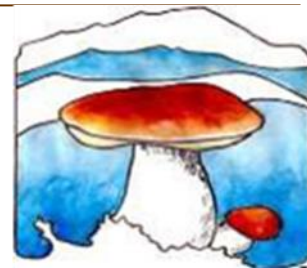


Spore-Addict Times



The Newsletter of the Pikes Peak Mycological Society 1974-2014

May 2014

Volume XL Issue 2

Monthly Meeting

When?

TUESDAY May 27

After Memorial Day

Mushroom Identification

6:30-7pm

Meeting at 7 pm

Where?

**Bear Creek Park,
Administration Building**

In this May issue:

Ancient Mushrooms 1

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Morel Madness in Colorado 2

PPMSmail@gmail.com

www.pikespeakmushrooms.org

May Presentation

Join us as we welcome **Greg Sanchez**

President of the Colorado Mycological Society, as he presents a lecture on the cultural aspects of mushrooms.

Ancient Mushroom



A mushroom found to be as tall as a tree? At first it was labeled as a tree, though it was carbon-dated to have grown before the age of trees, this ancient organism is named Prototaxites.

The fossil was first discovered in 1895, in Darwin's time, and labeled as a conifer. Francis Hueber, a scientist at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C suggested in 1919 this was a possible fungus. Other scientists proposed it to be algae or lichen. Though these ideas were not well received. It appeared to resemble a pillar in the fossil and was originally drawn by Darwin to resemble a tree.



Estimated to have existed in the Silurian to Late Devonian periods (about 420-370 million years ago), the fossils were found to be around 25 feet tall and four foot in diameter. The stalk had concentric or eccentric rings that give it the appearance of an unbranched tree. The interior contained three types of tubules, thick straight tubes, branched tubes, and distinctly curved tubes.

It wasn't until 2007 that it was confirmed to be a fungus by scientists at the University of Chicago and the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C.

Read more at:

<http://www.amjbot.org/cgi/content/full/97/2/268>

<http://phys.org/news96516255.html#jCp>



Mystery Mushroom



April's Mystery Mushroom was *Rhizina undulata*.

Correctly Identified By Pat Gustavson

I am a beautiful little mushroom with a red/orange cone shaped cap.
I have yellow gills that produce white spores and are nearly free.
You can find me on soil, late summer, in sub alpine ecosystems.
With my "common" name it would be more appropriate if i was found at Halloween.
Who am I???

Edibles Report: On May 1, 2014 the Boulder Weekly, published "Morel Madness in Colorado" shares an in-depth article on morel hunting in burn areas around Colorado.

<http://www.boulderweekly.com/article-12803-morel-madness-in-colorado.html>

The Pikes Peak Mycological Society is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the advancement of mycology. Membership is open to anyone wanting to study mycology. Annual \$20 dues (additional \$5 fee for a printed newsletter April to Sept), for individual and family memberships, should be paid before or at the May meeting. Submissions of ideas, articles, letters, artwork, and recipes are welcome and may also be submitted to be posted on the website.

Pikes Peak Mycological Society

C/O Frieda Davis
10 Swallow Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80904

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Mushroom Observer

Open Source and Data-sharing online brings together people from around the world in an exchange of ideas and knowledge trading that has, at times, caused great leaps forward in understanding a part of nature or advanced science in ways a small group of people in one room might not have concluded.

With this idea, Wilson Hollinger created the website listed below as a space for sharing all-things mycology, in an effort to grow interest further in mushrooms.

Wilson, N., Hollinger, J. 2006-present. Mushroom Observer.
<http://mushroomobserver.org>

The Spore-Addict Times, the official newsletter of Pikes Peak Mycological Society (PPMS), is published monthly from April to September. All articles appearing in this newsletter may be freely reproduced, unless otherwise noted, for use in other newsletters provided source and author are acknowledged. We consider this to be a reciprocal agreement for clubs that send their newsletter to us unless we are advised to the contrary.

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