

NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSN.

(formerly)



~~Lakeland Mycology Club LMC~~

Meetings 2nd Sunday Nov. - April 1:30 p.m.  
Morris County Outdoor Education Center,  
247 Southern Blvd., Chatham, New Jersey

N.J.M.A. News May 1975  
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Editor - Vic Gambino

Report on Morel Hunt

The light rain May 4 did not deter an enthusiastic group of 20 members and friends from starting our 1975 foray season at Jenny Jump state forest.

Ed Bosman, past president, drove in from Connecticut where he is starting a new group to be known as the Connecticut Valley Mycological Assn. His guest, a charter member and novice mushroom picker displayed typical beginners luck with her morel find.

A new member, Bunji Tawaga and his wife drove in from Brooklyn. Bunji is the artist who drew that beautiful March Scientific American cover.

Some morels were found, but all agreed that the late spring this year would extend the morel season to the end of May.

Booklet Mailed

"Mycophagist's Corner" a small pamphlet of mushroom recipes, and the first publication of our society has been mailed to each member. Additional copies are available at fifty cents each. The supply is limited.

McIlvaine '75 Foray

Gete Turchick and Vic Gambino have been asked to serve on NAMA's foray committee. The committee will meet on June 7th and we will report further at that time.

The Foray will be held at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, August 29-31 1975. Due to our association with NAMA all of our members are eligible to attend, and are urged to register quickly as attendance is limited to 300.

Driving Instructions for May 18th Foray

The May 18 foray will be held at Heddon Park in Dover, N.J. at 10:00 AM. Heddon Park is a county park, and is not shown on most maps.

Take Route 80 to the Route 513 exit to Dover. Follow Route 513 South through Dover and on to Prospect Street until it intersects with Reservoir Ave. Take Reservoir Ave. to Heddon Park entrance. We will meet at the Second Parking Lot.

Route 10 and Route 46 also intersect with Route 513 and may be used if coming from the South. Follow Route 513 to Reservoir Ave. as above.

## HOW MUSHROOMS ARE NAMED

From A. H. Smith and other Sources

The binomial system of naming plants was first proposed by Carolus Von Linnaeus in 1753. Its purpose was to end the confusion that existed at that time when plant names varied from country to country and even from locality to locality. Latin, the international scientific language of that day was a natural choice to use for codifying plant nomenclature.

The system created two basic categories into which all plants fall. The first is called Species and the second is called Genus. Species is the basic unit and may be defined as one of a kind of plant which can breed with one another and reproduce its kind. Genus is a group of species all of which possess certain characteristics in common.

The name of any plant therefore consists of only two words; the name of the genus or generic name and the species epithet. Agaricus campestris for instance is the name of the common meadow mushroom, Agaricus is the generic name and is always given first and capitalized, and campestris is the species epithet.

It is a fact that many of the latin names used in most books on mushrooms are not correct if judged by present knowledge of fungi. Many are incorrect if judged by our present code of rules and others have been outdated by a more precise knowledge of the relationships of the species to each other.

Scientists often disagree on which name should be used. Differences exist concerning the limits of variability of a species. Some investigators prefer a broad concept creating subdivisions into subspecies, varieties and forms whereas others regard subspecies and varieties as distinct species.

Often investigation finds that the same plant may have been named twice, as an author may have incorrectly placed a species into a certain genus, later another investigator finds the same plant, and searching the records of the correct genera, is unable to locate the plant, considers it new and gives the plant another name. A third investigator discovering this conflict will place the fungi in the correct genera, and maintain the original species epithet, as the validity of a name is determined on the basis of prior publication.

These are just a few reasons for the bewildering changes being made in all plant nomenclature, particularly mushrooms.

Continual study has also brought about a better understanding of species, which has to be reflected in nomenclature changes, to do otherwise would be to stop all progress in the field of taxonomy.