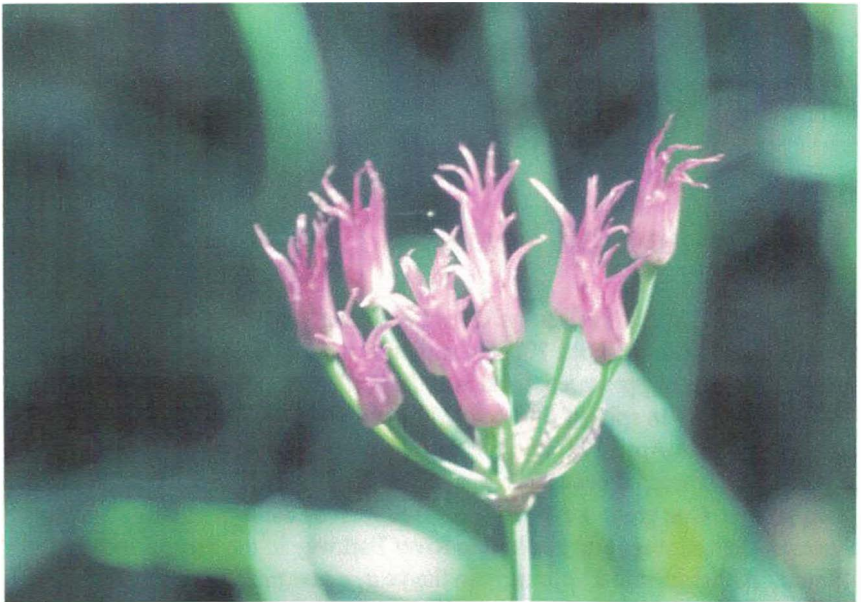




THE FUNGOPHILE



SUMMER 2003 EDITION OF THE MUSHROOM SOCIETY OF UTAH NEWSLETTER

Flower head of a Wild Onion, try some of this plant
snipped over a baked potato.

Inside

Msu Officers 2

Hot (and dry) News

2003—The Fifth Year 2

A Second Look 3

GOOD-BYE *Lycoperdon*

pyriforme? 3

Sales Promotion ??? 4

Fall Foray insert

Mushroom Pages ... inserts

Dues & Membership Info . 4

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Letters to the Editor may be addressed to MSU Fungophile, 2373 East 6660 South, Salt Lake City, UT 84121. MSU Fungophile is published by the Mushroom Society of Utah and is mailed to all current members. To become a member or to renew your membership, please complete the form on the back cover and return it with your check to MSU.

2003—The Fifth Year

The fifth year of drought, that is. Another year of dry and hot weather has helped to dampen (dampen ???) the spirits of western mycophiles and, as this newsletter is being prepared, Utah is well on it's way to having the hottest July on record. In spite of the heat, MSU members have had a surprisingly good year. Our April 19 foray (the first attempt at an April outing in several years) was at least a modest success. MSU foray participants separated into two groups. One group traveled to the area west of the airport while the other group went to investigate the Jordan River Parkway in the vicinity of 4800 South. Although still a little early in the year, a few mushrooms were collected: *Agaricus bitorquis*, *Agaricus sp.*, *Coprinus micaceus*, *C. atramentarius*, *Flammulina velutipes*, *Hebeloma sp.*, *Pleurotus sp.*, one small specimen of *Stropharia semiglobata*, and several specimens of "yellow" morels from the *Morchella esculenta* group were typical of finds reported from one or both locations.

It certainly would be fair to call our May 17 foray to Millcreek canyon a slice of "morel heaven." After a slow start hunting along the road by the upper canyon gate, the group moved up to the terraces area where everyone who wanted morels got morels. Baskets, buckets, and bags were brimming with beautiful "black" morels from the *Morchella elata/angusticeps/conica* complex by lunchtime. As an added bonus, *Coprinus comatus*, fresh and in large multi-pound quantities, was fruiting around the concrete picnic table pads. What a pleasure to see so many smiles on so many faces!

If you don't remember the last time it rained on a MSU foray, then you must not have been in Big Cottonwood canyon on June 21. A cool misty moist

morning was perfect for collecting a fine sampling of western snowbank and spring mushrooms: *Caloscypha fulgens*, *Clitocybe albirhiza*, *Collybia* sp., *Cortinarius* sp., *Crepidotus* sp., *Discina perlata*, *Guepiniopsis alpina*, *Hygrophorus marzuolus*, *Lyophyllum montanum*, *Plectania nannfeldtii*, *Pycnoporellus alboluteus*, *Tyromyces leucospongia*, and a few LBM's. The big news of the day was the massive fruitings of *Gyromitra gigas*. Those who are not intimidated by this mushroom were able to collect all that they could use and more. It was an impressive thing to find patch after patch of a half-dozen or more large specimens in prime condition. Also worthy of note were several small discomycetes found on twigs and dead grass. Those with good eyes and/or a hand lens were treated to the fabulous sight of tiny cups in orange, chartreuse, lime green and yellow, all of which, sadly, have gone unidentified.

July 19, Mirror Lake foray can be summed up simply: hot, dry, and surprisingly unproductive. Not to complain, but it's a good thing the Mirror Lake area is worth visiting for its beauty alone because it's a long way to go to find only a couple of small specimens of *Gymnopilus* sp.(X2), *Leccinum fibrillosum*, *Suillus brevipes*, and one collection of the Myxomycete *Lycogala epidendrum*. Oh, well. The forecast is for cooler temperatures with afternoon and evening thundershowers. Let's hope that turns out to be the case for the next month—or two.

Happy Hunting,
Mark

A Second Look

Later in the same day it has been reported that a few boletus edulis were found along the North end of the Mirror Lake road, toward Evanston. It would appear the Northern side of the slope had received a bit more moisture than the rest of the Uinta's. One lucky mushroom hunter has two gallon bags of 'dried' porcini towards the 2003 collection.

GOOD-BYE *Lycoperdon pyriforme*?

Most of us have collected the common edible *Lycoperdon pyriforme*. In our mountains, this approximately 1" pear shaped whitish (when young) puffball is found in the summer and fall. The attachment of this mushroom to decaying coniferous and deciduous wood substrates by prominent ropey mycelial strands is a distinctive identifying feature. In one of the latest examples of things to come, DNA studies of *L. pyriforme* suggest a wide genetic separation between this mushroom and other members of the genus *Lycoperdon*. Based on these analyses, researchers Dirk Kruger and Hanns

Kreisel have proposed transferring *L. pyriforme* to the wood-inhabiting genus *Morganella*. The new name would be *Morganella pyriformis*. Feel free to continue calling it "the pear-shaped puffball," but be advised that, as this type of research into the kingdom Fungi continues, old genera will be split and new genera will be proposed, species will be re-assigned to new taxonomic homes and names will change. Even with new names or baffling re-assignments, the mushrooms are still the same mushrooms, and we would do well to welcome these changes as indications of an ultimately beneficial and increasingly sophisticated understanding of the relationships between species.

A sales promotion on Porcini ???

For those who have had enough competition in the sport of hunting for *Boletus edulis*, the Costco store on 53rd South, at times, has dried porcini available for \$8.99 for 7 ounces, in a plastic bottle. The product is imported from China. I've not tried it, so I don't know if it's any different from our own variety, but it might be worth a try at that price. I've seen it at Granado's for \$50.00 a pound. In Switzerland it reportedly sells for around \$300.00 per pound.

Joining MSU

\$15 Family Membership in MSU

\$47 Family Membership plus membership in NAMA

\$30 Student Membership in MSU and NAMA

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

Family membership includes all members of your household. Make check payable to MSU and send to: Ronna Conlon, Membership Secretary, Mushroom Society of Utah, 143 East Gregson, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115-3818. Any questions, you can reach Ronna at (801) 486-2717.



mushroom
SOCIETY OF UTAH

Annual Fall Foray to the High Uinta's
August 22, 23, & 24, 2003

Francis Town Hall
½ Block South of the stoplight
Francis, Utah

Mushroom display

Francis is located 2 miles South of Kamas. Kamas is 45 minutes from Salt Lake City. Take I-80 East to exit 148 Denver/Heber, take highway 40 East 2 miles to exit 4 (Salt Lake City/Kamas). Follow signs to Kamas. Turn right at first intersection in Kamas, go 2 miles South to Francis. The display will be open to the public till 9:00 PM on Friday and Saturday, and till noon on Sunday.

Orientation classes

We will have classes to give the basics on when and where to find mushrooms.

Mushroom contest
For the kids. Prizes for the most colorful, most unique, and smallest.

Guided Mushroom Hunts

Members of MSU who are familiar with the area will conduct guided tours with small groups into the Wasatch National Forest along the Mirror Lake highway.

Group Camping

We will not be reserving a group campground this year. There will be a group of individual campers staying at Coblerest Campground. This will strictly be on a first come, first served basis. Coblerest is located about 20 miles up the Mirror Lake Highway.

-----Detach here and mail before August 15th-----

Name _____ # of Adults _____
Children _____ \$ _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Total enclosed (do not send cash if mailing registration) \$ _____

Members \$12 per adult,

Nonmembers \$18, under 18 free when with an adult.

Save \$\$, Join MSU now and pay the member price for the foray.

Mushroom Hunts

Whether you go on a guided field trip or freelance, the following items are recommended:

1. Waxed paper or paper bags, for wrapping your collections.
2. Trowel, for digging up mushrooms.
3. Pencil and Notebook, for notes on surrounding conditions.
4. Basket or Daypack, for carrying your equipment and collections.
5. Lunch or snacks, canteen.
6. Field Guide, MSU recommends the 'Peterson Field Guide to Mushrooms', by Kent H. Mcknight/Vera B. Mcknight; 'Mushrooms Demystified' by David Arora., or 'Mushrooms of Utah' by Don Johnston.

Foray Schedule

Friday, August 22, 2003

5:00 PM Organize display

Saturday, August 23

9:30 AM Orientation Class

for novices

Guided mushroom hunts

Mushroom identification

Display open to public

Mushroom contests

6:30 Potluck dinner at the

Francis Town Hall

Sunday, August 24

Informal review and

discussion

Make check payable to MSU

Send check and registration form
to:

MSU c/o Art Dyck

847 East Canyon Breeze Lane

Draper, UT 84020

For further information phone

Mark Cannon at 801-466-5124

or

Don Johnston at 801-942-0637

Species	spore color	date published
<i>Calocypha fulgens</i>	hyaline	07 02
<i>Discina perlata</i>	hyaline	01 02
<i>Gyromitra gigas</i>	hyaline	01 02
<i>Morchella elata</i>	hyaline	01 02
<i>Scutellinia scutellata</i>	hyaline	11 02
<i>Verpa bohemica</i>	hyaline	04 02
<i>Amanita vaginata</i>	white	07 03
<i>Armillariella mellea</i>	white	01 02
<i>Auricularia auricula</i>	white	01 02
<i>Cantharellus cibarius</i>	white	01 02
<i>Clitocybe albirhiza</i>	white	04 02
<i>Flammulina velutipes</i>	white	01 02
<i>Hohenbuehelia petaloides</i>	white	07 02
<i>Laccaria laccata</i>	white	07 02
<i>Lentinellus montanus</i>	white	01 02
<i>Lyophyllum montanum</i>	white	01 02
<i>Marasmius oreades</i>	white	01 02
<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i>	white	01 02
<i>Pycnoporellus alboluteus</i>	white	04 03
<i>Russula emetica</i>	white	01 02
<i>Guepiniopsis alpinus</i>	yellowish	07 02
<i>Cryptoporus volvatus</i>	tan, pinkish	04 03
<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>	brown	11 02
<i>Leccinum insigne</i>	brown	04 02
<i>Sarcodon imbricatus</i>	brown	04 02
<i>Suillus brevipes</i>	brown	01 02
<i>Boletus edulis</i>	brown, olive	01 02
<i>Calvatia booniana</i>	brown, olive	07 02
<i>Conocybe lactea</i>	brown, cinn	04 03
<i>Pholiota destruens</i>	brown, cinn	11 02
<i>Galerina autumnalis</i>	brown, rust	04 02
<i>Pholiota squarrosa</i>	brown, rust	07 02
<i>Agrocybe praecox</i>	brown, rich	02 02
<i>Agaricus campestris</i>	brown, dark	07 03
<i>Coprinus atramentarius</i>	black	02 02
<i>Coprinus comatus</i>	black	04 02
<i>Coprinus micaceus</i>	black	04 02
<i>Panaeolus foenisecii</i>	black	07 03

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<i>Morchella elata</i>	01 02
<i>Verpa bohemica</i>	04 02
<i>Discina perlata</i>	01 02
<i>Gyromitra gigas</i>	01 02
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<i>Scutellinia scutellata</i>	11 02
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