

## Tyntesfield Audit, 24 May 2022

The list of species found, though not very large, does represent a significantly better Audit than for several months and well up to the numbers expected in May. Several interesting fungi were found, including *Bolbitius reticulatus* and *Simocybe sumptuosa*, close together on a felled log blocking the upper path, ie that which has also harboured *Xylaria cinerea*. Both these species are typical small brown fungi but can be “readily” identified by careful observation of their spores and cystidia. *Simocybe sumptuosa* also turns red when treated with NaOH. These species have been rarely seen at Tyntesfield.

The most frequent species, seen at several sites across the Estate, were *Calocybe gambosa* (St George’s Mushroom), *Bolbitius titubans* and *Agrocybe pediades*. Several bracket fungi were also growing very well, presumably in response to the recent rains.

**A Cautionary Tale.** While walking along the top track near the Holiday Cottage we observed two clustered and very young white fruiting bodies. Ah, “another St George’s Mushroom”, no “it looks like an *Agaricus* sp.” (ie like Tesco’s best). “OK, we had better take a sample back for examination”. Being very young, the sample was placed on moist paper in a tumbler and left overnight. In the morning it had expanded considerably and had turned pink/red, with brown/khaki gills and brown spores. Examination of the spores and cystidia confirmed that this fungus was not one of the early summer edible species sought by foragers, but was *Inocybe erubescens*, the Deadly Fibrecap. According to Stangl this species is highly poisonous. Care must be taken when collecting in early summer. It is one of the most dangerous of the UK fungi! It contains muscarine. Details of our examination of the samples taken are shown below.

### List of Fungi

*Agrocybe pediades*  
*Agrocybe praecox*  
*Bolbitius reticulatus*  
*Bolbitius titubans*  
*Calocybe gambosa*  
*Cerioporus squamosus*  
*Fuligo septica*  
*Inocybe erubescens*  
*Kretzschmaria deusta*  
*Kuehneola uredinis*

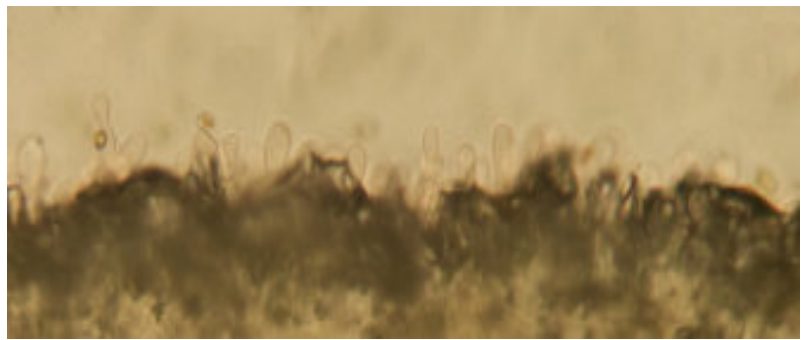
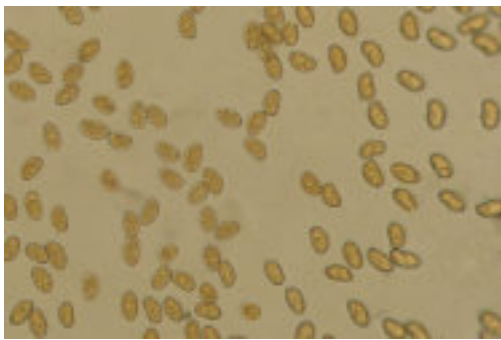
*Lycogala epidendrum*  
*Panaeolina foenisecii*  
*Panaeolus fimicola*  
*Parasola leiocephala*  
*Parasola plicatilis*  
*Peniophora lycii*  
*Pluteus cervinus*  
*Postia subcaesia*  
*Psathyrella candolleana*  
*Simocybe sumptuosa*

*Stereum hirsutum*  
*Stereum subtomentosum*  
*Tremella mesenterica*  
*Xylaria hypoxylon*

### Auditors enjoying the views across the Estate



***Inocybe erubescens*** (Deadly Fibrecap): the sample was white when found (below left), but on storage overnight, ready for further examination, it turned reddish (centre). The gills were khaki grey. This led to a possible identification, which was confirmed when it was found to have brown ellipsoid/phaseoliform spores and cylindrical/clavate cystidia.



***Cerioporus (Polyporus) squamosus*** (Dryad's Saddle): a beautiful young fruiting body found growing from the end of a felled beech log



*Pluteus cervinus* (Deer Shield): several examples at different stages of development were found on piled logs .

