

Tyntesfield Audit, 26 Aug 2022

The weather had continued to be dry and very warm. However, there were clear signs that Tyntesfield had recently “suffered” from a rare local thunderstorm as local minor flooding could be seen. More significant was the finding of more than 30 species of fungi, though only 26 could be confidently identified.

As in July, many of the species found were growing on wood, mostly on decaying logs, but there were several on the various lawns on the Estate. A few species were quite numerous, notably *Pleurotus ostreatus*, which was growing on large felled beech trees, *Psathyrella candolleana*, *Gymnopus dryophilus* and *Ceriosporus squamosus*. There were three different species of *Parasola*. In contrast to July, we found no examples of *Pluteus*.

Amongst those species that were found, several remain a mystery. These were generally small, with pale brownish caps and brown gills/spores. These are often referred to as “Little brown mushrooms”.

The list of identified species is shown below.

List of Fungi

Agrocybe rivulosa
Bovista aestivalis
Bulgaria inquinans
Ceriosporus squamosus
Clitopilus prunulus
Conocybe aurea
Crepidotus mollis
Cyathus striatus
Ganoderma australe
Golovinomyces depressus
Golovinomyces sordidus

Gymnopus confluens
Gymnopus dryophilus
Gymnopus peronatus
Marasmius rotula
Mycena acicula
Mycena aetites
Panaeolus fimicola
Parasola kuehneri
Parasola leiocephala
Parasola plicatilis
Pleurotus ostreatus

Psathyrella candolleana
Ramularia rubella
Rhytisma acerinum
Trametes gibbosa

Oyster Mushroom (*Pleurotus ostreatus*). This fungus is generally found on mature felled beech trees. Two large examples were seen, one on the pile of logs at the top of Plantation and one in Five Ways Combe.



Pale Brittlestem (*Psathyrella candolleana*). This is a species commonly found at Tyntesfield, especially in early autumn. It grows in association with woody debris throughout the Estate. Psathyrellas have dark gills, white stems and brown spores and are often hard to identify, but *P. candolleana* can frequently be named in the field from its overall white colouration and the veil fragments at the edge of the cap. Identity was confirmed by microscopy, which revealed both the lack of pleurocystidia and very small spores (<9u).



Two interesting species. Peeling Oysterling (*Crepidotus mollis*) (below left) and Fluted Bird's Nest (*Cyathus striatus*) (below right). *Crepidotus mollis* was growing on a tree stump. This is a small fleshy bracket fungus with a stretchy gelatinous layer on the surface of the cap. *Cyathus striatus*, a small (10-15mm) cup-shaped species, was growing on decaying twigs/branches on the log pile at the top of Plantation.



Little Brown Mushroom: one of several examples that remained unidentified

