

Tyntesfield Audit 1 May 2019

First, we are glad to report that the unidentified fungus on Hypoxylon which Nicola found in March has been Identified as *Hyalorbilia inflatula*. Many thanks to Peter Thompson for solving this mystery.

This Audit again showed a sparsity of fungi, though it benefited from contributions from Anna (NT staff) and Pixie, a new member of NSBFG. The most common fungus was *Puccinia sessilis*, the rust on leaves of wild garlic (*Arum maculatum*), which was seen throughout the Estate. In contrast, we only found one example of St. George's Mushroom (*Calocybe gambosa*), a species which in previous years had been abundant and widespread. This seems to be a feature of 2019, as colleagues in the Dean Fungus Group have also found this normally common species to be very rare this year.

The Tyntesfield Warden, Darren Mait, had drawn our attention to a large number of fruiting bodies growing in litter from where a large pile of rotting logs had recently been removed. These proved to be *Bolbitius titubans*, which were readily identified from the young sporophores, but when mature were far from typical – see image below.

Other interesting fungi included *Strobilurus tenacellus* (growing on a cone of *Pinus sylvestris*), a species that can only be identified with certainty by studying its gill cystidia. There were also some large examples of *Melanoleuca polioleuca*, a few *Parasola plicatilis* and *P. leioccephala*, and also *Polyporus brumalis*. The only new species was a small white cup fungus – *Hymenoscyphus imberbis*.

In contrast, insect life was flourishing. A European Hornet was seen exploring a wood pile and two very different galls were present on the oak tree near the kitchen garden. The larger Oak Apples were evident both on the tree and from the large number that had fallen to the ground. Cherry oak galls were seen shining between the young leaves.

List of Fungi

Bolbitius titubans
Calocybe gambosa
Cerrena unicolor
Chaetosphaerella phaeostroma
Diatrype stigma
Hymenoscyphus imberbis
Hypholoma fasciculare
Leptosphaeria acuta
Lycogala epidendrum
Marasmius oreades

Melampsora populnea
Melanoleuca polioleuca
Mollisia cinerea
Parasola leioccephala
Parasola plicatilis
Phragmidium violaceum
Pleurotus ostreatus
Polyporus brumalis
Puccinia buxi
Puccinia sessilis

Ramularia ari
Reticularia lycoperdon
Rhytisma acerinum
Strobilurus tenacellus
Trametes gibbosa
Tubaria furfuracea

Puccinia sessilis: – rust on Wild Garlic



Bolbitius titubans: young sporophores showing typical egg yellow colouration, with older pale mature examples. These were growing in litter which had until recently been covered with a large pile of logs. They clearly enjoyed being exposed to the air, light and moisture.



Interesting insects

European Hornet: found while exploring a large pile of rotting logs. We will be more careful next time!



Two Oak Galls: - Oak Apple Gall (upper) and Oak Cherry Gall (lower)

