

Tyntesfield 20 May 2016

As indicated by our limited findings in March and April, the recent cool dry conditions had severely restricted fungal development and very few fruiting bodies were found. However, at last we have a good list of fungi to report, presumably because of the recent heavy rains and somewhat higher temperatures. This was most obvious from the many examples of *Calocybe gambosa* (St George's Mushroom) (right) found throughout the Estate. This species is usually found in April, but this year was only found in good condition in late May. Similar reports have come from all across the South West.

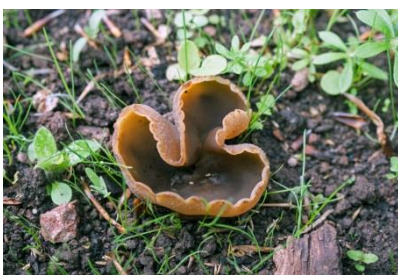
Pyronema omphalodes (below) was new to Tyntesfield. This very small orange/red cup fungus was found



growing on one of the fire sites in the old Conifer Plantation. Nearby were two lovely examples of bracket fungi – Chicken of the Woods (*Laetiporus sulphureus*)(below left) and Dryad's Saddle (*Polyporus squamosus*)(below right).



The most common species were *Panaeolina foenicisii* and *Psathyrella candolleana*. There were also excellent examples of three large cup fungi, shown below – *Peziza badius* (left), *P. repanda* (centre) and *P. vesiculosa* (right). Having three examples on the same day provided a great opportunity to study the differences between these species. *Peziza badius* is typically found on wood, but in this case many fruiting bodies were found in a ring of the "soil" that remained after the removal of a tree in Paradise, presumably actually growing on the remains of the ground-up stump.



We also visited one area of the Estate that we rarely enter – the Quarry. Here we found a range of different species, most growing on the heaps of decaying compost. The most notable were *Peziza vesiculosa* and *Coprinellus flocculosus* (below), two species that we had last seen at Tyntesfield in 2008, when again both were found together, but on that occasion on straw bales used as insulation around a temporary water supply at the side of the nearby entrance road. One wonders where these species had been in all those intervening years? Perhaps the old straw bales had been dumped in the quarry?



Coprinellus flocculosus

List of the species found

Agaricus altipes
Agrocybe pediades
Auricularia auricula-judae
Bolbitius titubans
Calocybe gambosa
Conocybe rugosa
Coprinellus flocculosus
Coprinellus subdisseminatus
Daldinia concentrica
Kuehneola uredinis
Laetiporus sulphureus
Lycogala terrestre
Marasmius oreades
Mollisia cinerea
Panaeolina foenicisii
Parasola kuehneri
Parasola leiocephala
Parasola plicatilis

Peziza badius
Peziza repanda
Peziza vesiculosa
Polyporus squamosus
Psathyrella candolleana
Psathyrella prona
Psathyrella spadiceogrisea
Puccinia buxi
Puccinia punctiformis
Puccinia sessilis
Pyronema omphalodes
Ramularia taraxaci
Scutellinia scutellata
Stereum hirsutum
Trametes versicolor
Trichaptum abietinum
Xylaria hypoxylon