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MUSHROOMS OF GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK

KENT H. McKNIGHT

Plant Protection Institute, Agricultural Research
U. S. Department of Agriculture
Beltsville, Maryland 20705

Objectives

The objective is an inventory of the "mushrooms" to be found in Grand Teton National Park.

The study includes all macromycetes of fungi with macroscopic or large, conspicuous fruiting bodies. Most are fleshy or woody Ascomycetes or Basidiomycetes but some are classified in other major taxa.

Although there are no published floristic studies of the fungi of this area occasional and sporadic records of collections from the Tetons or Yellowstone are published, including type collections of at least two new species: Cortinarius ashii McKnight & Dublin (1975) and Lactarius gossypinus Hesler & Smith (1979). An interim report listing 131 species was submitted as a contribution to the University of Wyoming-National Park Service Annual Report for 1978 (McKnight, 1978).

Methods

During the 24-day period from June 5-29, 1979, collecting excursions were made on 15 days. Most of the collecting trips were within Jackson Hole, but inasmuch as fungi do not respect political boundaries some forays extended into adjacent areas.

Field notes and habitat photographs were made where applicable before collections were brought to the laboratory for further study, identification, illustration and description. Fully mature specimens were dried preparatory to processing for the herbarium. Immature specimens were held in moist chambers until spores matured whenever feasible. Dried specimens are deposited at the herbarium of the National Fungus Collections (BPI), Beltsville, Maryland.

Results

The almost total lack of rainfall during the month of June produced very few mushrooms. A total of 237 collections were recorded, most of which were relatively small and inconspicuous wood-rotting fungi fruiting around melting snowbanks. Many are replicate collections of the same
species and an unusually high percentage could not be identified immediately. Of those identified to date, and including a few from previous seasons' collections, the 35 species below are added to those listed in the 1978 report:

Agaricus campestris L. ex Fr.
Agaricus subrutilescens (Kauff.) Hots. & Stuntz
Agrocybe acericola (Pk.) Sing.
Armillaria ponderosa (Pk.) Sacc.
Armillaria zelleri Stuntz & A. H. Smith
Armillaria albolonaripes Atk.
Caloscypha fulgens (Pers. ex Fr.) Boud.
Calvata cyathiformis (Bosc) Morg.
Calvata subcretacea Zeller
Calvatia booniana A. H. Smith
Cheilymenia stercoria (Pers. ex Fr.) Boud.
Clavariodelphus truncatus (Quel.) Donk
Clavulina cristata (Fr.) Schroet.
Clitocybe coniferophila Bigel.
Clitocybe mutabilis Bigel.
Clitocybe nuda (Fr.) Begel. & A. H. Smith
Clitocybe robusta Pk.
Clitocybe straitula (Kuhner) Orton
Clitocybe pseudoirina Bigel. & A. H. Smith
Dacrymyces deliquescentes (Merat) Duby
Dasyscyphus virgineus (Fr.)Fuckel
Descina perlate (Fr.) Fr.
Fomes pini (Thore ex Fr.)
Gyromitra gigas (Krombh.) Quel.
Hygrophorus subalpinus A. H. Smith
Iodophanus carneus (Pers.) Korf
Lachnellula agassizii (Berk. & Curt.) Dennis
Lentinellus montanus O. K. Miller
Lyophyllum montanum A. H. Smith
Mycena overholtsii A. H. Smith & Solheim
Peziza phaeotheca McKnight & Dublin
Pholiota highlandensis (Pk.) A. H. Smith & Hesl.
Plectania nannfeldtii Korf
Pseudocollema cartilagineum Kan. & A. H. Smith
Tricholoma myomyces (Pers.) Lange

Conclusions

Snowbanks remaining very late in the season in the "Pothole" region of the Park provided an unusual opportunity to study snowbank fungi in the sagebrush zone. This was much more productive than expected. In this and previous seasons' work the earliest collections were made in the first week of June. Collections in May and possibly April during at least one wet and productive season will be needed to get a reliable sample of the early spring flora.
Literature Cited
