

Trooper's Hill Fungus Foray: Sunday 7th November 2010

Our annual fungus foray was held on this cool November day, attended by 20 members of the public. We explored the scrub woodlands of Crews Hole Wood, followed by the acid grassland and heath of the main part of Trooper's Hill. The season had been excellent during September, but early frosts in mid-October, had pushed back the fruiting of many of the typical expected species.

Nevertheless, 39 species of fungi were encountered, including 9 Wax Cap (*Hygrocybe*), species, which indicate that the grassland is in good, and improving, condition for mycological nature conservation. The CHEG score (*Clavaria*, *Hygrocybe*, *Entoloma*, *Geoglossum*) was 12 for this year indicating moderate-good quality for a single visit (Each species recorded in the four genera is given a score of one, with total species then giving the overall score for the site: for further information, see previous reports).

New species recorded for the site include *Tricholoma cingulatum* with Goat Willow, *Neotiella rutilans*, an orange cup fungus, found on the heath, *Arrhenia griseopallida*, a dark grey funnel cap found with a variety of mosses and *Mycena olivaceomarginata*, a small conical capped species with an olivaceous gill edge.

Typical repeat finds include the Fly Agaric (*Amanita muscaria*) and the Turkey Tail (*Trametes versicolor*). No species of any real rarity were recorded, but the typical acid grassland/heathland suite, unusual for the Bristol area, was well developed and much appreciated by attendees.

Management Suggestions:

- As in previous reports:
1. Create brash piles in woodland
 2. Leave as much dead wood in situ, as possible
 3. Cut main meadow area annually, to a sward height of <10cm where possible to ensure soil warming in the summer and hence enhance fruiting; preferably in late July-early September
 4. Clear bramble and other coarse scrub from around good mycorrhizal trees (oak, birch) to <10cm sward height to enhance fruiting

All identifications via a combination of;

Fungi of Switzerland (1980-2002)
Flora Agaricina Neerlandica (1987-2007)
Funga Nordica (2008)
British Fungus Flora (1970-2001)
Microfungi on Miscellaneous Substrates (1996)
Keys to Grassland Clavarioid Fungi (2002)
The Genus *Hygrocybe* (2010)
The Genus *Hebeloma* (2004)
Fungi Europaei: Volumes on *Tricholoma*, *Hygrocybe*, (1997)

Recommended beginner's guides with most Trooper's Hill species illustrated;

Mushrooms by Roger Phillips (1981 or 2005)
Mushrooms and Toadstools by Paul Sterry and Barry Hughes (2009)

Species List

<i>Amanita muscaria</i>	Fly Agaric
<i>Arrhenia griseopallida</i>	
<i>Bjerkandera adusta</i>	
<i>Calocera cornea</i>	
<i>Clavulinopsis helvola</i>	
<i>Clavulinopsis luteoalba</i>	
<i>Coprinus micaceus</i>	Glistening Ink Cap
<i>Cystoderma amianthinum</i>	
<i>Entoloma sericeum</i>	
<i>Hebeloma mesophaeum var mesophaeum</i>	
<i>Galerina hypnorum</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe chlorophana</i>	Yellow Wax Cap
<i>Hygrocybe coccinea</i>	Scarlet Hood
<i>Hygrocybe conica</i>	Blackening Wax Cap
<i>Hygrocybe miniata</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe pratensis</i>	Buff Meadow Cap
<i>Hygrocybe psittacina</i>	Parrot Toadstool
<i>Hygrocybe reae (mucronella)</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe russocoriacea</i>	
<i>Hygrocybe virginea</i>	Snowy Wax Cap
<i>Laccaria laccata</i>	The Deceiver
<i>Laccaria proxima</i>	
<i>Lepista nuda</i>	Wood Blewit
<i>Lycogala epidendron</i>	
<i>Mycena aetites</i>	
<i>Mycena galopus</i>	Milk Drop Mycena
<i>Mycena leptocephala</i>	
<i>Mycena olivaceomarginata</i>	
<i>Mycena uracea</i>	
<i>Neotiella rutilans</i>	
<i>Paxillus involutus + Apiocrea chrysopermium</i> mould	Brown Roll Rim
<i>Parasola (Coprinus) plicatilis</i>	Little Japanese Umbrella
<i>Psilocybe montana</i>	
<i>Rickenella fibula</i>	
<i>Scleroderma verrucosum</i>	Warty Earth Ball
<i>Stereum ochraceoflavum</i>	
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Turkey Tail
<i>Tricholoma cingulatum</i>	