

Tyntesfield Audit, 3 September 2024

Examples of the genus *Pluteus* are well established on the Estate and four examples were seen during this Audit: *P. cervinus*, *P. chrysophaeus*, *P. salicinus* and *P. exiguus*. Three of these are common on the Estate, but one, *P. exiguus* is a rare species which had not been recorded at Tyntesfield before.

There were also several larger mycorrhizal species. These included *Agaricus arvensis*, *A. campestris*, *Amanita phalloides*, *Cyanoboletus pulverulentus* and *Lyophyllum eustygium*. They are not new to Tyntesfield, but *A. phalloides*, *C. pulverulentus* and *L. eustygium* have not been seen here for many years.

The species found most frequently and at many different places on the Audit were *Marasmius rotula*, on twigs and in leaf litter and *Mycena speirea*, also on fallen twigs.

Comments on individual species accompany the photographs shown below. Many thanks to Phil for taking the *in situ* photographs.

Agaricus arvensis
Agaricus campestris
Amanita phalloides
Bjerkandera adusta
Clitopilus prunulus
Coprinellus micaceus
Crepidotus mollis
Cyanoboletus pulverulentus
Daldinia concentrica
Ganoderma adspersum
Geastrum britannicum
Gymnopus dryophilus
Kuehneromyces mutabilis
Lycogala epidendrum
Lycoperdon pratense
Lyophyllum eustygium

Marasmius rotula
Marasmius wynneae
Mycena speirea
Phragmidium violaceum
Pluteus cervinus
Pluteus chrysophaeus
Pluteus exiguus
Pluteus salicinus
Postia subcaesia
Puccinia buxi
Stereum hirsutum
Tricholomopsis rutilans
Tubifera ferruginosa
Xylaria cinerea

***Amanita phalloides* (Death Cap):** one of the most deadly of the world's mushrooms. A few years ago this was common in the clearing near Summerhouse. This example was found beside a track in Plantation.



***Lyophyllum eustygium* (Ethereal Dome Cap):** a rarely recorded species, but one that can be readily identified in the field. As shown here, a slight bruising to the gills causes it to take on a pale blue/grey appearance. This species had not been seen at Tyntesfield since 2016.



***Cyanoboletus pulverulentus* (Ink Stain Bolete):** found in grass beside the main road close to the Kitchen Garden. The large oak tree there has produced a range of mycorrhizal fungi over the years, but this large one (10 cm) was new to this site. Readily recognised from the brown/orange cap, pale gills and with all the tissues turning very rapidly blue/black when touched, even gently. This species had not been seen at Tyntesfield since 2017.



***Phragmidium violaceum* (Violet Bramble Rust):** a very common rust on Bramble leaves. On this occasion two types of fruiting structures were seen on the same leaf. The pale yellow one is the uredinial form producing spores that re-infect leaves and maintain the spread of the rust during the summer. The smaller black structure is made up of teliospores which will survive winter and re-establish the infection in the spring. The teliospores have four cells which clearly distinguish this species from other rusts on Bramble.



Pluteus cervinus* (Deer Shield)** (below left) and ***Pluteus exiguus (below right): Tynesfield has always been a rich source of *Pluteus* species. *Pluteus cervinus* is one of the most common and is found on felled wood throughout the year. The very small one (*P. exiguus*) (1cm diameter) is much rarer and had not been seen at Tynesfield before. As always, the identification of these species depends on their size, the presence of pink spores, the structure of the cap cells and the structure of the cystidia on the gills.

