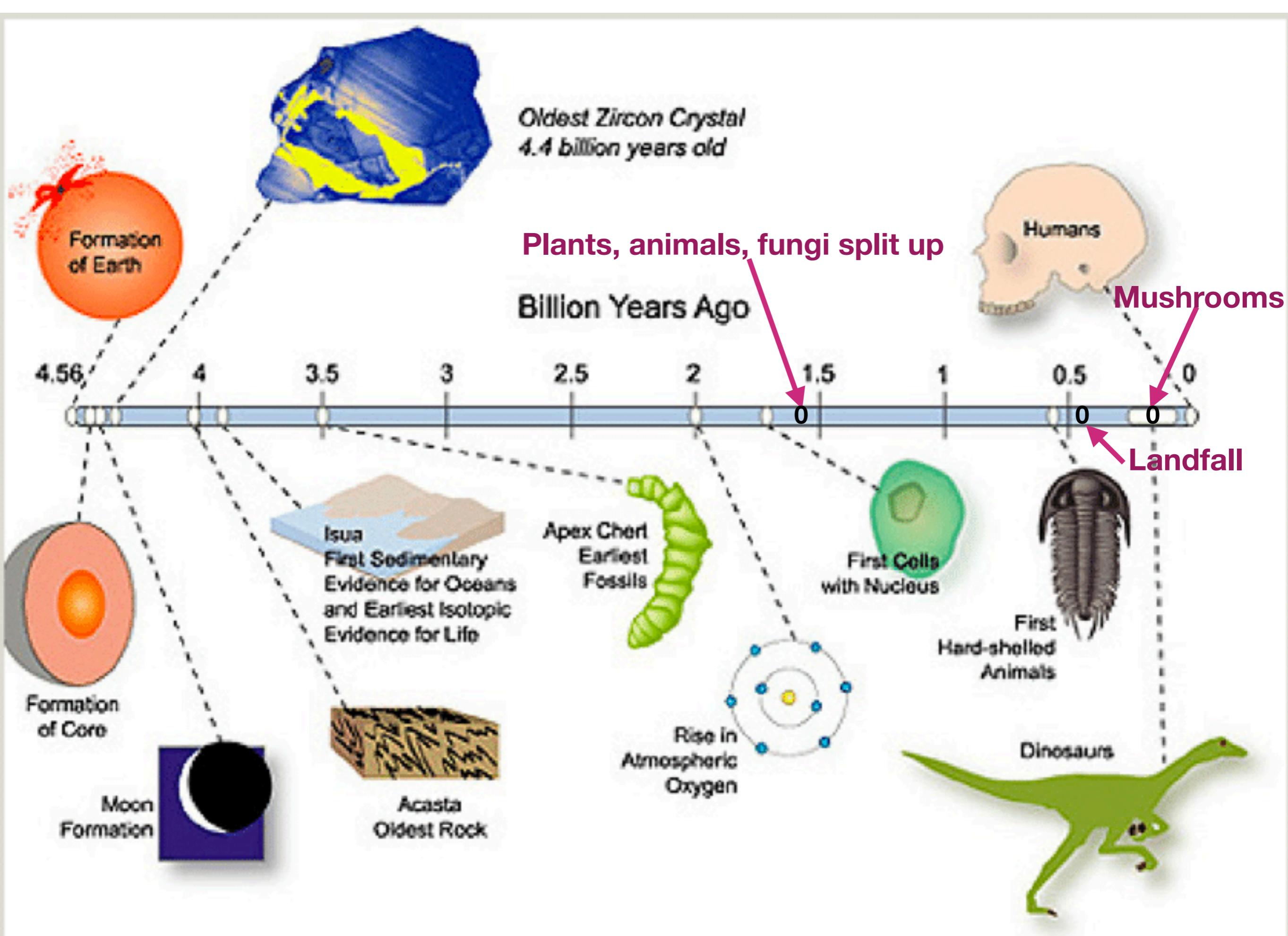
Article | Published: 19 October 2006

Reconstructing the early evolution of Fungi using a six-gene phylogeny

Timothy Y. James , Frank Kauff [...] Rytas Vilgalys

Nature 443, 818–822 (19 October 2006) | [Download Citation](#)

<https://doi.org/10.1038/nature05110>



Some famous fungi

- In penicillin, blue cheese, yoghurt, ...
- Yeast (beer, bread, wine, ...)
- *Zwemmers eczeem* – Athlete's foot
- The largest living organism on the planet?
- Alleged cause of death of: Buddha, Emperor Claudius, Hapsburg emperor Charles VI, Julius Schäffer, ...
- Digests and recycles animal and plant remains; lives in symbiotic relation with plants and trees, animals, ...



Armillaria ostoyae

Deadly webcap (*Cortinarius rubellus*)

Fraaie gifgordijnzwam



Deadly webcap appears between August and November in conifer and spruce woods. (Photo: Alamy)

Death cap (*Amanita phalloides*)

Groene knolamaniet



Death cap is responsible for most fatal mushroom poisonings around the world. (Photo: Alamy/Wolstenholme Images)

Destroying angel (*Amanita virosa*)

Kleverige knolamaniet



Beautiful but dangerous. Destroying angel can be found in mixed broadleaf and birch woodland. (Photo: Alamy)

Funeral bell (*Galerina marginata*)

Bundelmosklokje



The ominous sounding funeral bell appears on dead and decaying wood. (Photo: Alamy)

Fool's funnel (*Clitocybe rivulosa*)

Weidetrechterzwam



Also known as the sweating mushroom, fool's funnel occurs in grassy areas. (Photo: iStock)

Panther cap (*Amanita pantherina*)

Panteramaniet



Panther cap is the sinister but less common sister to fly agaric. (Photo: Alamy)

Angel's wings (*Pleurocybella porrigens*)

?????????



Poisonous mushrooms: 7 most dangerous in UK

My two favourites



- *Amanita muscaria* - *fly agaric* [*vliegenzwam*]
- *Omphalotus olearius* [?] - *jack-o'-lantern mushroom* [*lantaarnzwam*]



Photos:
below: Wikipedia;
above: mine



Amanita from Ancient Greek ἀμανίτης (*amanítēs*), mushrooms.

Musca from the name of the common house fly, *musca domestica*

Amanita muscaria



**I have a great deal to say about Amanita muscaria
– result of many years research, observation.**

This creature is not bright red with white spots for nothing!

Omphalotus from the Byzantine Greek ὄμφαλοειδής, meaning "navel"

Olearius from *oleum* ("olive oil") + *-ārius*

Omphalotus olearius [?]



**I think I found *Omphalotus olarius* in my garden, a year ago;
and this winter it returned (same time, same place).**

I fear it is poisonous.

Omphalotus olearius



Scientific classification

Kingdom: Fungi
 Division: Basidiomycota
 Class: Agaricomycetes
 Order: Agaricales
 Family: Marasmiaceae
 Genus: *Omphalotus*
 Species: *O. olearius*

Binomial name

Omphalotus olearius

(DC.) Sing. (1948)

Synonyms^[1]

- *Agaricus olearius* DC. (1815)
- *Agaricus olearius* subsp. *phosphoreus* Battarra ex Pers. (1828)
- *Dryophila phosphorea* (Battarra ex Pers.) Quél. (1888)
- *Clitocybe olearia* (DC.) Maire (1933)
- *Clitocybe phosphorea* (Battarra ex Pers.) Bohus (1957)



Wikipedia

Omphalotus olearius

Mycological characteristics

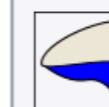
i



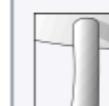
gills on hymenium



cap is infundibuliform



hymenium is decurrent



stipe is bare



spore print is yellow



ecology is saprotrophic



edibility: poisonous



My photos



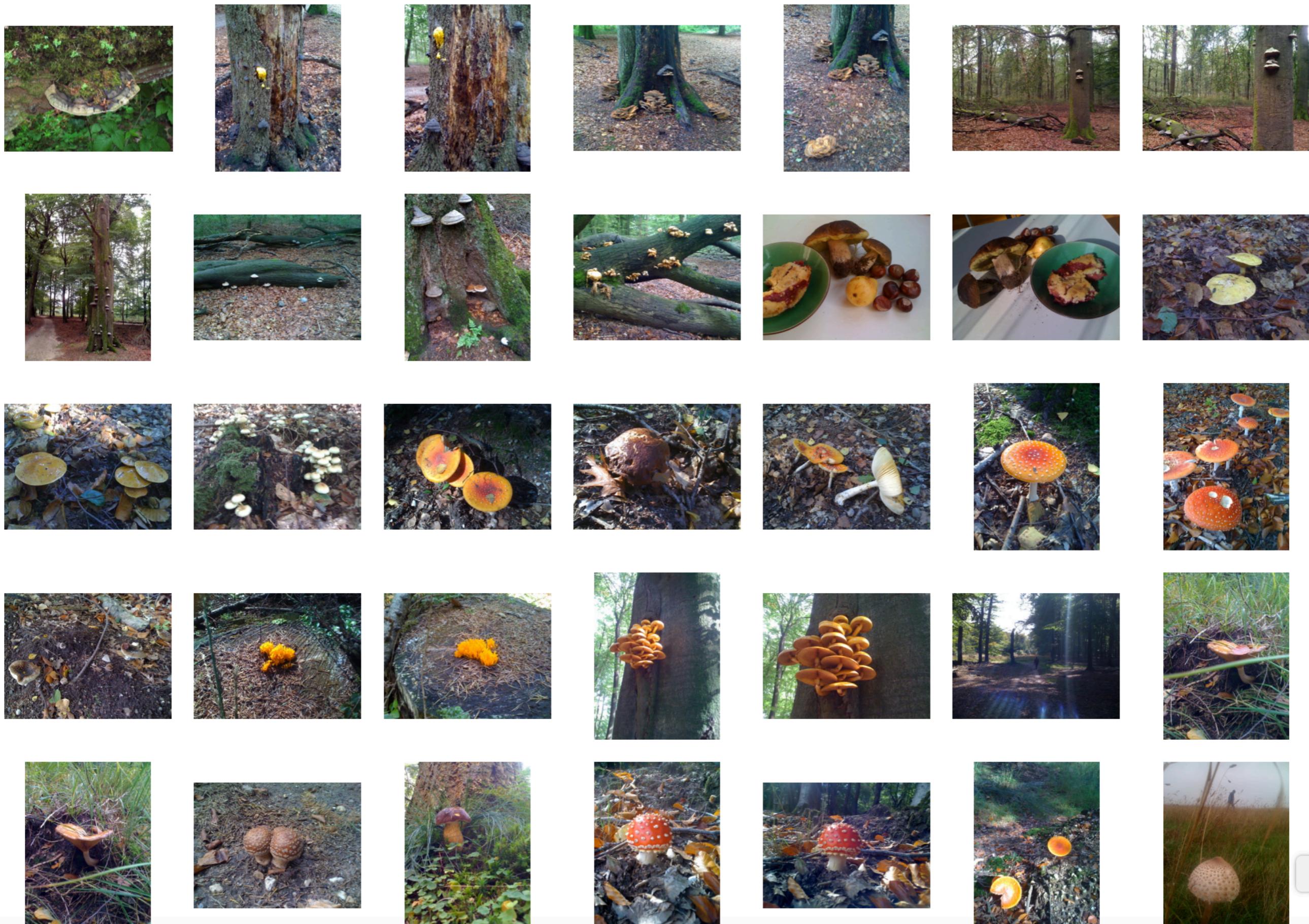
Gallery

- 10 years of mushroom hunting (6 slides, 35 pictures per slide)

Mushrooms (1 of 6)

June 2009 – February 2019 209 Photos

Showing: All Items ▾



Mushrooms (2 of 6)

June 2009 – February 2019 209 Photos

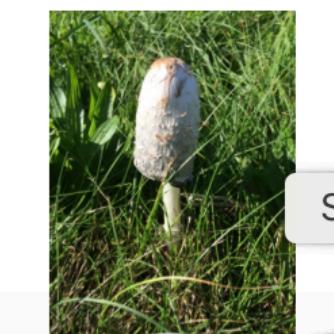
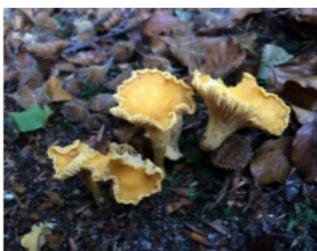
Showing: All Items ▾



Mushrooms (3 of 6)

June 2009 – February 2019 209 Photos

Showing: All Items ▾

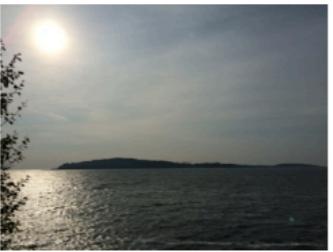
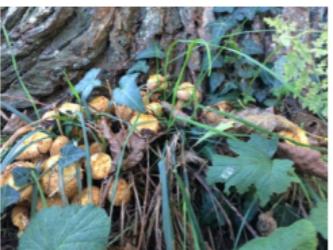


Sc

Mushrooms (4 of 6)

June 2009 – February 2019 209 Photos

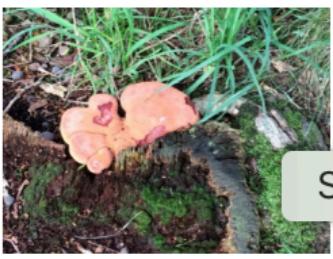
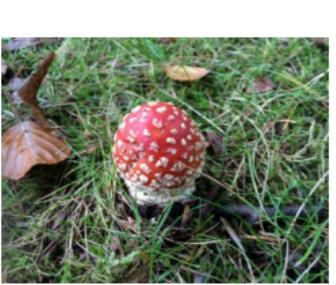
Showing: All Items ▾



Mushrooms (5 of 6)

June 2009 – February 2019 209 Photos

Showing: All Items ▾

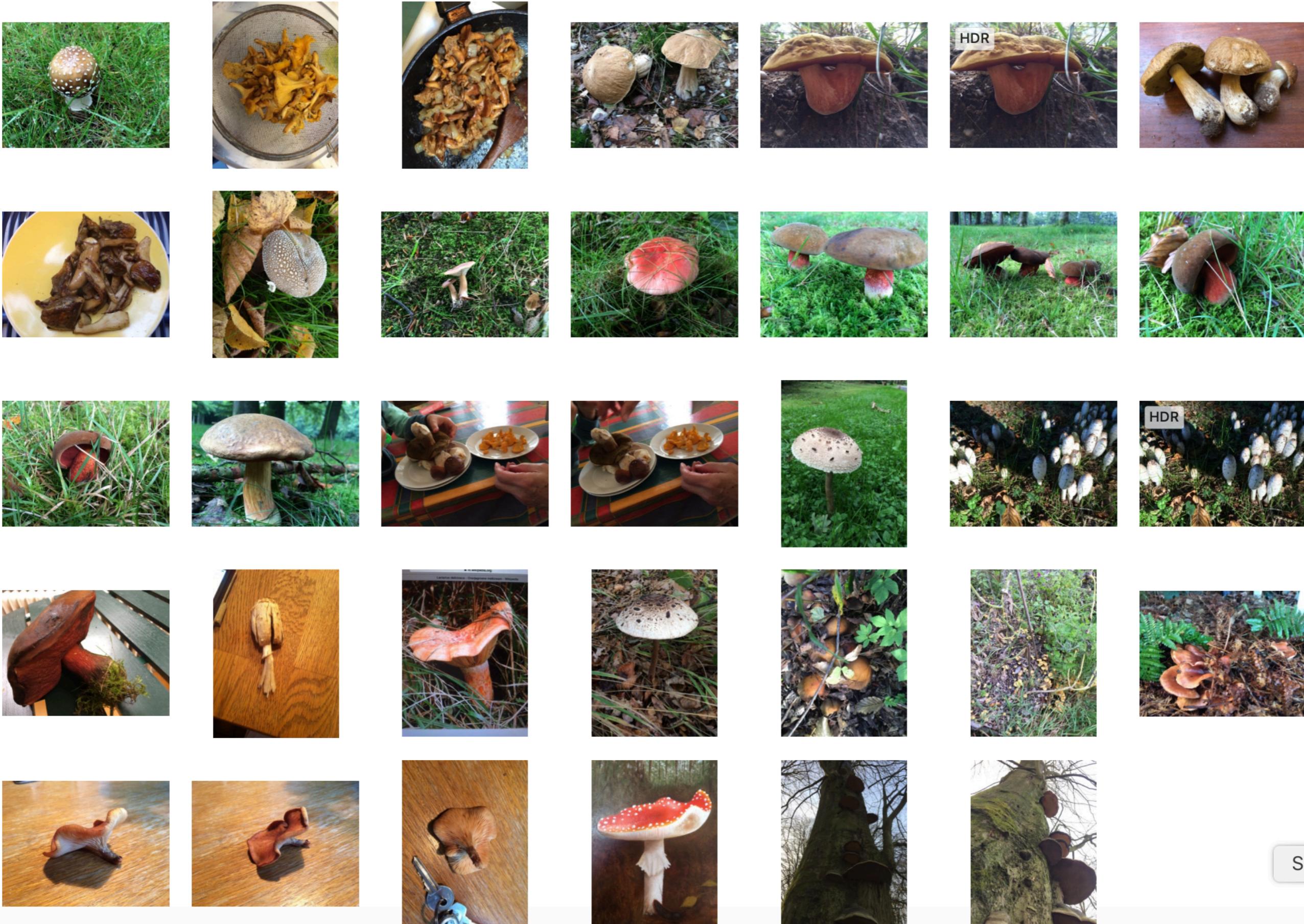


Sc

Mushrooms (6 of 6)

June 2009 – February 2019 209 Photos

Showing: All Items ▾



Want to learn more about the joys of mushroom hunting?

- Go out in the fields or forests with someone with a great deal of experience.
- Never pick a mushroom if you don't have to.
- A photograph is not enough to identify a mushroom.
Learn about the *important* distinguishing characteristics.
- Never eat a mushroom if you are not *absolutely* certain you have identified it correctly. Be patient. They'll come again next year, same time, same place.
- Coffee-table books full of large glossy photographs are not much use.
- Internet is wonderful but not everything you read there is true.
- Mushrooms *and* people are natural living beings. Variation is “built in”, and it's enormous.

Thank you!

- Any questions?
- <http://www.math.leidenuniv.nl/~gill>
- Slideshare: gill1109

Extras

- Various topics for discussion and further research

Fungi and ...

Data science
Big data
Machine learning
AI
Bayesian statistics

Nature:

<https://doi.org/10.1038/nature05110>

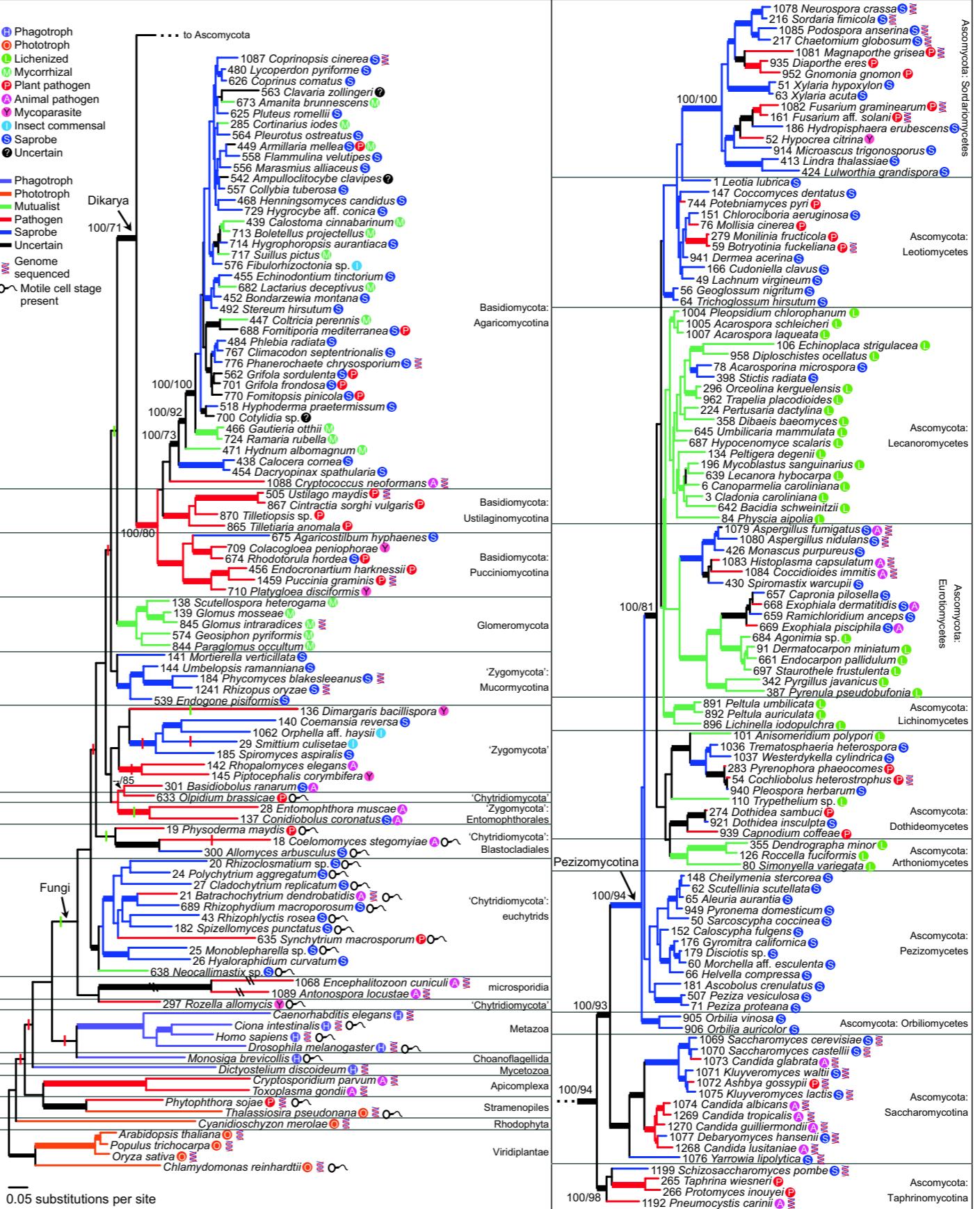
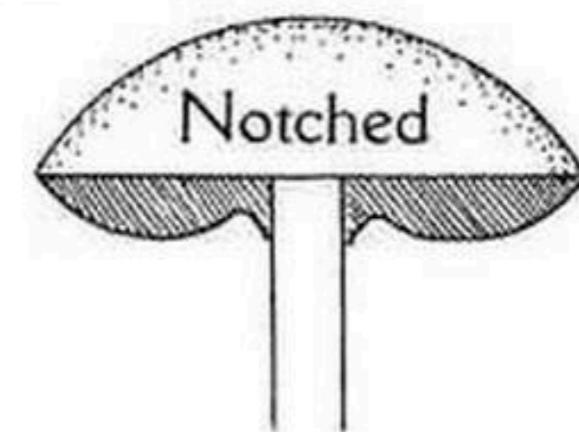
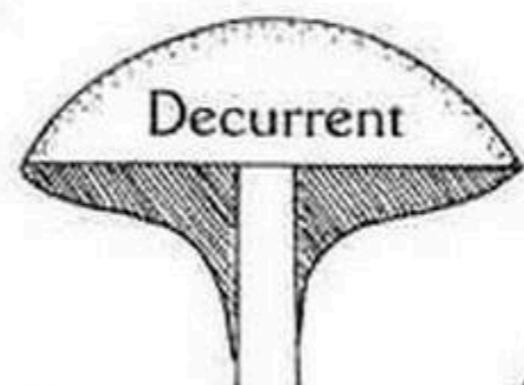
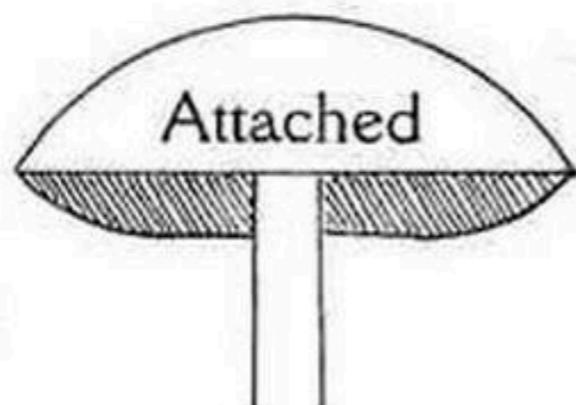
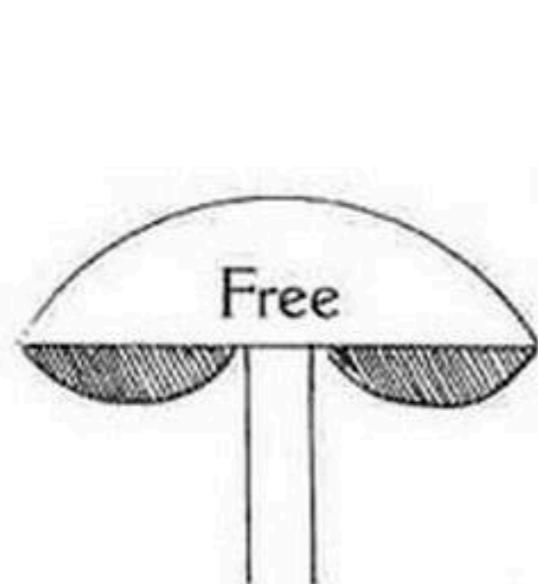


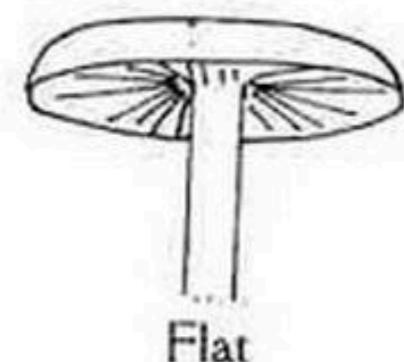
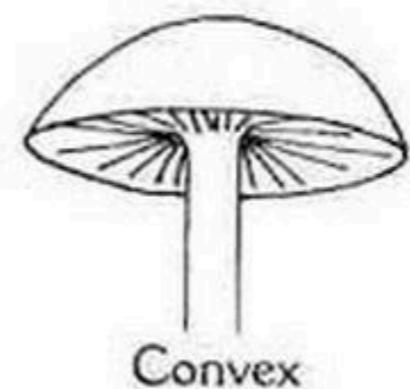
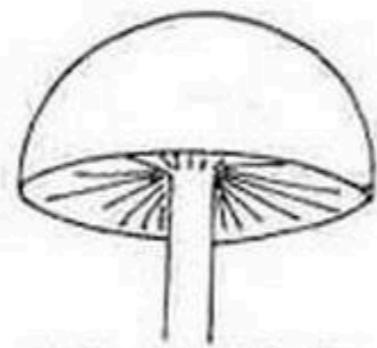
Figure 1 | Phylogeny of the kingdom Fungi using bayesian analysis of the combined, six-gene data set. Each fungal species begins with a unique ‘Assembling the Fungal Tree of Life’ identifier, followed by genus and species. Indicated for each terminal taxon are: nutritional mode, whether they produce flagellated cells and if there is a genome sequence for the taxon completed or underway. Thickened branches indicate those that are supported both by heterogeneous bayesian analysis ($BPP \geq 95\%$) and by MLBS ($\geq 70\%$). Almost every branch was supported by BPP and thus values are not shown. Where indicated, support values (percentage of trees in

agreement out of 58,611 trees) indicate BPP followed by MLBS. Branches are shaded according to reconstruction of nutritional mode. Microsporidia branches have been shortened three times (double black break) to increase readability. Red vertical ticks on branches indicate alternative placements of microsporidia that might be significantly rejected ($P < 0.05$) and green ticks indicate placements that cannot be rejected. Quotation marks indicate non-monophyly of the taxon. The name ‘Mucormycotina’ will be validated in a manuscript that is in preparation.

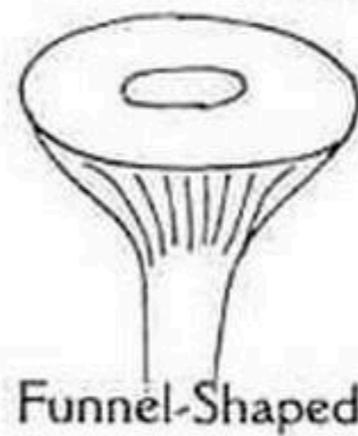
FEATURES OF MUSHROOMS USED FOR IDENTIFICATION



GILL ATTACHMENT



CAP SHAPES



Funnel-Shaped



Mushroom Identify - Automatic picture recognition

Annapurnapp Technologies Tools

★★★★★ 4,456

3 PEGI 3

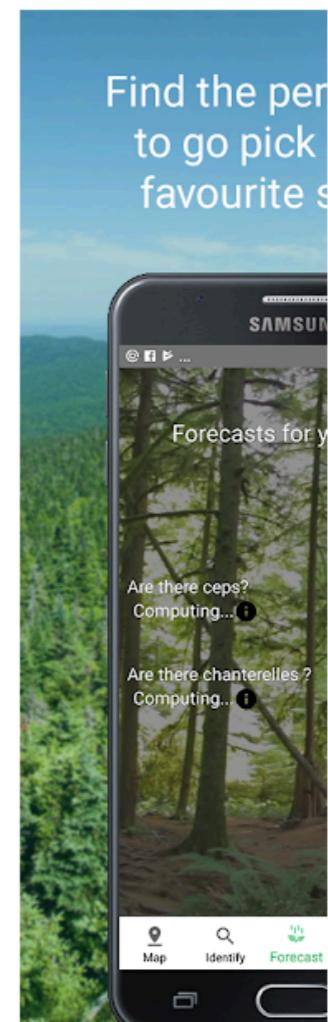
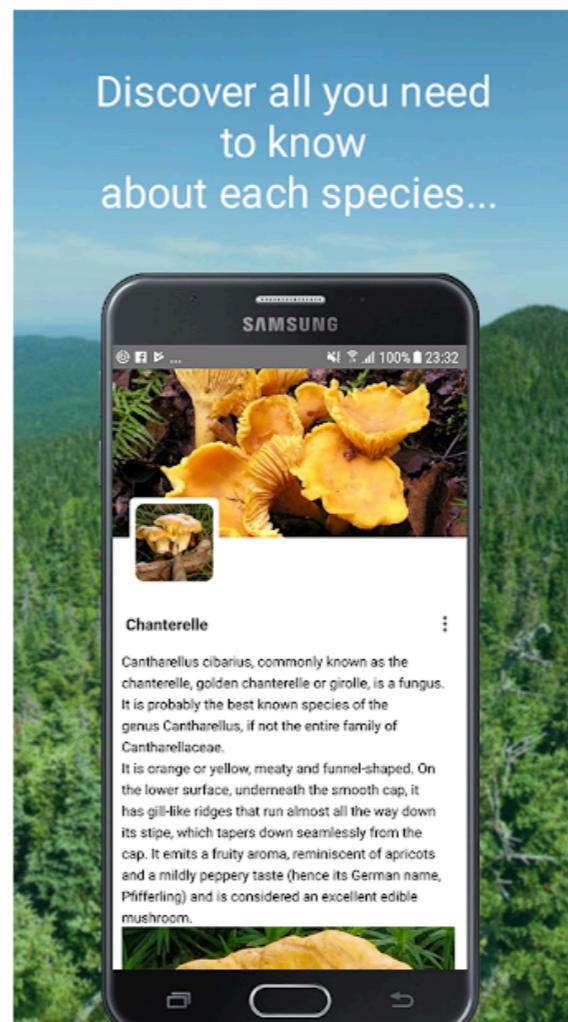
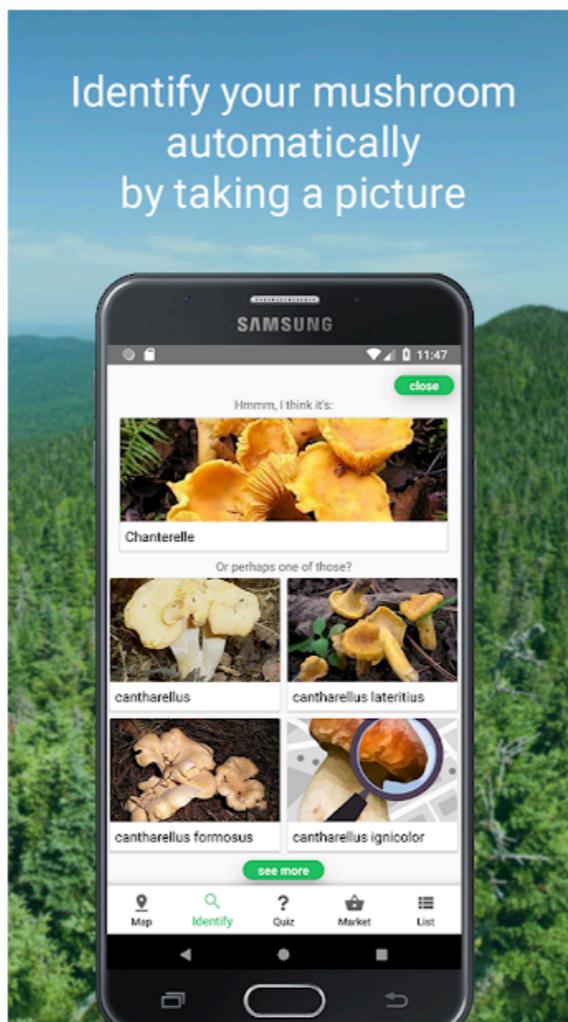
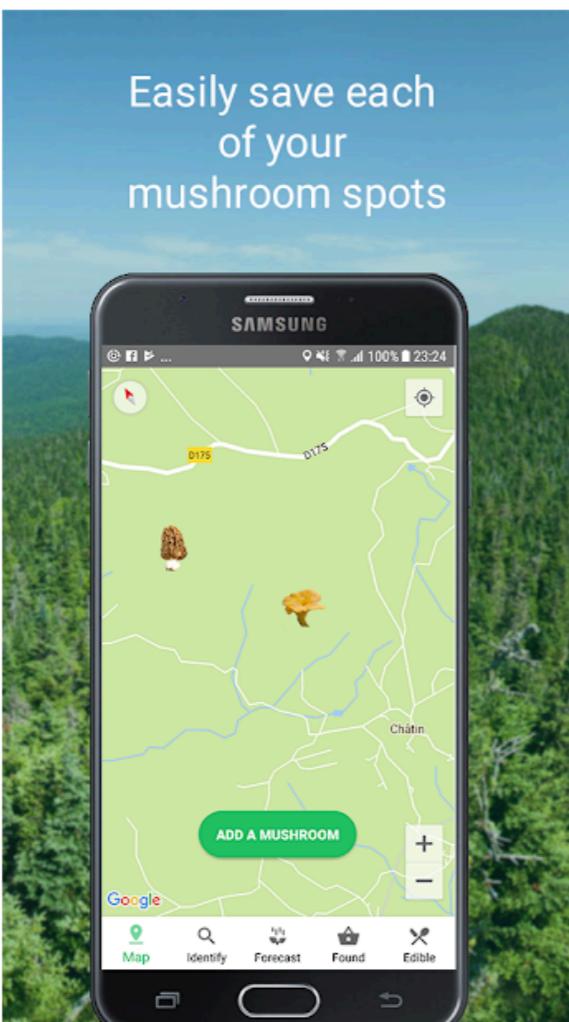
Contains Ads · Offers in-app purchases

⚠ You don't have any devices.



Add to Wishlist

Install



A 'potentially deadly' mushroom-identifying app highlights the dangers of bad AI

The app's creator says it's just a guide, but experts aren't happy

By [James Vincent](#) | Jul 28, 2017, 7:11am EDT

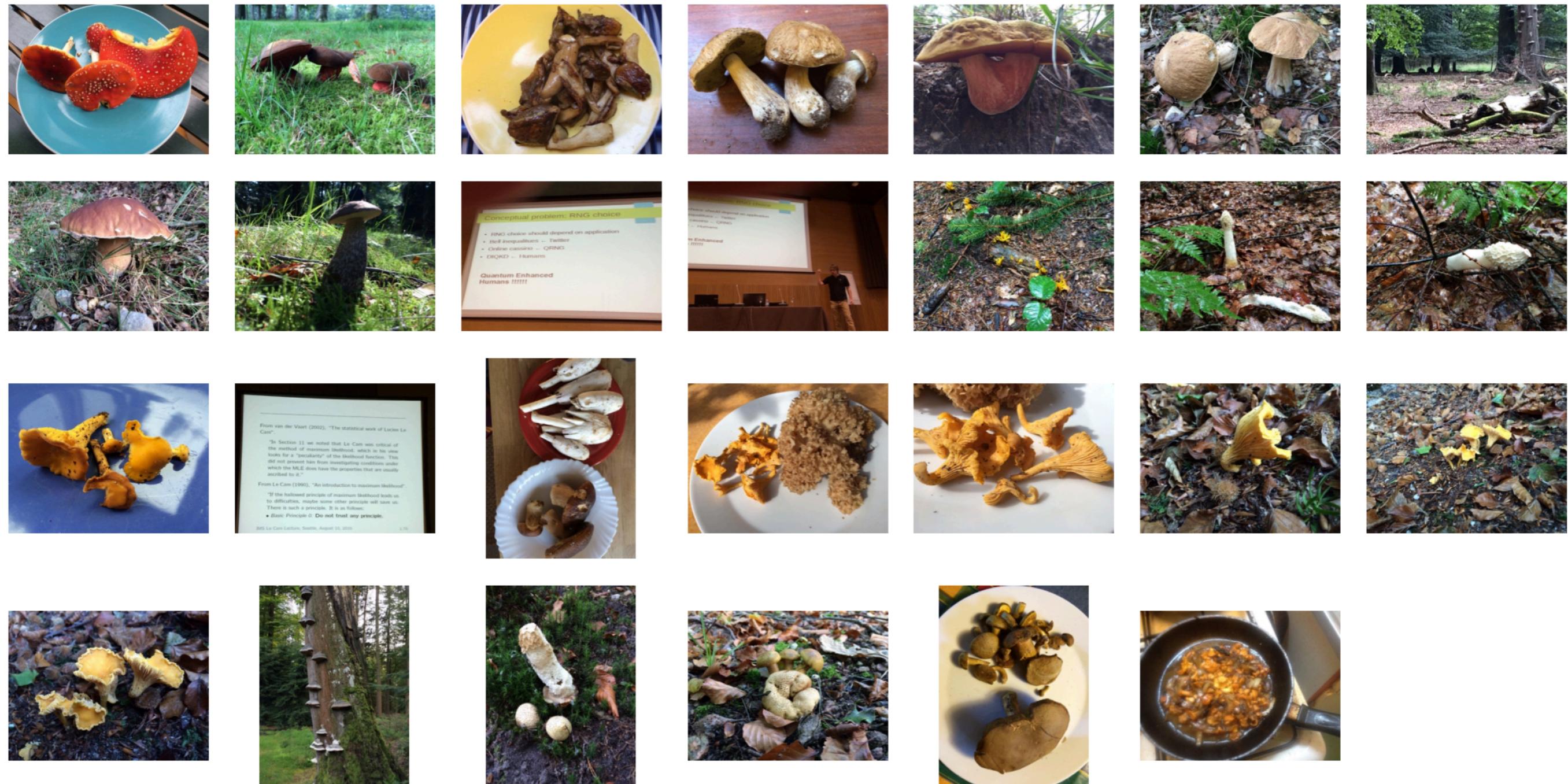
[!\[\]\(5e17ffbca1f899607873677550e81004_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(ebdbff6c0c857eec8037ec748dd73fae_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(5a45cb3ec9f3a117a2fb53f8ec6cf120_img.jpg\) SHARE](#)

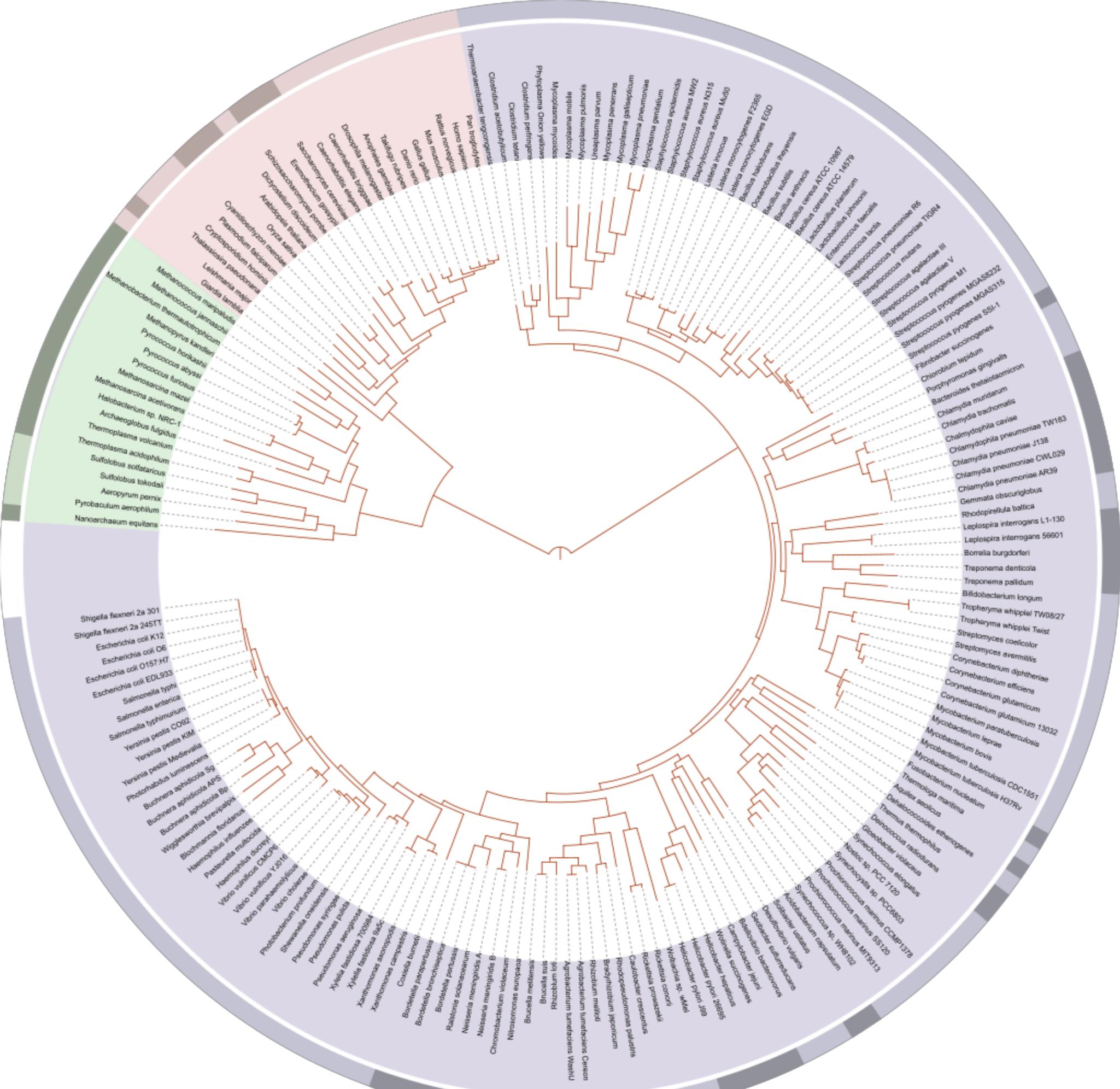


Missing Mushrooms

February 2019 27 Photos [Show as Memory](#) [Slideshow](#)

Showing: All Items ▾





2) Tell us where in the World you are? Location can be VERY important.

3) Take pictures of:

- top of the cap
- underside of the cap
- stipe (preferably the whole stipe with the base)
- if possible, a longitudinal section to see the context (flesh of the mushroom) and the attachment of the hymenium (gills, tubes, spines, etc) to the stipe'
- overview/side view
- as many different ages, from small buttons to worn out mushrooms
- spore print

3) Make sure that these pictures are:

- made preferably in situ (on location), but if that is not possible, then use a neutral background
- in the right white balance (colours of the picture should resemble the real colours in daylight)
- not too dark or over-exposed (preferably in daylight)
- sharp
- free of distracting elements like leafs, twigs, dirt etc. The specimen and characteristics have to be clearly visible

4) Always include the following in the description:

4a) if you already have an idea of what species it may be, add:

- the name (both scientific and common)
- a description of the characteristics you base your ID on
- the sources you used for identification (books/websites)

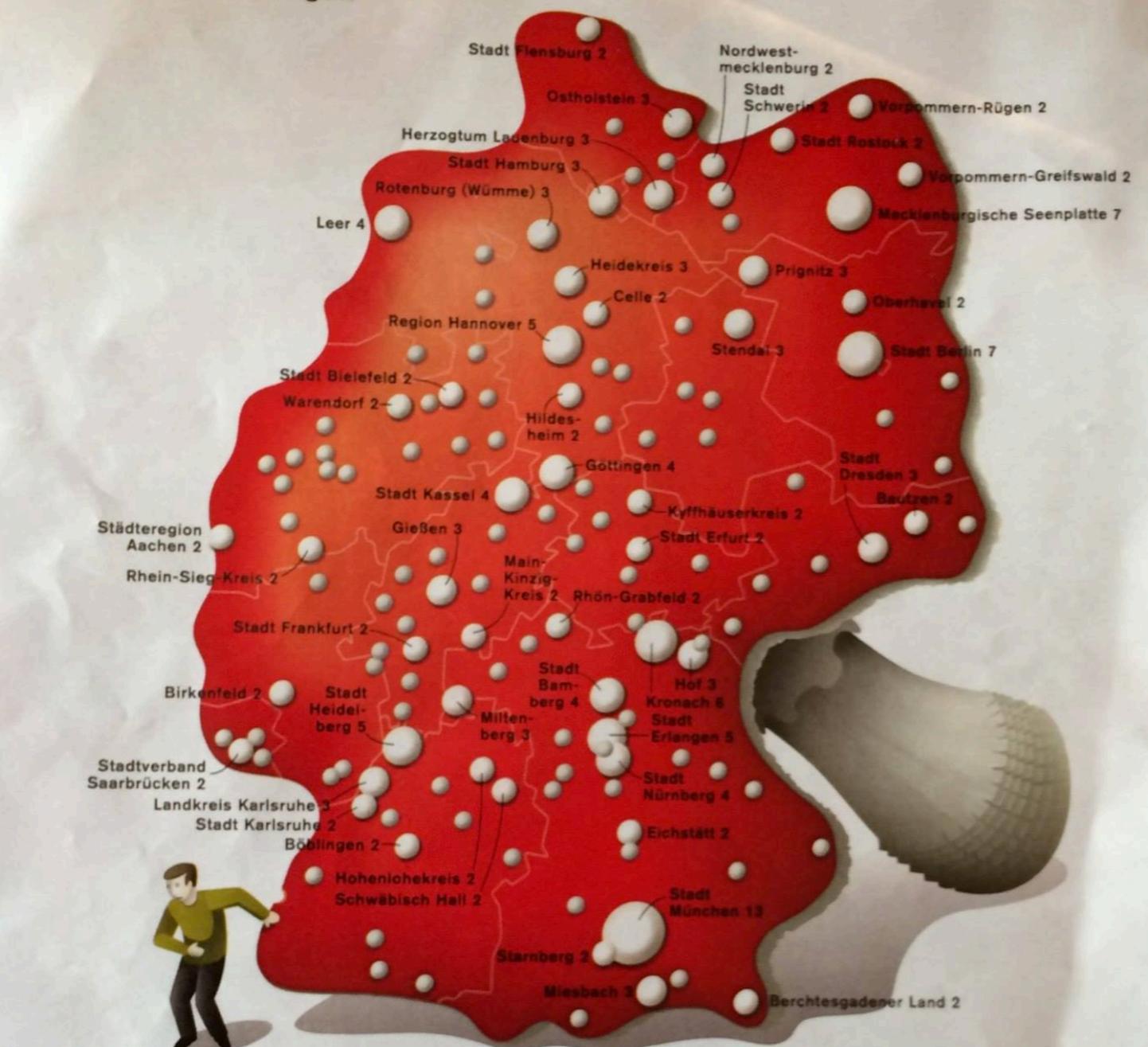
4b) If you don't know what it is:

- scent
- taste (it is not harmful to nibble a bit off of a mushroom and chew on it for 10 sec. BUT ALWAYS SPIT IT OUT!
Even if it tastes nice! *Amanita phalloides* has quite a slight sweet flavour, but you don't want to swallow a piece of that)
- the true colours (if the colours in the picture does not resemble the true colours by daylight)
- possible discolouration of the cap/stipe/hymenium/context (this may take a while with some species)
- the substrate (mulch/wood/living tree/bare ground/dead animals etc)
- habitat (nearest tree species, woods, calcareous grassland, fen, dry/moist soil, high/low elevation etc)
- location (if in US: state/region; if abroad: country + region)

**Deutschlandkarte:
Pilzvergiftungen**

Medically treated severe mushroom poisonings in Germany 2008– 2013

Americans have grizzly bears, Australians have sharks, Japanese have the poisonous globe fish, Germans have poisonous mushrooms. Almost no-one is killed by any of these things.



QUELLE DAK

In diesem Jahr ist bislang in ganz Nordamerika genau ein Mensch von einem Bären getötet worden. Gemessen an der Zahl der Schilder, die in den Wäldern dort vor Bären warnen, ist das eine niedrige Zahl. In deutschen Wäldern stehen üblicherweise keine Schilder, die vorm Pilzesammeln warnen. Obwohl doch relativ viel schiefgeht dabei: Münchener leben, siehe oben, besonders gefährlich, der naturliebende Großstädter scheint ein Problem zu sein. Pilzsammler sagen interessanterweise auch, sie »gehen in

die Pilze«. Das klingt wie »ins Wasser gehen«, fast schon selbstmörderisch. Zwar enden die wenigsten Pilzvergiftungen tödlich, aber die Faszination des Todes spielt immer mit: Kinder zeigen sich begeistert von Grünen Knollenblätterpilzen und Fliegenpilzen, Pfifferlinge lassen sie kalt. Pilze sind für den Mitteleuropäer das, was für Japaner der Kugelfisch ist, für Amerikaner der Grizzly, für Australier der Hai: eine Prise Gefahr, die dem langweiligen Sonntagsausflug einen angenehmen Thrill verleiht.

Erotische zwammen

Dankzij het warme en vochtige weer beleeft de natuur een tweede bloei, dit keer niet van bloemen maar van paddenstoelen. Onstuitbaar dringen al die ogenschijnlijk zwakke hoeden in bos en berm door de humuslaag heen. Samen met het afvallende loof geven ze kleur aan het herfstbos. Maar hoe kom je achter de namen van al die bizarre vertegenwoordigers van het zwammenrijk? Volgens een voorzichtige schatting kent de gemiddelde Nederlander niet meer dan drie of vier namen - de vliegenzwam natuurlijk, het eekhoorntjesbrood, de cantharel en vooruit, het elfenbankje. Wie zijn kennis wil vergroten of bijspijkeren, kan het beste met een excursie meegaan.

• Gerrit Jan Zwier

11 oktober 2001

De laatste tijd liep ik verschillende keren mee. Nu eens met een boswachter, dan weer met een echte deskundige. Er zijn twee soorten deelnemers op wie deze gidsen het niet zo begrepen hebben – gretige plukkers en verzamelaars van paddenstoelen. De eersten gaan het vooral om de cantharel, die weer in opkomst is. De liefhebbers van paddenstoelen zijn gespitst op kaalkopjes die met name op mesthopen in het open veld te vinden zijn. 'Hallucinogeen' luidt de toevoeging in de boeken bij twee bescheiden zwammetjes, het puntig kaalkopje en het franjekaalkopje. Sommigen brouwen er soep van, echte heksensoep dus.

De gids moet echt goed thuis zijn in de materie, want alle deelnemers hebben de gewoonte hun vinger naar elke paddenstoel uit te steken en naar de naam te vragen. Dat betekent dat je vele honderden soorten (in totaal gaat het in Nederland om een kleine vierduizend), die vaak sterk op elkaar lijken, moet kennen. Echte mycologen (zwammenexperts) beschikken over allerlei foefjes om de ene familie en de ene soort van de andere te onderscheiden. Maar een amateur komt soms voor vele verrassingen te staan.

Zo was ik laatst met een alleraardigste boswachter op stap die zich kennelijk eerst niet op de hoogte had gesteld van de vele nieuwkomers in het door ons te doorkruisen bos. 'Wat een leuk zwammetje!' luidde meestal zijn openingszin, als hij bij een aangewezen exemplaar neerknielde. Daarna hield hij een spiegeltje onder de hoed, opdat iedereen de mooi gevormde lamellen kon zien. 'Ik denk een melkzwammetje', zei hij dan. Om dat zeker te weten, moest hij het vlees echter kneuzen, en dat ging hem aan het hart. Lag de paddestoel ondersteboven, en begon hij na een kneep in de lamellen niet te 'melken', dan hield hij het meestal op een 'ridderzwammetje'. In zijn baard hoorde ik hem mompelen over 'ridders en schijnridders'. Op zeker moment begon hij zijn tred te versnellen en allerlei vreemde zwammen te negeren. Hij wilde eigenlijk alleen iets vertellen over goede bekenden, zoals het rodekoolzwammetje en de boschampignon.

De gids, die ons laatst in de buurt van Ravenswoud rondleidde, was meer het type van de dorpsonderwijzer. Aan het begin van de wandeling strooide hij wat broodkruimels uit een zakje, om de 'bosgeesten mild te stemmen'. Dat deden ze vroeger ook, lichtte hij toe, in de hoop een rijke zwammenflora in het bos aan te treffen. En werkelijk, onze oogst was rijk; laat ik hier slechts de grote oranje bekerzwam, de groene glibberzwam (die uit gelatine gemaakt lijkt te zijn), de radijsvaalhoed en de parelamaniet noemen. De laatste is niet giftig, in tegenstelling tot de panteramaniet, die er sterk op lijkt. Toen de Larousse Encyclopedie het omgekeerde beweerde, moest de hele oplage van 400.000 exemplaren vernietigd worden.

Bij vele soorten had onze leidsman een verhaal bij de hand. Moederkoren, een schimmel op graan, zorgde vroeger voor voedselvergiftigingen. Bekend ook is het apocriefe verhaal over de zuster van Darwin, die het uiterlijk van de *Phallus impudicus* (grote stinkzwam) zo aanstootgevend vond dat zij die elke herfst uit haar tuin liet verwijderen. De wereld van de mycologie heeft toch al een duidelijk erotische ondertoon. Zo ruiken vezelkoppen naar sperma en herinneren woorden als 'schede', 'volva' ('beurs') en 'hymenium' (kiemvlies; hymen = maagdenvlies) aan een seksuologisch handboek.

'Heeft u wel eens een pruikzwam gezien?' vroeg ik laatst aan een expert. Deze zwam hangt soms als een wit bevroren watervalletje uit de oksel van een oude beuk.

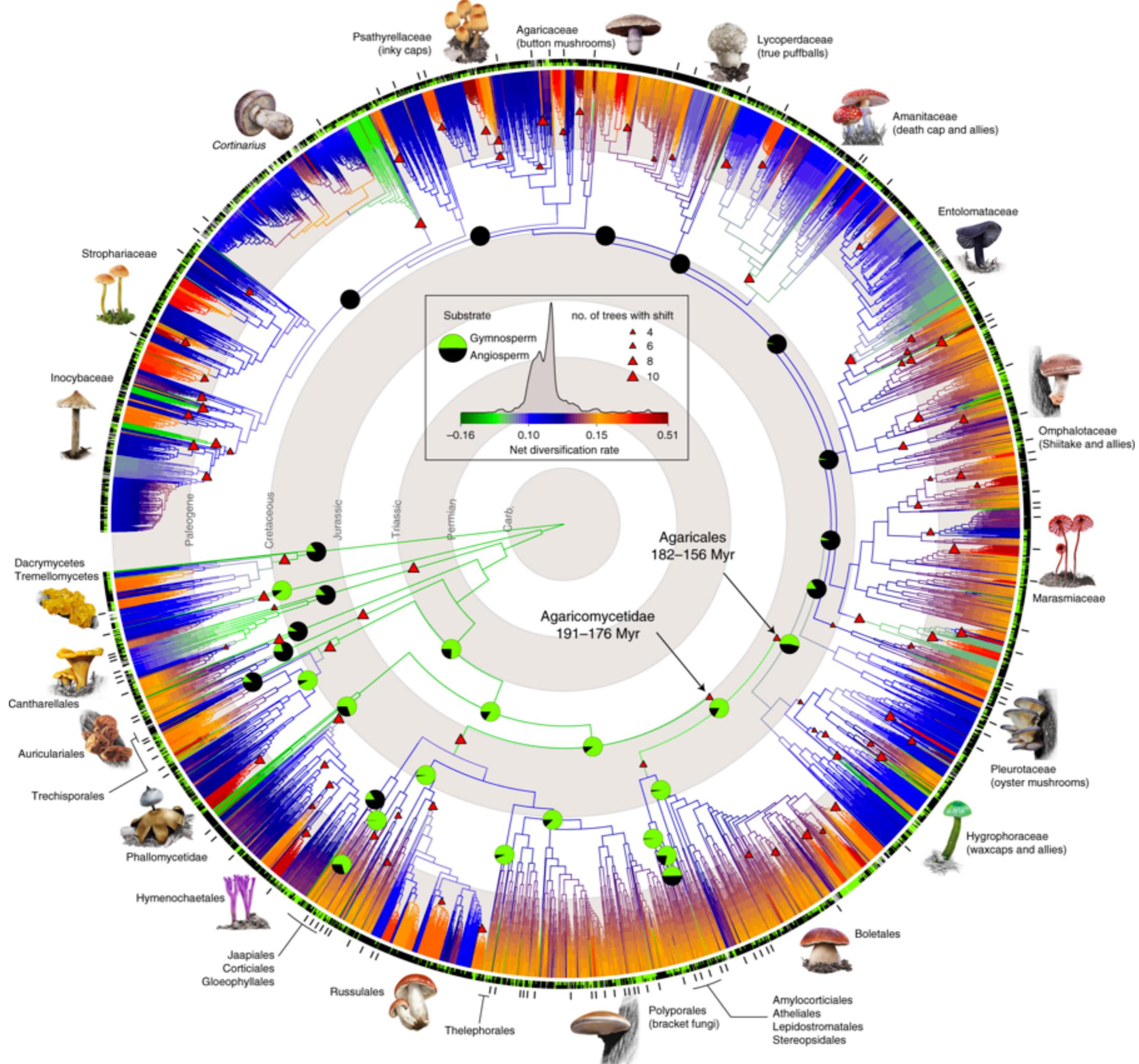
'Jazeker', zei hij, 'daar kreeg ik bijna een mycologisch orgasme van.'

Megaphylogeny resolves global patterns of mushroom evolution

19 March, 2019

Torda Varga¹, Krisztina Krizsán¹, Csenge Földi¹, Bálint Dima¹, Marisol Sánchez-García³, Santiago Sánchez-Ramírez⁴, Gergely J. Szöllősi⁵, János G. Szarkándi⁶, Viktor Papp¹, László Albert⁸, William Andreopoulos⁹, Claudio Angelini^{10,11}, Vladimír Antonín¹², Kerrie W. Barry⁹, Neale L. Bouger¹³, Peter Buchanan¹⁴, Bart Buyck¹⁵, Viktória Bense¹, Pam Catcheside¹⁶, Mansi Chovatia⁹, Jerry Cooper¹⁷, Wolfgang Dämon¹⁸, Dennis Desjardin¹⁹, Péter Finy²⁰, József Geml²¹, Sajeet Haridas¹, Karen Hughes²², Alfredo Justo³, Dariusz Karasiński²³, Ivona Kautmanova²⁴, Brigitta Kiss¹, Sándor Kocsbáé⁶, Heikki Kotiranta²⁵, Kurt M. LaButti⁹, Bernardo E. Lechner²⁶, Kare Liimatainen²⁷, Anna Lipzen⁹, Zoltán Lukács²⁸, Sirma Mihaltcheva⁹, Louis N. Morgado^{21,41}, Tuula Niskanen²⁷, Machiel E. Noordeloos²¹, Robin A. Ohm²⁹, Beatriz Ortiz-Santana³⁰, Clark Ovrebo³¹, Nikolett Rácz⁶, Robert Riley⁹, Anton Savchenko^{32,42}, Anton Shiryaev³³, Karl Soop³⁴, Viacheslav Spirin¹³², Csilla Szebenyi^{6,43}, Michal Tomšovský¹³⁵, Rodham E. Tulloss^{36,37}, Jessie Uehling³⁸, Igor V. Grigoriev¹^{9,39}, Csaba Vágvölgyi⁶, Tamás Papp^{6,43}, Francis M. Martin⁴⁰, Otto Miettinen¹³², David S. Hibbett³ and László G. Nagy^{1*}

Mushroom-forming fungi (Agaricomycetes) have the greatest morphological diversity and complexity of any group of fungi. They have radiated into most niches and fulfil diverse roles in the ecosystem, including wood decomposers, pathogens or mycorrhizal mutualists. Despite the importance of mushroom-forming fungi, large-scale patterns of their evolutionary history are poorly known, in part due to the lack of a comprehensive and dated molecular phylogeny. Here, using multigene and genome-based data, we assemble a 5,284-species phylogenetic tree and infer ages and broad patterns of speciation/extinction and morphological innovation in mushroom-forming fungi. Agaricomycetes started a rapid class-wide radiation in the Jurassic, coinciding with the spread of (sub)tropical coniferous forests and a warming climate. A possible mass extinction, several clade-specific adaptive radiations and morphological diversification of fruiting bodies followed during the Cretaceous and the Paleogene, convergently giving rise to the classic toadstool morphology, with a cap, stalk and gills (pileate-stipitate morphology). This morphology is associated with increased rates of lineage diversification, suggesting it represents a key innovation in the evolution of mushroom-forming fungi. The increase in mushroom diversity started during the Mesozoic-Cenozoic radiation event, an era of humid climate when terrestrial communities dominated by gymnosperms and reptiles were also expanding.



One of the 245 analysed maximum-likelihood trees was randomly chosen and visualized. Trees were inferred from nrLSU, *rpb2*, *ef1-a* sequences with a phylogenomic backbone constraint of deep nodes. Branches are coloured by net diversification (speciation minus extinction) rate inferred in Bayesian Analysis of Macroevolutionary Mixtures (BAMM). Warmer colours denote a higher rate of diversification. Significant shifts in diversification rate are shown by triangles at nodes. Only shifts present on >50% of ten trees, with a Bayesian posterior probability >0.5 and a posterior odds ratio >5 are shown. See Supplementary Data [6](#) for detailed discussion of shifts. Reconstructed probabilities of ancestral plant hosts for order-level clades are shown as pie charts partitioned by the inferred ancestral probability for gymnosperm (green) and angiosperm host (black). Pie charts are given for the most recent common ancestors of each order plus backbone nodes within the Agaricales—for small orders see Supplementary Data [3](#). Inner and outer bars around the tree denote extant substrate preference (black, angiosperm; green, gymnosperm; grey, generalist) and the placement of species used for inferring the 650-gene phylogenomic backbone phylogeny. Geological time scale is indicated with grey/white concentric rings.