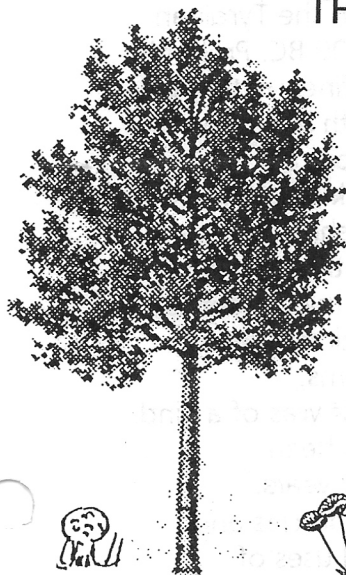


NJMA news

VOL. 23 #6

NOV-DEC 1993

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW JERSEY MYCOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION



OFFICERS:

Hanna Tschekunow, President
Dorothy Smullen, Vice President
Grete Turchick, Treasurer
Michele Stewart, Secretary
Sue Hopkins,

CIRCULATION:

EDITORS:

Alex Adams & Carol Titus

DEADLINE:

DUES:

10th OF EACH EVEN-NUMBERED MONTH
CALENDAR YEAR: \$10 EACH OR \$15/FAM
Mail checks (payable to NJMA)
to: Grete Turchick

* * * * *



CALENDAR

- NOV 07 *Trees and Mushrooms* - SCEEC (Lecture by Dorothy Smullen)
DECEMBER No meeting. Take the time to read all those mushroom books.
JAN 02 Annual Meeting and Holiday Party
Photo Contest
Election of Officers.
Festivities start at 2pm - SCEEC
(See this newsletter for details. Don't leave home without it!)

Directions to SCEEC (Somerset Co. Environmental Ed. Center 908-766-2489). Route 287 to the North Maple Ave./Basking Ridge exit. Follow N. Maple Ave. as it bends left and becomes S. Maple Ave. in town. Follow S. Maple Ave. past Lord Stirling Stables. Make a left on Lord Stirling Road (Great Swamp sign on right). SCEEC is about a mile. Park in the lot, NOT in front. **Your contribution to refreshments (snacks or cash) is much appreciated. Starts 2 PM.**

Don't Miss These NJMA Programs

NOV 07 - TREES AND MUSHROOMS

by our vice-president Dorothy Smullen. Learn about the mycorrhizal relationships between these seemingly unrelated organisms. Become aware that a good tree spotter is often a good mushroom finder.

JAN 02 - ANNUAL MEETING

and HOLIDAY PARTY by all of us. Come to vote for and show your support for the officers that make things happen for the club.

YOU STILL HAVE TIME to enter the PHOTO CONTEST. Add to the enjoyment of this traditional event - even if you have only one slide. Gene Varney

() will accept slides until Nov 8 so you may send them or give them to Gene at the November 07 meeting.

See the Sept-Oct issue of *NJMA News* for contest rules.

The REFRESHMENTS are always anticipated at this meeting. Please bring snack and finger foods to share. (Hanna suggests "sweet" or "salty") Perhaps you have some home-baked goodies left from your holiday feasts.

* * * * *

DUES ARE DUE

\$10. one year individual membership
\$15. one year household membership
Pay Treasurer Grete Turchick at the November or January meeting or send her a check (made out to NJMA) to

Uses of Mushrooms by Stone Age People Linked to Scientific Findings Today

from Fall 1992 "Spores Illustrated", the journal for the Connecticut Westchester Mycological Association.

An article in July in the New York Times reported on the finding of a mummified corpse of a man who died in the Tyrolean Alps between 3500 and 3000 BC. Probably a shepherd, the man wore finely stitched leather clothing and had with him plentiful equipment, including a copper ax, quiver and arrows, and a birch bark box. "Also of great interest were two mushrooms, each on a leather strap, and first thought to be kindling" Reinhold Poder, a microbiologist at the University of Innsbruck who has studied one of the mushrooms, *Piptoporous betulinus*, said it was of a kind whose antibiotic effects had been recognized for at least 2000 years.

NOTE: We wish to feature articles and information about medicinal uses of mushrooms in a future newsletter. If you have anything to contribute, please send the material or pass it to the editors at a meeting. Address on front page.

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Don't Miss a Single Issue!!!

Strange things happen to mail sometimes. If you do not receive your newsletter - and you have waited until the 15th of odd months (starting in January), drop Sue Hopkins a post card. She will get you your news "post haste". See front page for her address.



FABULOUS FUNGUS FEST 1993

Well, one of our great annual events, the Fungus fest, is over. And what a success it was! The chairperson this year was Herbert Pohl who did a marvelous job. Everything from beginning to end went like precision work. Herb was aided in absentia by his wife Ursula, who had been chairing the Fungus Fest for several years; she was in Scotland mushrooming and dyeing with mushrooms. A lot of the initial footwork was done by Ursula and we thank both of them very much for all their work.

An event like this is an opportunity for us to acquaint the general public with amateur mycology. Thanks to the many participants from our club we were able to present the many aspects of mushrooming. Dr. Eugene Varney's display on cultivation of mushrooms was well received. Herbert Pohl, besides chairing the event, managed to have an exhibit on dyeing with mushrooms. Ray Fatto, Aaron Norarevian, and Lynn Sherman were very busy with mushroom identification, which was a very important part of the day. I imagine it's quite nerve wracking to be bombarded from all sides with questions on this matter. There didn't seem to be enough time to speak to everyone. Dorothy Smullen and Ed Ledner ran the scientific exhibit which gave people some of the basics of mycology. Marjory Flory took care of the book table with a warm smile and bits of mushroom information.

The two Bobs were lending their talents, as usual, Bob Peabody with his classic presentation of the "Foolproof Four", which he so ably embellishes with his personal experiences and Bob Hosh with his fascinating cooking demonstration. Bernice Fatto and Janice Vansant were our friendly ambassadors at the membership table and Genia Hosh and Tamara Homer fulfilled a similar function, greeting people at the entrance and accepting donations. There were wonderful exhibits of mushroom art and crafts, and a display of mushroom themes on T-shirts, brought in by our members. In that same area there were carefully arranged dioramas concerning tree eating fungi. I had set up my toxicology table and was given beautiful, huge specimens of amanita muscaria for my demonstration.

The public was invited to go on mushroom walks which took place every 30 minutes, as well as a slide show. Gene Yetter and "Sam" were there ("Ask Sam" is the name of the computerized mycology program) and many people showed interest when they were given a demonstration. The press was represented by a reporter from the Courier News and some of you may have seen the article already. At least thirty new members signed up and the proceeds from donations were 460 dollars.

This day would not have been successful without the participation of the many dedicated volunteers who helped with setting up on Saturday, with the nature walks, with providing lunch for our workers and wherever else help was needed behind the scenes. Although we cannot mention everyone by name, you can be sure that your help was noticed and very much appreciated. After a thorough clean up all volunteers met at our vice president, Dorothy Smullen's house for a delicious pot luck supper as a fitting reward.

Hanna Tschekunow



NEW BOOKS

A Guide to Kansas Mushrooms; by Bruce Horn, Richard Kay, and Dean Abel; Pub. by University Press of Kansas, 2501 West 15th St., Lawrence, KS 66049-3904; 297 pp., Paperback \$19.95, Cloth \$29.95.

The Great Plains seldom come to mind when one thinks of mycological havens, but there are areas in the prairie states that are abundantly wooded and have rich mushroom floras. Kansas is such a state. Richard Kay has compiled a list of 727 mushrooms from Kansas. In *A Guide to Kansas Mushrooms*, 150 species of these are illustrated.

The guide has the usual introductory material. Line drawings are few and include mushroom anatomy and representative spores. Other introductory chapters deal with specifics relating to Kansas fungi or topics not included in other field guides. A chapter presents a brief history of mycology in Kansas. It is interesting to note that early modern studies on Kansas fungi were conducted by Clark T. Rogerson and Robert L. Shaffer, familiar names in mycology. Another chapter deals with Kansas habitats. A table is devoted to the monthly occurrences of the 150 species pictured. Following each species' name are the months of the year in which each has been

found and a designation by one of four letters (A-D) as to whether the fungus is common (A) to distinctly rare (D). Separate chapters are devoted to mushroom photography and microscopy techniques. Both discussions treat these topics in greater detail than one finds in most field guides.

The authors' advise that to identify many fungi, including edibles, one needs to consult technical literature where heavy emphasis is placed on microscopic characters. They give an informative discussion of the parts and usage of the microscope followed by a brief discussion of several microscopic characters; however, the guide does not utilize microscopic characters in the keys and only spore characteristics are in the descriptions.

The back of the book contains 3 appendixes and a glossary. The first appendix is a summary of fungal classification of fleshy Basidiomycotina and Ascomycotina, listing those genera known from Kansas. The second appendix is entitled "A lifelist for the Kansas Mycophile" and lists 548 species alphabetically by genus. The final appendix is an introduction to Latin pronunciation.

The descriptive portion of the guide has a unique title: "An Anthology of Kansas Mushrooms". The key is to the ten orders of Ascomycotina and Basidiomycotina found in the guide. The Agaricales and Aphyllorphales then have keys to families, while the remaining orders key directly to genus-species. While 150 taxa are illustrated, nearly 240 species can be keyed. Taxa in the key but not illustrated are discussed under the most closely related illustrated taxa. Each species is numbered,

allowing easy access from the keys to the description. The photographs are placed next to the descriptions and in general are sharp, of excellent color quality, and illustrate diagnostic features.

Treatment of each species is headed by the scientific name (but no authority), common name, and one or two words regarding the edible/poisonous status. Then comes a discussion of the species: important diagnostic features, ecology, toxicity/edibility notes, and discussion of similar species. Following this is a brief technical description with minimal jargon.

Slightly more than half the total taxa illustrated are agarics and boletes. In comparison, several field guides that I scanned have a higher percentage of these two. The lack of native conifers perhaps accounts in part for the diminished proportion of agarics and boletes represented. Polypores are well represented in the guide, 28 taxa can be keyed. Anyone who has led mushroom walks or has taught a class during dry years knows that polyporaceous fungi may be the only fungi to come in, so it is nice to see so many of these taxa treated in a popular guide.

I highly recommend this book. It is nicely suited for the beginner and has sufficient detail to satisfy the advanced student. Importantly, it introduces the reader to the fungi of Kansas. Even though it is a regional treatment it will be useful in other areas, especially for those living in regions dominated by hardwood forests.

Reviewed by Clark L. Ovrebo

TWENTY-FIVE MOST COMMON MUSHROOMS IN OUR AREA

The table below lists the 25 mushrooms most commonly found on COMA walks and forays. It is based on the 67 club-sponsored walks in 1990, 1991, and 1992 and on the first 17 Clark Rogerson Forays. For those of us eager to increase our mastery of mushroom identification, the list should serve as a good starting point.

Gary Lincoff went over the first 16 annual Clark Rogerson (COMA) Foray checklists (from 1976 through 1991) and found that 7 species had been recorded each year; that 72 had appeared 12 or more times; and that 146 had appeared more than 8 times. With the addition of the checklist for 1992, whereon each of the 7 was included, the table below includes 17 Rogerson Forays.

The 7 species that made each annual Rogerson Foray checklist are *Armillariella mellea*, *Laccaria laccata*, *Hydnum repandum*, *Trametes versicolor*, *Stereum complicatum*, *Lycoperdon perlatum*, and *Scleroderma citrinum*. Of these, only *Hydnum (Dentinum) repandum* doesn't make the list of 25.

A brief reference to each of the 25 mushrooms follows the table, including its common name, the page number of the text description, and the number of the photograph in the Audubon Guide to North American Mushrooms. Comments are added to some listings.

	1975-1992 Rogerson Forays	1990 22 walks	1991 22 walks	1992 23 walks	Total Times Recorded	
1	<i>Pluteus cervinus</i>	16	10	11	9	46
2	<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	17	9	8	11	45
3	<i>Tyromyces chioneus</i>	16	6	9	11	42
4	<i>Daedalopsis confrogosa</i>	15	4	8	10	37
5	<i>Mycena galericulata</i>	14	7	8	7	36
6	<i>Scleroderma citrinum</i>	17	5	7	7	36
7	<i>Trichapatum biformis</i>	15	7	5	9	36
8	<i>Armillariella mellea</i>	17	4	8	5	34
9	<i>Tricholomopsis platyphylla</i>	11	7	7	8	33
10	<i>Laccaria laccata</i>	17	6	6	3	32
11	<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	15	8	4	5	32
12	<i>Lycogala epidendrum</i>	12	6	6	7	31
13	<i>Panellus stipticus</i>	14	2	6	9	31
14	<i>Amanita citrina</i>	16	3	6	5	30
15	<i>Stereum complicatum</i>	17	4	3	5	29
16	<i>Chlorociboria aeruginascens</i>	13	4	7	3	27
17	<i>Mycena haematopus</i>	13	5	4	5	27
18	<i>Oudemansiella radicata</i>	14	5	3	4	26
19	<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>	12	5	3	5	25
20	<i>Collybia dryophila</i>	13	3	8	1	25
21	<i>Lycoperdon perlatum</i>	17	3	2	3	25
22	<i>Scutellinia scutellata</i>	16	7	0	2	25
23	<i>Amanita gemmata</i>	14	2	7	1	24
24	<i>Cantherellus cinnabarinus</i>	11	1	5	5	22
25	<i>Lactarius deceptivus</i>	14	2	6	0	22

THE BIG TWENTY-FIVE

(Continued from preceding page)

[Page and photo numbers refer to the Audubon Guide to North American Mushrooms]

- **Pluteus cervinus** - (Fawn Mushroom, Deer Mushroom) - text, p. 675; photos 231,232. It has been collected every month of COMA's walk schedule.
- **Trametes versicolor** - (Turkey-tail Polypore) - text, p.489, photo 482. It has been collected every month of COMA's walk schedule.
- **Tyromyces chioneus** - (White Cheese Polypore) - text, p. 491, photo 490. It is also known as Polyporus albellus. It too has been collected every month of the walk schedule.
- **Daedalopsis confragosa** - (Thin-Walled Maze Polypore) -text, p. 454, photo 481. The pattern of the pores usually resembles a maze (the source of the genus name) but is extremely variable.
- **Mycena galericulata** - (Common Mycena) - text, p.780; photo 6. (The stick-on Latin name tabs for the Audubon Guide label photo 6 as "Mycena inclinata", a look-alike of M. galericulata.)
- **Scleroderma citrinum** - (Pigskin Poison Puffball) - text, p.839; photo 654. This fungus is not a true puffball but resembles them. It is solid, almost rocklike. Scleroderma means hard skin.
- **Trichapatium biformis** - (Violet Toothed Polypore) - text, p.490; photo 538.
- **Armillariella mellea** - (Honey Mushroom) - text, p.736; photos 182, 206. Honeys are a complex of nearly identical species and are very variable. There are many poisonous look-alikes. This complex is the source of the "humungous fungus" tales in the newspapers.
- **Tricholomopsis platyphylla** - (Platterful Mushroom) - text, p.807; photo 265. In our area this mushroom is not generally found after September.
- **Laccaria laccata** - (Common Laccaria) - text, p.762; photo 335. COMA has collected this very variable species mostly in the Fall.
- **Schizophyllum commune** - (Common Split Gill) - text, p.493; photo 487. This mushroom is in the Schizophyllum family which has radiating, branching folds or lobes, rather than gills.
- **Lycogala epidendrum** - (Wolf's-milk Slime or Toothpaste Slime) - text, p.848; photo 665.
- **Panellus stipticus** - (Luminescent Panellus) - text, p.790; photo 501.
- **Amanita citrina** - (Citron Amanita) - text, p.531; photo 125. This Amanita has not been recorded by COMA before September.
- **Stereum complicatum** - (Crowded Parchment) - text, p.496; photo 545.
- **Chlorociboria aeruginascens** - (Green Stain) - text, p.361; photo 598. COMA has found this tiny, blue-green cup fungus every walk month.
- **Mycena haematopus** - (Bleeding Mycena) - text, p.781; photo 76. Squeeze the stalk and a blood-colored liquid emerges.
- **Oudemansiella radicata** - (Rooted Oudemansiella) - text, p.788; photo 268. The rooting stalk ("tap root") snaps easily so must be dug up carefully.
- **Fomes fomentarius** - (Tinder Polypore) - text, p.457; photo 527. This can be found year round.
- **Collybia dryophila** - (Oak-loving Collybia) - text, p.755; photo 80. This is very variable .
- **Lycoperdon perlatum** - (Gem-studded Puffball, Devil's Snuffbox) - text, p.825; photos 652, 676.
- **Scutellinia scutellata** - (Eyelash Cup) - text, p. 353; photo 604.
- **Amanita gemmata** - (Gemmed Amanita) - text, p.537; photos 128, 129.
- **Cantherellus cinnabarinus** - (Cinnabar-red Chanterelle) - text, p.388; photo 421.
- **Lactarius deceptivus** - (Deceptive Milky) - text, p.683, photo 248. The only member of the family Russulaceae to make the list -- probably because so many others are recorded as Russula sp(ecies) or Lactarius sp.



Genus species

NAMA Poison Form

North American Mycological Association Mushroom Poisoning Case Registry

This is only a reporting form. For emergency treatment, contact: your physician, the nearest poison center, or hospital emergency room.

Please answer all the questions on this form by checking the appropriate box or by writing in the information requested. Please check the "don't know" box if you do not know the answer. Use a separate form for each patient.

I. Name of person filling out this form: _____

Telephone: () _____

This form is about:
myself patient student club member animal other

II. About the incident: Don't Know

A. Was the mushroom eaten: Raw Cooked

B. How much mushroom was eaten? _____

C. Was mushroom eaten: by a child , accidentally ,
for food , intentionally for recreation

D. Was mushroom eaten at more than one meal? Yes No

E. Was more than one kind of mushroom eaten? Yes No

F. When was mushroom collected? _____ Where? _____

G. When was mushroom eaten? Date _____ Time _____

H. When was the first sign of illness? Date _____
Time _____ Onset interval: _____ hours

I. Was any alcohol consumed with mushroom, or within 24 hours
after mushroom was eaten? Yes No

J. How many persons ate mushrooms? _____

K. Were all persons who ate mushrooms ill? Yes No

L. Were persons in the group who did not eat mushrooms ill?
Yes No

Please duplicate if additional copies are needed, or request forms from
Mr. Trestrail at the address on the other side, or by telephone to

III. A. What were the symptoms of poisoning? Check all symptoms which occurred: (listed alphabetically)

- | | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> chills | <input type="checkbox"/> drowsiness | <input type="checkbox"/> muscle spasm | <input type="checkbox"/> sweating |
| <input type="checkbox"/> diarrhea | <input type="checkbox"/> flushing | <input type="checkbox"/> nausea | <input type="checkbox"/> vomiting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> dizziness | <input type="checkbox"/> hallucination | <input type="checkbox"/> rash | <input type="checkbox"/> weakness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> disorientation | <input type="checkbox"/> intestinal cramps | <input type="checkbox"/> salivation | |

Don't Know

Were there other symptoms? Yes No

What were the other symptoms _____

B. Did person ever eat this mushroom before? Yes No

C. Were the effects the same? Same Different

D. Was treatment given? Yes No

What was the treatment? _____

What were the results of treatment? _____

Case or chart number (if available) _____ (important for follow-up)

Hospital name: _____

Attending Physician: _____

Patient's age _____ Patient's sex _____

Patient's Name (optional) _____

IV. About the mushroom:

A. Name the species: _____

B. Who identified the species? _____

Herbarium specimen number (if available) _____

C. Were any special mushroom tests done? Yes No

List the test and results: _____

V. Other comments about the case or mushroom, or attach separate materials:

Please send completed form to:

John H. Trestrail, III, RPh
Blodgett Regional Poison Center
1840 Wealthy St., S.E.
Grand Rapids MI 49506-2968

NSF Awards Funding to Study Endangered Regions of Brazil and Costa Rica

Funding from the National Science Foundation for the research of Dr. Roy E. Halling and Dr. Douglas Daly, in addition to the "Neotropical Montane Forest Symposium," (reviewed on page 1), made the Garden's scientists among the most successful grant applicants to the NSF this year. The awards came from the "Biotic Surveys and Inventories Program" of the NSF's "Directorate for Biological Studies." This program supports research initiatives at U.S. institutions to collect, sample, census, and inventory living flora and fauna.

Since its founding in 1891, scientists at the Garden have been conducting systematic botany studies to classify and decipher the evolutionary history of the plant kingdom. The New York Botanical Garden is one of the few institutions in the world that has a long-term and consistent program of botanical explorations. The Garden has administered more than 1,000 expeditions, and collected more than 5.6 million plant specimens through fieldwork and scholarly exchange.

The works of Roy Halling and Douglas Daly are examples of the wide-ranging botanical studies undertaken by contemporary Garden scientists to document the biodiversity of unexplored regions of the world.



Barbara Thiers

Dr. Roy E. Halling examines a sample of the Agaricales (fungi) that populate the oak forests of Costa Rica and are so essential to nutrient cycling.

Roy E. Halling —

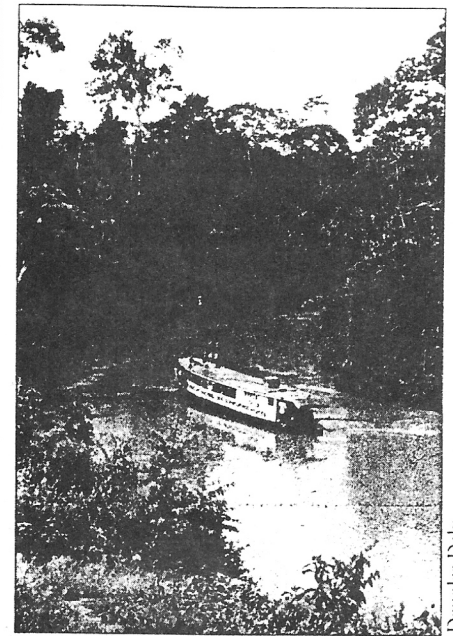
A three-year grant awarded to Drs. Roy E. Halling and G.M. Mueller (Chicago) will be used to survey the Agaricales (mushrooms and related fungi) that occur in the *Quercus* (oak) forests of Costa Rica. The Agaricales play a vital role in nutrient cycling, nutrient uptake, and decomposition of organic matter in the oak-dominated forests of montane Mexico, Central America and Colombia. Information on the diversity, systematics, and the geographical distribution of these fungi, however, is lacking.

A comprehensive collecting regimen will be undertaken to obtain information on the variations in form and structure, ecological and distributional data, and cultures of select fungi. Products of this study include a comprehensive database, revisions of various genera, collections and cultures necessary for further research, and improvements in facilities for mycological studies in Costa Rica. An illustrated manual of Agaricales of the region will be prepared based on data obtained during this project.

Douglas Daly —

Douglas Daly's four-year grant from the NSF is for his project, "Floristics and Economic Botany of Acre, Brazil." The region Dr. Daly studies is exceptionally rich in species and habitats, including two mountain ranges, extensive floodplain forests, and large tracts of forest dominated by arborescent bamboos. Many plant groups have centers of diversity there, notably several genera of fruit and nut-bearing trees.

Acre is at the edge of the uncontrolled deforestation and immigration that has been sweeping through neighboring Rondonia state. More than a million hectares have been designated as extractive reserves in which stewardship of forest lands is given to consortia of people who have a vested interest in minimizing their impact on the forest because they obtain much of their income from sustainable harvest of forest products such as rubber and Brazil



Douglas Daly

The "Chico Mendes" navigates a turn on the upper Juruá River in northwestern Acre, Brazil. This boat was made available to Dr. Douglas Daly for an expedition.

nuts. These stewards are anxious to diversify their uses of the forest and manage the resources wisely.

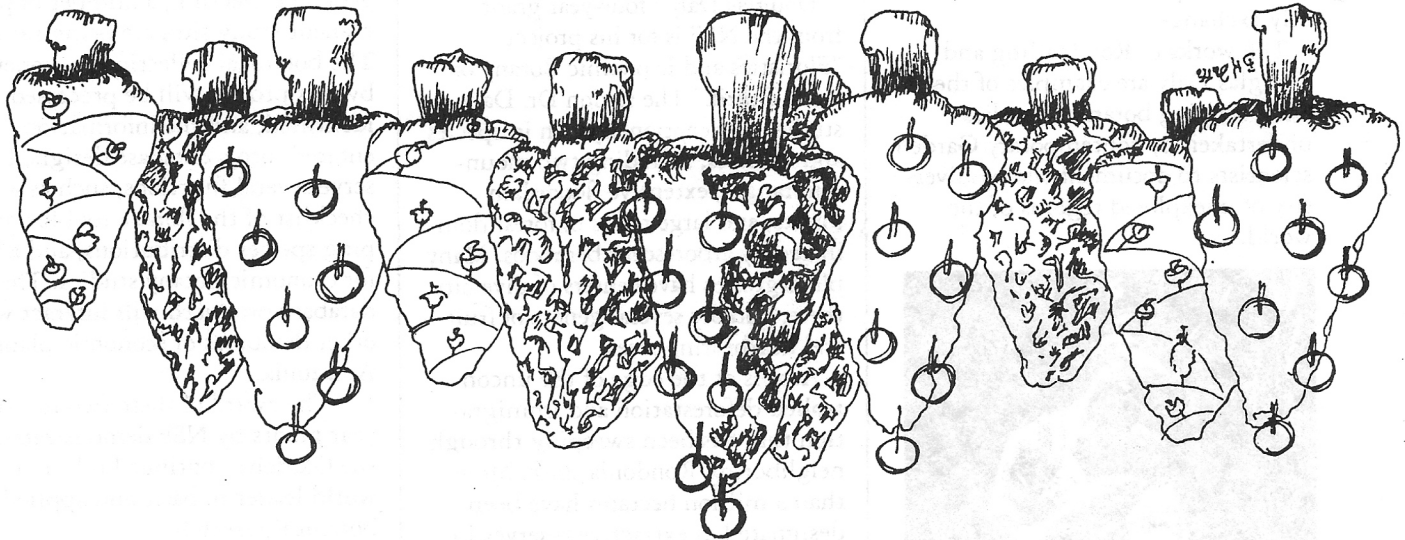
The field phase of Dr. Daly's project has carefully targeted under-collected regions, poorly known vegetation types, and areas that have yielded numerous botanical novelties in the past. In addition to extensive general collecting, a number of permanent study sites are being set up. The botanical collections generated by this project will be processed, identified, and the information entered into a database designed to serve several functions, such as a checklist of the flora, a tool for mapping species distributions, and a tool for economic botany studies. The database produced will interact with other databases of economic plants of Amazonia.

The award of these two multi-year grants by NSF demonstrated the Garden's continued role as a world leader in basic and applied botanical research.

MSF Award Funding to
Society Endangered
Species of Brazil
and South Africa

roy S. Hopkins
A botanical garden awarding
MSF Award Funding to
Society Endangered
Species of Brazil
and South Africa

NJMA news
c/o Sue Hopkins



HAPPY HOLIDAYS TO ALL - AND THINK SPRING!!!