

**The Fungi** are an extremely diverse but poorly understood kingdom of organisms, more closely related to animals than plants. Fungi are found on every continent, and many are found on our campus. With this brochure we hope to introduce you to some of the beautiful mushrooms growing in our very own Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

### Dead Man's Fingers *Xylaria polymorpha*

*Xylaria polymorpha* is an ascomycete found growing at the base of rotting tree stumps. Some indigenous tribes in Malaysia use species of *Xylaria* to stop bedwetting in children.



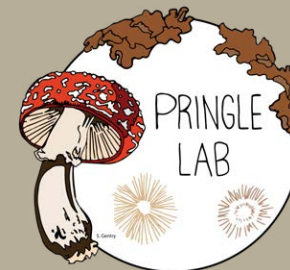
### *Schizophyllum commune*

*Schizophyllum commune* is a basidiomycete found growing on hardwood trees. *S. commune* has more than 28,000 distinct sexes and causes infections in humans in rare instances.



**The UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve** is a 300-acre natural area situated on the south shore of Lake Mendota on the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus.

### Meet the Author



**Naamon Peyton** is a second-year undergraduate student in the Pringle Laboratory at UW-Madison. His work on this brochure originated from a chance meeting with Anne Pringle and Savannah Gentry of the Pringle Lab, through the Undergraduate Research Scholars program, which offered him the opportunity to use his interest in fungi to learn more about the fungi of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Without help from Sarah Friedrich and Marie Trest, both in the Botany department, this brochure would not have been possible.

**Photos** were taken by Naamon Peyton (NP) or Sarah Friedrich (SF) unless otherwise indicated. Cover photo by Sarah Friedrich.

# Mushrooms

of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve



Department of Botany  
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### Artist's Conk *Ganoderma applanatum*

This is a large basidiomycete (about 3–30 cm across) with pores on its underside and brown spores. Its common name is the Artist's Conk because you can draw pictures across the pored surface. It also contains substances with antitumor and antibacterial properties, but you should not eat it without sufficient processing.



### Turkey Tail *Trametes versicolor*

*Trametes versicolor* is .5–8 cm across and can be found year-round on logs and stumps. The Dakota tribe, living in the upper midwest region of the United States, has used *T. versicolor* as a source of food, and *T. versicolor* has been marketed medicinally because it contains antioxidants.



### Daedalea quercina

*Daedalea quercina* is a basidiomycete with maze-like pores on its underside. *Daedalea quercina* can be used to comb horses, burned to anesthetize bees for honey collection, and also contains anti-inflammatory compounds.



### Tinder Fungus *Fomes fomentarius*

*Fomes fomentarius* is a basidiomycete found growing on hardwoods. Historically, it was used as tinder, and it was found with Ötzi the Iceman's belongings. The Cree tribe of Canada burns it to ward off insects.



### Cellar Fungus *Coniophora puteana*

*Coniophora puteana* is a basidiomycete commonly known as "Cellar Fungus". It is a wet rot fungus and grows in moist areas with little air flow, and so it is sometimes found in cellars.

### Deer Mushroom *Pluteus cervinus*

*Pluteus cervinus* is a basidiomycete found growing on rotten logs. It is edible but not considered worthwhile because of its unremarkable radishlike taste, and it has pink spores.



### Stump Puffball *Apioperdon pyriforme*

*Apioperdon pyriforme* is a basidiomycete found on the stumps of dead trees. *Apioperdon pyriforme* is edible when it is young (when the flesh inside is white). If you plan on consuming *A. pyriforme*, PLEASE consult lots of books and experts because there are some inedible lookalikes. This also goes for *G. applanatum* and *P. cervinus*.

### Galerina marginata

*Galerina marginata* is a small basidiomycete typically found growing on conifer wood. *G. marginata* is highly toxic, and you can die within a week of eating it because of the extreme kidney and liver damage that it induces. It can be mistaken for *Armillaria mellea*, a species that is sometimes eaten.

