

Tyntesfield Audit 28 July 2018

On the last day of the 2018 “heatwave” we set out on what we expected to be a gentle walk. We were surprised to find several really healthy fungi – either growing on old logs or on living tree leaves. Due to the drought there were very few healthy leaves on herbaceous plants – most were wilting very badly. As a result only two mildews were found, on Sycamore and Oak (see below), and only one rust – *Puccinia buxi* on Box.



Several excellent fruiting bodies were found on decaying logs. These included two Polypores – *Polyporus squamosus* and *P. tuberaster*. Two others are illustrated below: *Laetiporus sulphureus* (Chicken of the Woods) and *Pleurotus ostreatus* (Oyster Mushroom).

One of the most outstanding trees at Tyntesfield is a large Plane tree at the edge of Paradise. This tree has exhibited necrotic anthracnose lesions caused by *Apiognomonia errabunda* for many years without obvious deleterious effects on the overall tree growth. Interestingly, during this audit we again observed large lesions on leaves throughout the tree, but only on those leaves that had emerged in Spring. Recent growth was totally unaffected. It appears that this fungus enjoyed the very wet Spring but has not been able to continue the infections once the hot dry conditions arrived in May (see below).

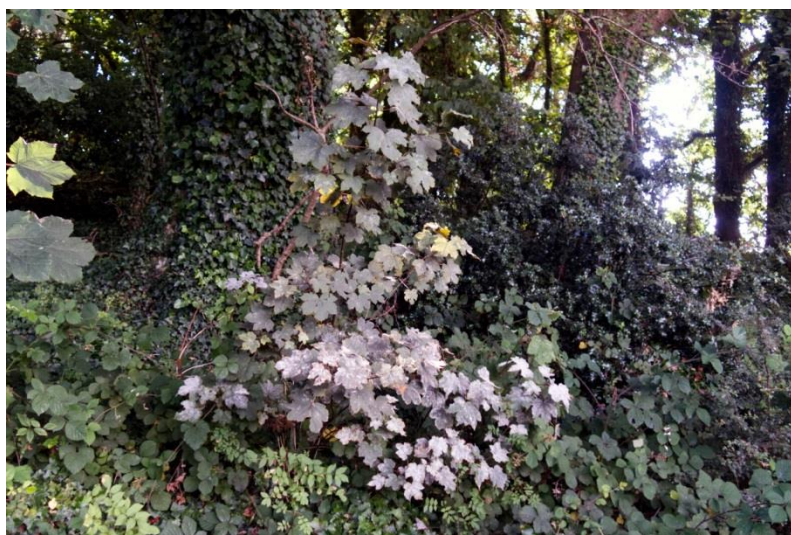


List of Fungi

Apiognomonia errabunda
Erysiphe alphitoides
Ganoderma australe
Heterobasidion annosum
Laetiporus sulphureus
Pleurotus ostreatus
Polyporus squamosus

Polyporus tuberaster
Puccinia buxi
Ramularia purpurascens
Reticularia lycoperdon
Sawadaea bicornis
Trametes gibbosa

Mildew on young Sycamore seedling (*Sawadaea bicornis*)



Mildew on young Sycamore seedling (*Sawadaea bicornis*)



Oyster Mushroom. Newly formed fruiting body on a felled log



Chicken of the Woods. Newly developing fruit body on a very decayed conifer trunk, possible Scots Pine



Anthracnose (*Apiognomonia errabunda*) on Plane Tree. Note the healthy, recently developed leaves at the tips of the branches, but the extensive damage to the leaves that formed earlier in the year.

