



North Eastern Fungus Study Group

Newsletter No 96 - Spring 2020

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NEXT ISSUE: The deadline for articles for the Summer newsletter is 24th August 2020
All contributions will be gratefully received!



Forthcoming Events

Traditionally we have had full details of upcoming forays for the rest of the season in the newsletter. Doing so would involve 9 people having to supply information. Due to the current situation upcoming foray details have not been supplied and if the all clear is given details will be provided by e-mail.

Things that Go Bump In the Night.....

I can't contribute anything to do with fungi but I have had a trail camera in the garden over the winter. I was curious to find out what went on as I had seen a fox on a couple of occasions and knew there was a hedgehog about but I had no idea of the amount of activity there would be recorded. So if you would like to be amused for 10 minutes click here to watch a video that I have stitched together of some of the clips the camera recorded. <https://youtu.be/TvJJqHOPMSw>

Watch out for a one-eyed fox, a one-eyed hedgehog, 'limpy' and a mouse. You might need to watch on something with a bigger screen than a mobile phone otherwise you will miss the mouse!

Ginkgo Leaf Fungus - *Bartheletia paradoxa*

John Taylor and Jill Cunningham have been out looking for the Ginkgo Leaf Fungus excepts from their e-mails are below.

John Taylor (NWFSG) -

I called in at a park with a Maidenhair Tree, Ginkgo biloba, not yet in leaf. I knew its dead leaves hosted *Bartheletia paradoxa* and I collected one - only a few old leaves remain now. An ancient tree with an ancient fungus. The fungus was first thought to be ascomycete but it is a 'primitive' form of basidiomycete and limited to this host. This tiny species (and its host) are well documented in Mycological Research 112: (2008) 1265-1279. PDF available. Very strange. The basidia arise from teliospores!

This collection is recognisable as black circular pustules with rough surface (teliospores), up to 0.3 mm diameter, but new material, next leaf fall, may look like cups or even like blobs of milk in wet conditions. It may still be under-recorded. If your local Ginkgo has any, and I think most do, let me know. 1.

Jill Cunningham (NEFSG) -

I do a lot of rusts and microfungi so had a quick walk down to a couple of Ginkgo trees in Darlington. Wasn't hopeful as only small trees and could only find 3 old fallen leaves as the council had grass cut - but got lens out and was amazed to see that 2 had the fungus on them. Big grin - read email and found fungus 1hr later!

Bartheletia paradoxa. on Ginkgo biloba. dead leaf fallen. NZ262155. Parkland, Staindrop Road, Darlington. 11/04/20.



Mushroom Illustrations

The daughter of one of our southern members, Sue Antrobus, who some of you will have met at Clay Bank a couple of years ago does some beautiful artwork. Megan Dobbyn has recently been painting fungi and below is an example of her work. Her web site is megandobbyn.co.uk so please do have a look at it.

Orange Birch Bolete



Parrot Waxcap



Shaggy Inkcap



Chanterelle



Fungus New to the World

I qualified as a Forester in 1957 and took up the post as Assistant Forester at Pickering Forest, Newton Dale, Stape. In 1964 I was told to go, with no explanation, to the Pickering District office in the Liberal Club building on Smiddy Hill, Pickering. I attended a meeting with the Conservator and Assistant Conservator for NE England plus the District Officer. I was asked to start a new job, the first in Britain. The job was to, open up 10 Forestry Commission forests on the North York Moors and 1 on the Yorkshire Wolds for public recreation and commence wildlife conservation. Large areas of moorland etc were acquired by the Forestry Commission in the 1920s up to the 1950s because the estates could not afford to maintain or plant trees on their poorest lands. The estate staff were transferred to the FC in many instances and the estate foreman became the Forester in charge of most of the 11 forests. These new foresters practised the usual "Keep Out" policy of most estates. I was a grade below these Foresters but, luckily, they accepted my aims as they did not like taking groups around the forest or giving talks to societies. Wildlife conservation was a new job for most of the staff. The rangers employed on rabbit and pest control soon took up the task once I explained the status of my finds and any simple conservation work needed. It added more interest to their work. A District Officer was posted in 1964 from S England to take up the post at Helmsley District office and he said he could do the proposed work I had to carry out so I 'lost' 4 forests. This is just the basic description of the new job.

In 1970, after 6 years in the new job, the Civil Servants attached to the FC decided foresters should not be employed in special posts for more than 5 years so I was moved to Thetford Chase. Just before this autumn move I was walking in Wykeham forest and found a pale yellow spatulate fungus on a dead larch branch. I took a sample to Willis Bramley who spent a lot of time introducing me to fungi. Willis was a farmer at Fairburn Ings and he retired and moved to Pickering as his farm was subsiding due to coal mines under his land. He had seen nothing like this fungus so he sent it to Kew. He dealt with the correspondence because I moved soon after to Suffolk. I saw some of the correspondence. The first reply from Kew was the fungus resembled a species found by a Maori mycologist in Australasia but we could not use the proposed latin name as it had not to date been published. The latin species was related to the yellow blobs common on the top of gateposts etc and the specific name meant large head so I have not used the latin offered. A few years later somebody at Kew decide my type specimen did not match the Australasian species so he named it *Calocerapalidospathulata*. It is a little disappointing to me that it is now so common in N England. Now that I have retired to Torquay I have discovered there is not a record of it in Devon. After I am released from house and gardens confinement I must try to find it in Devon.

Gordon Simpson

Garden Fungi

‘Richard’s Day, 18/04/20, BMS Fungi in my Garden’ - Jill’s version.....

Well, Common Jelly Spot on a bench and peniophora cineria on Penstemon woody base branches were really the sum total - until I started hunting out the micros that I’d seen in February on various stems - and then I got a bit carried away..... I damp-bagged stems and dead leaves to encourage any ‘black dots’ to mature, (*look like something!*) - And yes some gained setae - colletotrichum - yeh! - As well as minute discos, that I’d not even noticed appearing too - yeh! (- and *oh no* - more microscopy!). Not to mention the rust, mildew and mould hunts - who needs Easter Eggs! I was willing mildews to appear - and the whoops of joy when I found a new one - cellotape and slides at the ready! My garden *is* thriving - but the list makes it seem like a parasitic hell! (There is a lot of dead material left in situ for the insects, so I guess it’s a good environment for the micro-fungi too.) I have learnt such a lot, including - the tinier the fungi = the longer the name = the many more synonyms! My iRecord input crashed, my eyes are shot, my brain is shot - I’m going to just look at the ‘pretty flowers in the sunshine’ ...for a while! I lied - I have just found.....



Hyalopeziza (unguicularia) millepunctata (and *colletotrichum dematium*) on Bleeding Heart stem.



Albugo (pustula) tragopogonis on Feverfew leaf.



Lachnella alboviolascens. on Lavender in Feb (and now Mint) stem.



Thyriostroma spiraeinum on Meadowsweet stem

Garden Fungi. 18/04/2020. NZ27421622. Cockerton, Darlington.
Jill Cunningham. NEFSG

- 1 *Albugo candida* - on *Honesty*, *lunaria annua*, and *Arabis*, living leaf.
- 2 *Albugo (pustula) tragopogonis (pustulata obtusa)* - on *Feverfew*, *tanacetum parthenium*, living leaf.
- 3 *Blumeria graminis* - rust on *Meadow grass*, *poa annularis*, living leaf.
- 4 *Coleosporium tussilaginis* - rust on *Bellflower*, *campanula persicifolia*, living leaf.
- 5 *Colletotrichum dematium* - on *phormium*, *dicentra*, *chives*, *crocsmia*, old dead leaves.
- 6 *Colletotrichum trichellum* - on *Ivy*, *hedera helix*, living leaf.
- 7 *Dacrymyces stillatus* - Common Jellyspot, on worked wood.
- 8 *Didymium squamulosum* - myxo on deciduous leaf litter, compost pile.
- 9 *Diplocarpon rosae* - on climbing rose, *rosa* sp, living leaf.
- 10 *Erysiphe (golovinomyces) magnicellulatus* - powdery mildew on tall *phlox* sp, living leaf.
- 11 *Golovinomyces asperifolii** (*was cynoglossi* agg) - on *Forget-me-not*, *myosotis* sp, living leaf.
- 12 *Golovinomyces orontii* - on *Snapdragon* and *penstemon*, *antirrhinum majus*, living leaf.
- 13 *Heteropatella antirrhini* - on *Purple Toadflax*, *linaria purpurea*, old dead stems.
- 14 *Paraconiothyrium fuckelii* (*Leptosphaeria coniothyrium*) - on *Raspberry*, *rubus idaes*, dead stems.
- 15 *Melampsora euphorbiae* - rust on *Petty Spurge*, *euphorbia peplus*, living leaf.
- 16 *Melampsora hypericorum* - rust on *Tutsan*, *hypericum androsaemum*, living leaf.
- 17 *Milesina kreigeriana* - on *Male Fern*, *dryopteris felis-mas*, over-wintered older leaves.
- 18 *Mycosphaerella brassicicola* - on *Winter Broccoli*, *brassica* sp, living/dead leaves.
- 19 *Mycosphaerella fragariae* - on *Garden Strawberry*, *fragaria* sp, living leaf attached.
- 20 *Peniophora cinerea* - on *Penstamon* sp, old woody stem bases.
- 21 *Hyaloperonospora parasitica* - downy mildew on *Wallflower*, *cheiranthus* sp, living leaf.
- 22 *Podosphaera (sphaerotheca) euphorbiae* - on *Spurge*, *euphorbia characias*, living leaf.
- 23 *Phoma (Phomatodes) nebulosa* - on *Hollyhock*, *alcea rosea*, old dead stems.
- 24 *Puccinia allii* - rust on *Chives*, *allium schoenoprasum*, old dead stem.
- 25 *Puccinia antirrhini* - rust on *Snapdragon*, *antirrhinum majus*, dead leaf attached.
- 26 *Puccinia lagenphorae* - on *Groundsel*, *senecio vulgaris*, living leaf.
- 27 *Puccinia lapsanae* - on *Nipplewort*, *lapsana communis*, living leaf.
- 28 *Puccinia malvacearum* - rust on *Hollyhock*, *alcea rosea*, living leaf.
- 29 *Pucciniastrum epilobii* - rust on *American Willowherb*, *epilobium ciliatum*, living leaf.
- 30 *Pyrenopeziza lychnidis* - on *Rose Champion*, *lychnis coronaria*, old dead stems.
- 31 *Rhizopus stolonifera* - in compost bin on rotting kitchen waste, veg peelings etc
- 32 *Thedgonia ligustrina* - on *Garden Privet*, *ligustrum ovalifolium*, living leaf.
- 33 *Torula herbarum* - on *Poppy*, *papaver somniferum*, and *papaver orientale*, old dead stems.
- 34 *Hyalopeziza (Unguicularia) millepunctata* - on *Bleeding Heart*, *dicentra spectabilis*, old dead stems.
- 35 *Uromyces beticola* - rust on *Chard*, *beta vulgaris*, living leaf.
- 36 *Uromyces muscarii* - rust on *Spanish Bluebell*, *hyacinthoides hispanica*, living leaf.
- 37 *botrytis cinerea* - on fruit/plant remains in compost bin.
- 38 *cladosporium* sp (*C. herbarum* not on record) - on *Sweet William*, *dianthus barbatus*, dead leaf.

(*Lachnella alboviolascens* - on *Lavender*, many in February on an old plant, old stems attached....I can still find a few but spores remain elusive)

**Golovinomyces asperifolii* was only separated from *g. cynoglossi* complex in 2018 so may not be on lists. It is the only one in this complex on *myosotis*.

After 18th -

Plus *lachnella alboviolascens* (!) with spores! - Now on old mint stems, found just as I was throwing bagged stems away.

And *thyriostroma spiraeinum* on dead *Meadowsweet* stems as I was cutting them back.

Eight Fungi Websites

fungi news, articles and features | New Scientist

<https://www.newscientist.com/article-topic/fungi>

Fungi's fabulous future in mental health and sustainable materials. The oldest **fungi** fossils have been identified in a Belgian museum. The torrid secret lives of truffles make Game of Thrones look ...

Fungus News -- ScienceDaily

https://www.sciencedaily.com/news/plants_animals/fungus

22/04/2020 · Fungus News. April 22, 2020 . Top Headlines . Using **Fungi** to Search for Medical Drugs. Nov. 26, 2019 — An enormous library of products derived from more than 10,000 **fungi** ...

BBC - Earth - Plants talk to each other using an internet ...

www.bbc.com/earth/story/20141111-plants-have-a-hidden-internet

11/11/2014 · **Plants talk to each other** using an internet of fungus Hidden under your feet is an information superhighway that allows plants to communicate and help each other out. It's made of **fungi**

BBC - Earth - Six bizarre things about fungi

www.bbc.com/earth/story/20150202-six-bizarre-things-about-fungi

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- Fungi gave us alcohol. It's impossible to write an article praising fungi without first thanking ...
- Mushrooms make their own wind. Yeasts produce ethanol in striking quantities, but mushrooms can ...
- Some fungi make zombies. While some fungi produce their own wind, other fungi produce the stuff ...
- One fungus accelerates faster than any other organism on Earth. When it comes to maximizing ...

[See full list on bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)

The secret life of fungi: Ten fascinating facts - BBC News

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-45486844>

12/09/2018 · But **fungi** also recycle nutrients and play a role in the regulation of carbon dioxide levels. "We ignore **fungi** at our peril," says Prof Willis. "This is a kingdom we have to start to take seriously ..

BBC - Earth - Ten of the UK's most stunning fungi

www.bbc.co.uk/earth/story/...of-the-uks-most-colourful-and-beautiful-fungi

21/09/2015 · Ten of the **UK's most stunning fungi** As the woods and grasslands come alive with

Fungi and Lichens - Woodland Trust

<https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/trees-woods-and-wildlife/fungi-and-lichens>

Magical and mistrusted. Toadstools and mushrooms are associated with ancient taboos, dung, death and decomposition. But trees rely on **fungi** and we're just starting to understand how close this relationship is: great networks that link and support trees and woodland life.

The Fungus Among Us: Fungal Folklore

www.virtualmuseum.ca/.../champignons-mushrooms/English/Folklore/index.html

The Fungus Among Us: Fungal Folklore Fungal Folklore The strange forms and mysterious habits of **fungi** have enchanted observers of nature throughout history.

- [The Fungus Among Us](#) · [FUNGAL FOLK REMEDIES](#) · [FUNGI AND WITCHCRAFT](#)

NB Please download the Wood Wise Journals that come at the bottom of the link .

Fabulous Fungi

Forest Flora

Secrets of the Soil

Ancient Trees

All excellent reads !

Lichen Lookout

I thought I'd do something different this time and show you some of the lichens that are growing in my garden. Mostly common ones but the *Xanthoria polycarpa* and *Arthonia radiata* were nice to find.



Arthonia radiata on Acer



Aspicilla contorta on concrete sun-dial pedestal



Lecanora muralis on sandstone paving



Melanelixia subaurifera on metal garden table



Phycia adscendens on metal garden chair



Phycia caesia on metal garden table



Xanthoria parietina on metal garden chair and various twigs and branches.

Xanthoria polycarpa on metal garden chair



These small lichens are growing on sawn wood on the pergola. The yellow one is a caloplaca, there is a Lecanora possibly of the 'albescense group' and some small black apothecia that I don't know. From a photograph I sent to Doug he has some ideas about what they are but needs to see the real thing before he can be certain. I'm also sure that if Doug looked in the garden he would find many more tiny lichens!!