

Tyntesfield Audit, 14 July 2022

The June Audit had to be cancelled due to COVID. It was thus decided that the July Audit had to go ahead despite the continuing dry weather and increasing temperatures. It was thus a delightful surprise to find a series of excellent specimens, mostly on decaying logs, even though the number of different species was not great.

As noted previously, the Tyntesfield woodlands are a rich source of *Pluteus* species, probably an indication of their long term existence. Three species were seen in July, *P. cervinus*, *P. salicinus* and *P. chrysophaeus* (see images below). The latter is smaller than the other two and bright chromium yellow. It is similar to another species (*P. leoninus*), a species not yet seen at Tyntesfield.

List of Fungi

Agaricus moelleri
Cerioporus leptocephalus
Cerioporus squamosus
Erysiphe circaeae
Fistulina hepatica
Fuligo septica
Ganoderma australe
Hymenopellis radicata

Pluteus cervinus
Pluteus chrysophaeus
Pluteus salicinus
Podosphaera filipendulae
Polyporus ciliatus
Psathyrella candolleana
Psathyrella piluliformis
Psathyrella spadiceogrisea

Rhytisma acerinum
Trametes gibbosa
Xylaria hypoxylon

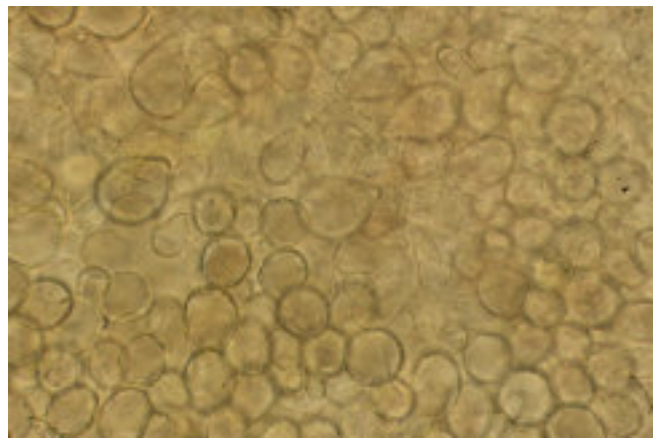
Beefsteak Fungus (*Fistulina hepatica*). On the walk down from the top of Plantation a very small, but bright, red dot (5-10 mm across) lit up the face of a large tree stump (below left). Closer examination revealed that it was a very small, but typical example of the Beefsteak Fungus (see below right).



Pluteus cervinus (left) and ***P. salicinus*** (right): these were seen on several felled logs at the top of Plantation. Both species have pink spores which often colour their gills. *Pluteus cervinus* is usually on the wood of large deciduous trees. *Pluteus salicinus* favours willow, but in this case seemed to be on felled lime trees.



Pluteus chrysophaeus: there are two bright yellow species of *Pluteus* in the UK - *P. chrysophaeus* and *P. leoninus*. We regularly see yellow *Pluteus* species at Tyntesfield. So far they have all been *P. chrysophaeus*. We always hope one will be *P. leoninus*. They are difficult to distinguish in situ, but examination of the cells of the cap cuticle under a microscope easily reveals their true identity. *Pluteus chrysophaeus* has globose (often slightly elongated) cells (see below right), whilst *P. leoninus* has long cylindrical cells. As always our sample was *P. chrysophaeus*. The search goes on.



Agaricus moelleri: an early species of *Agaricus*, notable for its grey cap, inky smell, a stem which turns yellow when cut and being highly poisonous.



Hymenopellis radicata: aka *Xerula radicata* (Rooting Shank), a tall elegant species found closely associated with a beech tree near the cottage in Plantation.,



Orobanche hederiformis* var. *monochroa: this colony of an unusual parasitic plant is now thriving near a gate at the top of the Estate. We noted that it has now spread extensively under the beech trees, with a large number of flowers..

