

NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSN. (formerly)

Lakeland Mysology Club LIMC

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Volume V No. 6 Editor Vic Gambino

N J M A News June :

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

The following is reprinted from "Spores Afield" the organ of the Colorado Mycological Society:

"I WAS ASKED A QUESTION....

I was asked at the April meeting, "Will our mountain mushrooms survive the pressure of the burgeoning population of mushroom hunters?"

I gave the usual response. Picking a mushroom is like picking an apple. The tree, equivalent to the mycelium of the mushroom, lives to fruit again next year. Each mushroom, furthermore, releases far more spores than necessary for the species to survive. A four-inch cap, for example, produces about sixteen billion spores.

As I rode home after the meeting I was struck by the complacency of my answer. I thought of other resources we depleted with similarly glib explanations.

I think now that the proper answer is CONSERVATION. As an example, the state of California has decreed that a person may collect no more than five pounds of mushrooms in a state park.

It is time for us to <u>be concerned</u> and to <u>express</u> our concern, to establish and promote collecting guidelines that follow sound principles.

We are challenged to establish a mushroom conservation code!

Manny Salzman (Pres. CMS)

DRIVING INSTRUCTIONS FOR JUNE 15 FORAY

The Tourne can be located on your N.J. road map. Route 80 runs nearby, as does Route 287. The easiest access is by way of Mountain Lakes Boulevard which is opposite "Neil's New Yorker" on Route 46 between the Cherry Hill and Denville exits of Route 80.

Take Route 80 to either of these exits and proceed on Route 46, continuing in the same direction from which you came. Take Boulevard North for approximately two miles. At the first fork, bear left onto Elcock Avenue towards Powerville, for approximately two blocks. The entrance sign to the Tourne is on the left.

Proceed to the second parking lot (near the baseball field).

BUTCHERING SCIENTIFIC LATIN NAMES

In botany every plant is identified officially one way only, by its Latin name. The November 1967 bulletin of the Boston Mycological Club states:

"Confusion exists on how to pronounce Latin names of mushrooms. In order to clarify the picture, the Club library acquired the New Latin Grammar by Charles E. Bennett, published by Allyn and Bacon in 1963. This book is today followed by 98% of all Secondary schools, colleges and universities in the USA, and so it is official. It follows the Hepburn System used widely in Europe in all the Romance languages, Polish, and for the 'Romanjii' conversion of foreign alphabets to our own as in Russian and in other Far-East tongues. European and even English botanists Hepburnize their Latin names of plants, whereas in the USA too, too many people use 'modified (slang) American'."

The February 1968 BMC bulletin offers the following brief standards.

CONSONANT DEPARTURES FROM ENGLISH

C is always hard as K and there is NO EXCEPTION. As there is no K in Latin, C had to be hard. Scholars felt that if Romans of ancient history (days) wanted an S sound, they always used an S.

G is always hard as in GET; niger - NEE-GAYER.

J sounds like Y in YOU; sejunctunctum - SAY-YOONK-TOOM.

V is like W; velutipes - WAY-LOO-TEE-PAYSS.

VOWEL DEPARTURES FROM ENGLISH

A as in father.

E as in they (or short as in met).

I as in machine (or short as in pin).

U as in rude, (or short as in put).

Y like French U, German U.

Two vowels of a dipthong are pronounced as above but slurred together as one syllable.

The accent usually occurs on the penultimate syllable unless obviously short. We offer pertinent botanical examples below.

Amanita caesaria - AH-MAH-NEE-TAH KAI-SAH-RHEEYA
Bolbitius - BOL-BEE-TEE-OOS (not BOL-BEE-SHEE-OOS)
Boletus edulis - BOH-LAY-TOOS AY-DOO-LEES
Cantharellus - CAHN-TAH-RAIL-LOOS
Clitocybe multiceps - KLEE-TOH-KUH-BAY MOOL-TEE-CAPES
Coprinus micaceus - CO-PREE-NOOS MEE-KAH-KAYOOS
Hygrophorus puniceus - HUH-GRO-POH-ROOS POO-NEE-KAYOOS
Mycena pura - MUH-KAY-NAH POO-RAH
Russula virescens - ROO-SOO-LAH WEE-RACE-KENSS

The March 1975 issue of Scientific American has an excellent article on <u>Poisonous</u> Mushrooms by W. Litten which is must reading for mushroom hunters.

The following is a condensation of just one of the minor threads weaving thru this eleven page article, the appearance in North America of the Amanita phalloides.

In North America A. phalloides has been considered rare but in the past few years it has been implicated in at least two incidents of Mushroom poisoning including two deaths.

The principal identifying marks of the Amanitas are the volva and the annulus or ring hanging loosely from the stipe. This might suggest that identifying the deadly Amanitas is a simple matter. Actually there are variations from the norm and intergradations between species that can make the task a perilous one. Even accomplished mycologists have erred; indeed confusion persisted for at least three decades over the status of A. phalloides in North America. It is becoming evident

that A. phalloides is widely distributed and that it can be found in the East.

Rumor has it that A. phalloide makes a tasty dish. In most cases it is not swallowed innocently by a child but is eaten deliberately upon being pronounced fit for the table after having been tested to see if it turned a silver spoon or coin black. Safety consists of knowing exactly what one is eating and that knowledge can often be attained only by discerning subtle features of fungal anatomy.

A. phalloides must now be considered a suspect in cases of mushroom poisoning in the U.S. The mycelium in Rochester, N.Y. has fruited each fall for three years, the species has been reported in other regions and it must now be regarded as being established. There remains a question of why it suddenly appeared in the U.S. in 1970. It seems probable that it immigrated as bits of hyphae on rootlets of nursery stock from Europe and has taken time to bear its lethal fruit



AMANITA PHALLOIDES



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