

Jefferson County Park near Fairfield, October 12, 2013

Conditions were extremely dry nonetheless nearly 40 species of fungi were identified.

*Aleurodiscus oakesii* – Bark Eater

*Armillaria gallica* – Honey Mushroom

There are a dozen or more species of honey mushrooms many of which are morphologically indistinguishable; this epithet is the best guess for what we found. See [http://www.mushroomexpert.com/armillaria\\_gallica.html](http://www.mushroomexpert.com/armillaria_gallica.html)

*Auricularia auricula* – Tree Ears (jelly fungus with septate basidia)

*Bisporella citrina* – Tiny Yellow Cups

*Calocera cornea* – Small Staghorn or Club-like Tuning Fork

“Tuning Fork” refers to the Y-shaped basidia characteristic of these jelly fungi.

*Calvatia gigantea* – Giant Puffball (= *Langermannia gigantea*)

*Coprinus comatus* – Shaggy Mane or Lawyer’s Wig

This mushroom is the type specimen for the original genus *Coprinus* but DNA studies have demonstrated that it is allied with *Psathyrella* and is not a true inky cap.

*Cortinarius sp.* – spores brown, cortina (spider web-like partial veil) not apparent

Microscopic characteristics: spores warty and lacking a plage (unornamented area surrounding apiculus).

*Cyathus striatus* – Striated Bird’s Nest Cup (inside of cup is striated)

*Entoloma abortivum* – Aborted Entoloma or Cottage Cheese Mushroom

The aborted marshmallow or cottage cheese lumps (now known to be a honey mushroom parasitized by the *Entoloma*) and the cap-with-a-stalk mushrooms with blue-gray caps and pink attached gills were found. Both forms are edible but the typical mushroom form is difficult to identify when found alone. See the MushroomExpert webpage for the rest of the story: [http://www.mushroomexpert.com/entoloma\\_abortivum.html](http://www.mushroomexpert.com/entoloma_abortivum.html)

*Ganoderma applanatum* – Artist’s Conk

*Grifola frondosa* – Hen-of-the-Woods or Goat’s Beard

*Hericium coralloides* – Comb Tooth (spines along the branches)

Mushrooms of Northeastern North America by Alan Bessette, Arleen Bessette and David Fischer, p.407f states that *H. coralloides* was “previously known as *H. ramosum*. The Bear’s-head Tooth (*H. americanum*; formerly known in North America as *H. coralloides*) is similar but has spines arranged in clusters at the branch tips.” *Hericium erinaceus*, Satyr’s Beard, is unbranched and has long spines.

*Hypsizygus ulmarius* – Elm Oyster or Knothole Oyster (≠ *Hypsizygus tessellatus*)

MushroomExpert explains: “A report by Scott Redhead in *Mycologia* (1986) ... indicates that *Hypsizygus tessellatus* is a smaller mushroom which usually grows in clusters, and is widely cultivated in Japan as hon-shimeji.”

*Inonotus cuticularis* – confluent shelves, orange matted top with yellow edges, spores ochre

Microscopic characteristics: spores inamyloid ellipsoid 6 X 4.5um, pileus and trama black in KOH with setal hyphae (thick-walled antler-like hyphal filaments). See <http://www.mycodb.fr/fiche.php?genre=Inonotus&espece=cuticularis>

The Ada Hayden Herbarium reports the mushroom as last collected by G.W. Martin in Iowa City, 1949.

*Irpex lacteus* – Milk Tooth

*Ischnoderma resinosum* – Resinous Polypore (“ischno” = long/thin/wrinkled; “derma” = skin)

*Lactarius cf. subvellereus* – white cap, close gills, acrid latex (*Lactarius piperatus* has crowded gills)

*Laetiporus sulphureus* – Sulphur Shelf or Chicken-of-the-Woods

*Lycoperdon pyriforme* – Pear-shaped Puffball on wood

*Phaeocalicium polyporaeum* – Fairy Pins on purple tooth

*Phellinus gilvus* – Tiger Eye Polypore (orange trama black in KOH)

*Phellinus sp.* – large conk; must know the host tree to determine species

If oak then probably *Phellinus everhartii* but if black locust then likely *Phellinus robiniae*.

*Phlebia tremellosa* – Trembling Wrinkled Gill (= *Merulius tremellosus*)

*Pluteus cervinus* – Deer Mushroom (pink free gills, lacks annulus and volva, on wood)

*Polyporus badius* – Big Black Foot or Leathery Polypore (= *Polyporus picipes*)  
*Polyporus squamosus* – Pheasant Back or Dryad's Saddle (the biggest black foot polypore)  
*Polyporus versicolor* – the true Turkey Tail (employed in traditional Chinese medicine)  
*Polyporus sp.* – resupinate white polypore that peels off substrate as a layer  
*Schizophyllum commune* – Split Gill  
*Scleroderma cepa* – Smooth Earthball (“sclera” = thick; “derma” = skin)  
*Stereum complicatum* – Orange Log Leaves (confluent orange caps, smooth underside)  
*Stereum ostrea* – False Turkey Tail (smooth underside)  
*Trametes conchifer* – Bird's Nest Polypore (cup structures on upper surface produce conidiospores)  
*Trametes elegans* – Ambiguous Polypore (= *Daedaleopsis ambigua*)  
*Trichaptum bifforme* – Purple Tooth  
*Xylaria polymorpha* – Dead Man's Fingers  
This specimen is typical of the species. The surface is pimpled and wrinkled, and the large ellipsoid banana-shaped spores are 18-27 X 7-8 um with a straight germ slit 1/2 to 2/3 the length of the spore.  
*Xylobolus frustulatus* – Craquelure Parchment (crust fungus resembling cracked ceramic pottery)

#### MYXOMYCETES

*Fuligo septica* – Dog Vomit Slime (very common on wood chips)  
*Lycogala epidendrum* – Pepto-Bismol® Slime or Wolf's Milk Slime  
*Physarum sp.*  
*Stemonitis fusca* – Brownish-gray Tube Slime (13mm tall, spores globose warted-reticulate 7.5um)