# REPORT OF

# FORAY NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR

*Andrus Voitk*

## September 2-5, 2005

Killdevil Lodge
Gros Morne

## September 6-9, 2005

Labrador Straits
Labrador

An organized event of the Humber Natural History Society
<http://www.hnhs.ca/>

SPONSORS:

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# In memoriam

Our hearts go out to Faye Murrin and Judy May, both of whom lost their husbands.

Faye is one of only two professional mycologists in the province and has been an enthusiastic member of our faculty from the beginning. She was in transit from the Gros Morne to the Labrador foray September 5, 2005, when she was notified that her husband, Joe, died suddenly at home.

Judy and Barry May have been close personal friends and strong supporters of the foray, involved in its organization from the outset. Barry died suddenly while at a medical meeting in Montreal just as this report was finished. The Report is dedicated to his memory.

May they both rest in peace.

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*Copies of this Report, the Reports for 2003 & 2004 and Cumulative Species List can be downloaded in pdf form from the mushroom section of the Humber Natural History Society's web page, <http://www.hnhs.ca/mushrooms/>. Also downloadable is a sneak preview of the mycology of the Avalon, Avalon Report, in pdf format.*

*Please feel free to use or circulate any of these documents.*
*Questions - <mushrooms@hnhs.ca>*

# FACULTY:

## GUESTS:

**Dave Malloch** *New Brunswick Museum*
**Machiel Noordeloos** *Netherlands National Herbarium*
**Roger Smith** *University of New Brunswick*
**Vello Soots** *Mycological Society of Toronto*
**Greg Thorn** *University of Western Ontario*
**Rod Tulloss** *The New York Botanical Gardens*

## LOCAL:

**Michael Burzynski** *Biologist, Gros Morne National Park*
**Faye Murrin** *Prof of Mycology, Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador, St John's*
**Stan Pieda** *College of the North Atlantic*
**Andrus Voitk** *Organizer; HNHS*

## FORAY LEADERS:

| Local | | Guest |
|---|---|---|
| Bobby Hancock | Barry May | Pat Burchell |
| Carmen Hancock | Judy May | Nancy Ironside |
| Claudia Hanel | Dawn Taylor | Paul Scott |
| Tracy Keats | Maria Voitk | Noah Siegel |
| Anne Marceau | | Sue Stark |

## DATABASE, SPECIES LIST

Clinton Bennett, Michael Burzynski, Anne Marceau, Mart Mäsak, Jim Parsons, Roger Smith, Andrus Voitk, Mirjam Urb, Mark Wilson and many others

## REGISTRARS:

Maria Voitk, Judy May, Kadri Mäsak

## MUSHROOM COOK-OUT CHEFS:

*Chef-in-Chief:* Barry May *Assistant:* Judy May

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*Bakers Brook Falls*

# PROGRAM — GROS MORNE

**FRIDAY, Sep 2, 2005**

3:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Lomond Room
*Registration*

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, Lomond Room
*Welcome reception*
Hosted by the people of Newfoundland and Labrador through the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Recreation, The Hon. Tom Osborne, MHA, Minister.

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Dining Hall
*Supper*

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Conference Room
**Dave Malloch**: *Atlantic mycoflora - from boreal to littoral*

8:00 PM – 9:00 PM, Conference Room
**Roger Smith**: *Mushroom photography - satisfying Art & Science with one shot*

**SATURDAY, Sep 3, 2005**

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, Dining Hall
*Breakfast*

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, Gros Morne Park
*Forays*

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, Dining Hall
*Lunch*

4:00 PM – 6:00 PM, Lomond Room Patio
*Mushroom cook-up*

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Dining Hall
*Supper*

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Conference Room
**Machiel Noordeloos**: *Entoloma: how to find your way in this large, diverse and widespread genus*

8:00 PM – 8:30 PM, Conference Room
**Noah Siegel**: *Portraits from my neck of the woods*

8:30 PM – 9:00 PM, Conference Room
**Nancy Ironside**: *My two mycoplots*

**SUNDAY, Sep 4, 2005**

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, Dining Hall
*Breakfast*

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM, Gros Morne Park
*Forays*

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, Dining Hall
*Lunch*

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM
**TABLES** with Machiel Noordeloos

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM
**TABLES** with Greg Thorn

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM
**TABLES** with Dave Malloch

6:00 PM – 7:00 PM, Dining Hall
*Supper*

7:00 PM – 8:00 PM, Conference Room
**Rod Tulloss**: *The Killdevil Amanita*

8:00 PM - 9:00 PM, Conference Room
**Faye Murrin**: *Tip of the Iceberg - Mycorrhizals in our other National Park*

**MONDAY, Sep 5, 2005**

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM, Dining Hall
*Breakfast*

9:00 PM - 9:30 AM
**TABLES** with Dave Malloch

9:30 PM - 10:00 AM
**TABLES** with Machiel Noordeloos

10:00 PM - 10:30 AM
**TABLES** with Greg Thorn

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Gros Morne Park
*ID Forays*

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Outside Park
*Forays for the Pot*

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM, Dining Hall
*Lunch*

2:00 PM – 3:00 PM, Conference Room
*Wrap-up & Thank you*

# PROGRAM — LABRADOR

**TUESDAY, Sep 6, 2005**

6:30 PM - 6:45 PM, Northern Lights Inn - L'Anse au Clair
*Welcome, introductions, presentations, information*

6:45 PM - 7:45 PM, Northern Lights Inn - L'Anse au Clair
*Supper*

7:45 PM - 8:45 PM, Northern Lights Inn
**Vello Soots**:
*Mushrooms of Ontario and other Faraway Places*

8:45 PM - 9:30 PM, Northern Lights Inn
**Andrus Voitk**:
*Introduction to Mushrooms 101*

**WEDNESDAY, Sep 7, 2005**

10:00 AM - 12:30 PM
Saddle Island, Red Bay
*Foray*

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM
*Lunch*

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
*Forays* (Trails 1-5)

6:30 - 7:30 PM, Seaview Restaurant - Forteau
*Supper*

7:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Seaview Restaurant
M**achiel Noordeloos**:
*Boletes - How to recognize the principal genera and groups within the genera in the northern temperate forests*

8:30 PM - 9:15 PM, Seaview Restaurant
**Andrus Voitk**:
*Mushroom Identification 101*

**THURSDAY, Sep 8, 2005**

9:00 AM - 2:30 PM
*Forays* (Trails 6-10)

4:00 PM - 4:30 PM
**TABLES**
Vello Soots

4:30 PM - 5:00 PM
**TABLES**
Machiel Noordeloos

5:00 PM - 5:30 PM
**TABLES**
Vello Soots

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM, Oceanview Restaurant - West St. Modeste
*Supper*

7:00 PM - 7:30 PM, Oceanview Restaurant - West St. Modeste
**Noah Siegel**:
*Prizewinners from NL 04*

7:30 PM - 8:15 PM, Oceanview Restaurant- West St. Modest
**Roger Smith**:
*Mushroom photography with a digital camera*

8:15 PM - 9:15 PM, Oceanview Restaurant- West St. Modeste
*Wrap up & Thank you*

**FRIDAY Sep 9, 2005**

9:00 AM - 9:30 AM
**TABLES**
Machiel Noordeloos

9:30 AM - 10:00 AM
**TABLES**
Vello Soots

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM
**TABLES**
Machiel Noordeloos

# REPORT

**This year's Foray** was a double event, with a Gros Morne Foray over Labour Day week-end, Sept 2-5, at Killdevil Lodge and a Labrador Foray Sept 6-9 along the Labrador Straits. As in past years, the Foray was sponsored by The Humber Natural History Society, aided by its several kind partners: The Department of Environment & Conservation, The Hon Tom Osborne, Minister, Gros Morne National Park, Gros Morne Cooperating Association, the Western Newfoundland Model Forest, Sir Wilfred Grenfell College of Memorial University, Seaview Restaurant & Cabins in Forteau and Altius Minerals Corporation.

43 mushroom enthusiasts foraged the autumn woods of spectacular Gros Morne Park and 35 the stunning Labrador coast for species to be identified with the help of experts. Over one-half of the participants were veterans of our previous forays, while newcomers came from California to Holland and all over our province; in Labrador we were joined by 7 Labradoreans. The Faculty was made up by experts from Holland, the USA, mainland Canada and our local cadre of mycophiles and mycologists.

As in previous years, the Foray opened with a reception by the Department of Environment & Conservation. Presentations of books, maps and other memorabilia were made to the out of province guests from Gros Morne Park. All registrants received a handsome registration package from the Department.

Small teams, under expert leadership, went forth into selected trails, foraging for mushrooms. Nature had co-operated, for the woods were bursting with fungi and the weather was pleasantly sunny in both locales.

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Killdevil obliged, as always, with the command performance of a local bull moose in the evenings, giving visitors plenty of opportunity for extemporaneous portrait photography.

As has become our custom, foragers were very diligent

about the use of collecting slips - virtually no specimen came in without a slip. Specimens were sorted with attempt to identify at least to genus. These were submitted to the experts' eagle eyes and authenticated specimens taken to the exhibition hall. Despite all this help, the experts were still kept busy into the night, seeking to finally pin a name on some elusive and pesky little mush-

rooms, using microscopes, chemicals, tomes of books and each other for consultation. The experts' life had been made harmoniously interesting in Labrador, where the lab was attached to the lighthouse. The lighthouse, in turn, was attached to the foghorn. And the foghorn shook the whole building with its basso belcanto every 45 seconds, all day long. When they wanted a break from identifying to such accompaniment, they could go and lie down in their bunk, which was 50 paces from the lighthouse. It provided a pleasant change to be able to contrast and compare the sound of the foghorn from these two vantage points all day and all night.

Oh, and yes, we actually took the whole group and did a two hour blitz foray on Saddle Island, shown on the picture, above.

The end result was over 300 mushroom species identified from the two locales - 208 from Gros Morne and 144 from Labrador with an overlap of 43. 57% of the species were new to our forays, bringing our cumulative list over 450. Photography, under the guidance of Canadian nature photographer Roger Smith continued to be a popular option. After spending time coaching in the field, Roger and his Documentation Team photographed all identified specimens, after which voucher specimens were dried for archiving in the Gros Morne National Park Herbarium.

Barry May and his team once again provided fried mushrooms for degustation at our traditional mushroom cook-

up both in Gros Morne and Labrador. In addition to edibles specifically collected for this purpose outside the Park, all edible copies were sacrificed under his knife. This provided the foragers with enjoyable forums for fellowship and swapping of mushroom lore in an otherwise activity packed week.

The evening scientific programs provided varied and informative talks from experts and amateurs alike. We had an overview of mushrooms and their place in the biosphere, a discussion of boletes and another of Entolomata from the World's Entoloma authority, Machiel

Noordeloos. The current leading Amanita expert, Rod Tulloss, described a new Amanita species found at our previous forays and named by him the Killdevil Amanita (*Amanita daimonioctantes*). Mushroom photography was covered both in how-to lectures by Roger Smith as well as examples by award-winning myshroom photographer Noah Siegel. Vello Soots introduced us to mushrooms of Ontario and Nancy Ironside gave an overview of how she had documented the mushrooms on her two leisure properties in Ontario. Faye Murrin described her work in Terra Nova National Park and Dave Malloch gave an very insightful analysis of the relationship of fungal species diversity to the habitats of the Atlantic Coast.

*Photographs in the Report by Roger Smith, Michael Burzynski, Jamie Graham, Judy May and Andrus Voitk.*

# A TRUFFLE IN LABRADOR
## &
## OTHER HIGHLIGHTS


A few observations, before starting to enumerate Latin names. Part of the joy a foray brings is from the small pleasures, small discoveries, possibly even minor little victories, associated with the search. Many of these are different for each person, so what follows must be considered a partial listing only.

For most of us, finding something new, something never before described, is a thrill. At least 5 new taxa were collected. Of course, we had the usual spate of new *Amanitas*, NFL 09-11 from Rod. Not bad, up to 11 new species in three years!


To Machiel we supplied at least 2 undescribed *Entolomas*. Found on the last morning in the Labrador sand dunes was a dark and rough *Entoloma*, provisionally named *Entoloma dunicola*. On the Killdevil grounds we collected an *Entoloma*, which we had been unable to identify to our satisfaction last year. Well, no wonder, for we tried to fit this undescribed species with a name for one already described! We decided to name this one provisionally *Entoloma enelense*, the en (N) el (L) signifying either NewfoundLand, Newfoundland and Labrador, NeederLand (NetherLand, Machiel's native land) or NoordeLoos, take your pick!

Labrador provided particular pleasure in serving up a spate of *Omphalinas*, even if I am not entirely confident we are totally familiar with them on an individual basis yet. A particular joy was to find both of the yellow *Lichenomphalias*, *L. hudsoniana* and *L. alpina*, and at low elevations at that. A small *Clitopilus*, *C. scyphoides* was a thrill, with its bakery smell of flour. But the highlight must be finding a truffle in Labrador! See if you can find it in the list!

Sometimes the victories are even smaller - the realization that you recognize *Cortinarius acutus* from last year, or finding another Killdevil Amanita and finding you know them on sight, or the sudden discovery that you found somebody with like interests. Or the catch in your breath upon viewing spectacular scenery. For some it was the closest ever to a live wild moose - and getting him on video!

Or how about this: Dave works on a tiny *Coprinus* and finally identifies it as one hitherto known from only one small location in Holland. He turns to its original descrining authority for confirmation and Machiel confirms it! Wow! Little victories make the excitement.

For me the highlight was the people, for they truly made the foray.

# SPECIES LIST

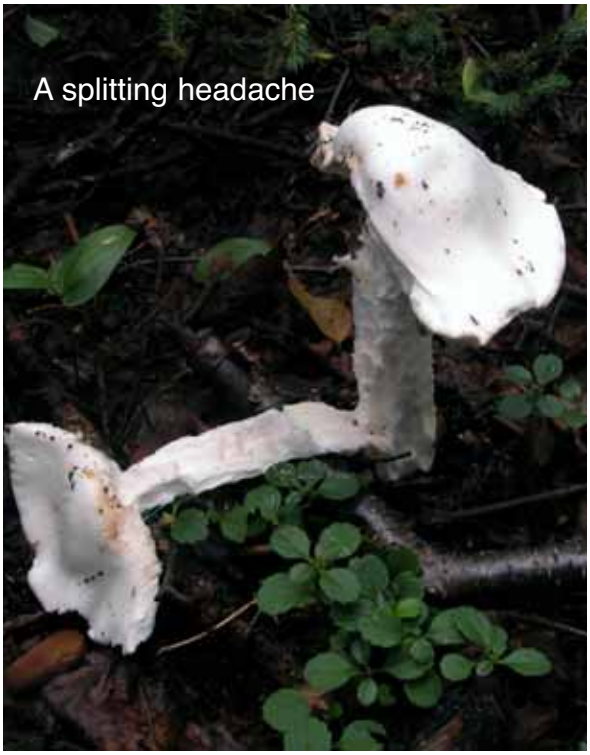
301 SPECIES

Developed by Michael Burzynski & Andrus Voitk with plenty of help from the Faculty and the Documentation Team

Authenticators: Dave Malloch, Faye Murrin, Machiel Noordeloos, Vello Soots, Greg Thorn, Rod Tulloss, Andrus Voitk

**NOTE:**

1. Taxonomy in Barron: Mushrooms of Ontario and Eastern Canada has been followed, where possible. Where it made sense, or where experts urged us, more recent convention has been adopted; common usage or sense has been followed for species not named in that book.
2. Names in green were exclusive to Gros Morne; names in blue were exclusive to Labrador; names in red were common to both locations.
4. Names in **bold print** denote new species this year.
5. List tentative - further study may cause revisions




*Bankera violascens*
*Bisporella citrina*
*Bolbitius vitellinu*
*Boletus edulis*
*Boletus subtomentosus*
*Calocybe carnea*
*Cantharellus cibarius*
***Cantharellus lutescens***
*Cantharellus tubaeformis*
*Chalciporus piperatus*
*Chlorociboria aerugi-nascens*
***Chrysomixa rhododenari***
***Clavaria argillacea***
***Clavaria purpurea***
*Clavariadelphus ligula*
***Clavariadelphus truncatus***
*Clavulina cristata*
*Clavulinopsis fusiformis*
*Clitocybe clavipes*
***Clitocybe dealbata***
***Clitocybe deceptiva***
***Clitocybe maxima***
***Clitocybella familia***
*Clitopilus prunulus*
***Clitopilus scyphoides***
*Collybia cirrhata*
*Collybia tuberosa*
***Conocybe fimetaria***
*Conocybe lactea*
***Conocybe pilosella***
***Conocybe tenera***
*Coprinus comatus*
***Coprinus epichloeus***
***Coprinus niveus***
*Cortinarius acutus*
*Cortinarius armillatus*
***Cortinarius balteatus***
*Cortinarius camphoratus*
***Cortinarius cinnabarius***
***Cortinarius claricolor***
***Cortinarius croceus***
***Cortinarius evernius***
***Cortinarius huronensis***
***Cortinarius integerrimus***
*Cortinarius limonius*
*Cortinarius malicorius*
***Cortinarius paleaceus***

***Agaricus bitorquis***
***Agaricus silvicola***
***Agrocybe erebia***
***Amanita albocreata***
***Amanita bisporigera***
*Amanita daimonioctantes*
*Amanita elongata*
*Amanita flavoconia*
***Amanita groenlandica***
*Amanita muscaria var. guessowii*
*Amanita NFL 06*
***Amanita NFL 09***
***Amanita NFL 10***
***Amanita NFL 11***
*Amanita porphyria*
***Apiosporina morbosa***
*Armillaria ostoyae*
***Arrhenia retiruga***
*Asterophera parastica*
***Auricularia judea***

***Cortinarius purpurascens***
*Cortinarius rubellus*
*Cortinarius semisanguineus*
*Cortinarius traganus*
***Cortinarius trivialis***
***Cortinarius tubarius***
*Cortinarius vibratilis*
*Cortinarius violaceus*
*Cudonia circinans*
*Cystoderma amianthinum*
***Dasyscyphus virgineus***
***Entoloma bloxamii***
***Entoloma dunicola***
*Entoloma enelense*
***Entoloma fuscomarginatum***
*Entoloma luridum*
***Entoloma papillatum***
***Entoloma prunuloides***
***Entoloma rhodopolium var. nidorosum***
***Entoloma sericeum***
***Entoloma subsepiaceum***
***Entoloma turbidum***
***Entoloma xanthoserrulatum***
*Fomes fomentarius*
*Fomitopsis pinicola*
***Fuligo septica***
*Fuscoboletinus grisellus*
*Fuscoboletinus laricinus*
***Fuscoboletinus paluster***
*Fuscoboletinus spectabilis*
***Fuscoboletinus viscidus***
***Galerina atkinsoniana***
*Galerina autumnalis*
***Galerina paludosa***
***Galerina uncialis***
***Geoglossum difforme***
***Geoglossum fallax***
*Gloeophyllum sepiarium*
*Gomphus clavatus*
*Gomphus floccosus*
***Gymnopilus bellulus***
***Gymnopilus junonius***
*Gymnopilus penetrans*
*Gymnopus acervatus*
*Gymnopus confluens*
*Gymnopus dryophilus*
***Hapalopilus rutilans***
*Hebeloma crustiliniforme*
***Hebeloma mesophaeum***
***Hebeloma sinapizans***
***Helvella corium***
*Helvella lacunosa*
***Helvella macropus***
***Henningsomyces candidus***
*Hirschoporus abietinus*
*Hydnellum peckii*
*Hydnellum scrobiculatum*
*Hydnum repandum*
*Hydnum umbilicatum*
*Hygrocybe cantharellus*
***Hygrocybe chlorophana***
***Hygrocybe coccinea***
*Hygrocybe conica*
***Hygrocybe cuspidata***
***Hygrocybe insipida***

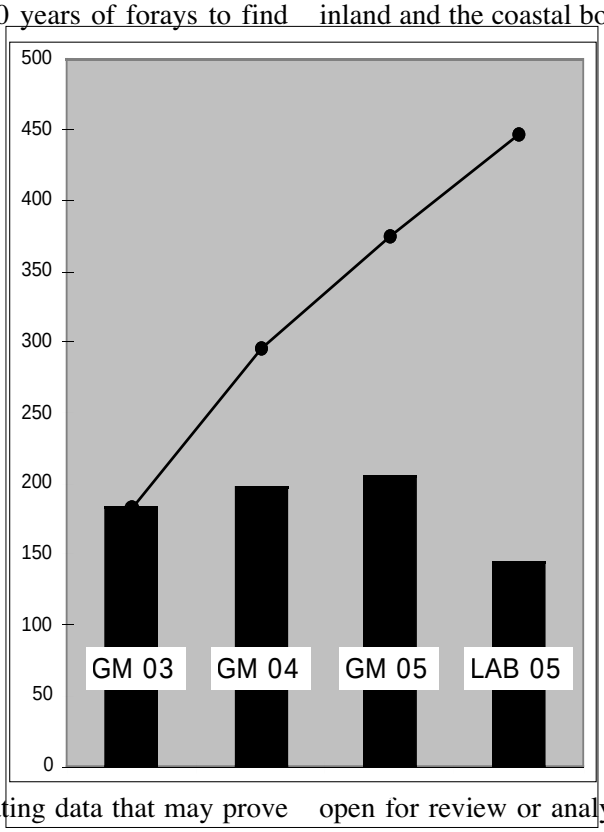
***Hygrocybe lacmus***
***Hygrocybe lilacina***
*Hygrocybe marginata*
*Hygrocybe miniata*
*Hygrocybe persistans*
*Hygrocybe virginea*
*Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca*
***Hygrophoropsis morganii***
***Hygrophorus inocybiformis***
*Hygrophorus speciosus*
*Hypholoma capnoides*
***Hypholoma elongatipes***
***Hypholoma elongatum***
***Hypholoma ericeum***
*Hypholoma fasciculare*
***Hypholoma sublateritium***
***Hypholoma udum***
***Hypocrea pulvinata***
*Inocybe geophylla*
*Inocybe geophylla var. lilacina*
***Inocybe lanuginosa***
*Inonotus obliquus*
*Jahnoporus hirtus*
***Laccaria altaica***
*Laccaria laccata*
*Laccaria proxima*
***Laccaria trullisata***
*Lactarius affinis*
***Lactarius alpinus***
*Lactarius camphoratus*
*Lactarius deceptivus*
*Lactarius deliciosus*
*Lactarius deterrimus*
*Lactarius glyciosmus*
*Lactarius helvus*
*Lactarius hibbardae*
*Lactarius lignyotus*
*Lactarius mucidus*
***Lactarius necator***
*Lactarius pubescens*
***Lactarius representaneus***
***Lactarius resimus***
***Lactarius rufus***
***Lactarius subvellereus***
***Lactarius tabidus***
*Lactarius thejogalus*
***Lactarius trivialis***
***Lactarius uvidus***
***Lactarius vietus***
*Lactarius vinaceorufescens*
*Leccinum atrostipitatum*
*Leccinum niveum*
***Leccinum rotundifolium***
*Leccinum scabrum*
*Leccinum snellii*


***Leccinum versipelle***
*Leotia lubrica*
*Leotia viscosa*
*Lepiota cristata*
***Lepista multiformis***
***Lepista nuda***
*Lycogala epidendrum*
***Lycoperdon ovatum***
*Lycoperdon perlatum*
***Lycoperdon pusillum***
*Lycoperdon pyriforme*
*Lycoperdon umbrinum*
*Lyophyllum connatum*
*Lyophyllum decastes*
***Marasmiellus perforans***
***Marasmiellus vaillantii***
*Marasmius androsaceus*
***Megacollybia platyphylla***
***Melanoleuca cognata***
***Melanoleuca melaleuca***
***Mitrula gracilis***
*Mycena epipterygia*
*Mycena galericulata*
*Mycena pura*
*Neolecta irregularis*
***Omphalina alpina***
***Omphalina bellifera***
***Omphalina hepatica***
***Omphalina hudsoniana***
***Omphalina oniscus***
***Omphalina velutipes***
***Panaeolus acuminatus***
***Panaeolus campanella***
***Panaeolus foenisecii***
***Panaeolus semiovatus***
***Panaeolus sphinctrinus***
*Panellus stipticus*
*Paxillus involutus*
*Phaeolus schweinitzii*
***Phellinus nigricans***
*Phellodon niger*
***Pholiota alnicola***
*Pholiota astragalina*
***Pholiota aurivella***
***Pholiota squarrosoides***

*Piptoporus betulinus*
*Pleurocybella porrigens*
***Plicaria nivea***
*Pluteus cervinus*
***Polyozellus multiplex***
*Polyporus badius*
*Polyporus elegans*
***Polyporus melanopus***
*Polyporus varius*
***Postia fragilis***
*Pseudohydnum gelatinosum*
***Psilocybe coprophila***
***Ramaria abietina***
***Ramaria aurea***
***Ramaria bataillei***
***Ramaria flava***
***Ramaria flavobrunnescens***
***Ramaria obtusissima***
***Ramaria virescens***
***Rhizopogon rubescens***
***Rhodocollybia distorta***
***Rhodocollybia proxima***
***Rickenella fibula***
*Rozites caperata*
*Russula adusta*
***Russula albonigra***
***Russula betulina***
*Russula brevipes*
***Russula brunneola***
*Russula claroflava*
*Russula compacta*
*Russula decolorans*
*Russula emetica*
*Russula fragilis*
***Russula ochroleuca***
*Russula paludosa*
***Russula peckii***
***Russula rosea***
***Russula silvicola***
***Russula variata***
***Russula xerampelina***
*Sarcodon imbricatum*
***Sarcodon leucopus***
*Scutellinia scutellata*
***Simocybe centunculus***
***Spathularia flavida***
*Stropharia alcis*
***Stropharia hornemanii***
***Stropharia magnivelaris***
*Suillus cavipes*
*Suillus grevillei*
***Thelephora terrestris***
***Trametes hirsuta***
*Tremiscus helvelloides*
***Trichaptum biforme***
***Tricholoma fulvum***
*Tricholoma imbricatum*
***Tricholoma inamoenum***
*Tricholoma pessundatum*
*Tricholoma sejunctum*
*Tricholoma vaccinum*
*Tricholoma virgatum*
*Tricholomopsis decora*
***Tricholomopsis rutilans***
*Tubaria confragosa*
*Tylopilus chromapes*
*Tylopilus felleus*
*Tyromyces chioneus*
*Xeromphalina campanella*

# WHAT DOES ALL THIS DATA MEAN?

So we found over 300 species in Gros Morne and Labrador Straits, bringing our cumulative species tally to over 450, so what? In fact, we have found about 200 mushroom species in the same place each year. However, each year almost half of them were not found the year before and one-third are entirely new. The bars of the graph show the species of each foray and the line shows the total of species to date. As you see, it is a straight line. This has been the experience of others as well. The estimated total number of species for our province is somewhere between 2,000 and 8,000. An optimistic guess suggests it will take at least 50-100 years of forays to find them all.




Clearly, mushrooms are not like mammals, or even plants, where a complete count is relatively easy by comparison. This is important knowledge for agencies involved in biodiversity surveys. It is also important for agencies or organizations concerned with setting aside areas to protect species diversity - for mushrooms, we may never know the true diversity.

Another thing our data suggests, is that the fruiting profile is different for different habitats. While we may have suspected as much intuitively and may reach this conclusion by deductive reasoning, it is still kind of nice to know that we are generating data that may prove this objectively.

How so, you ask. Well, go back and look at the list. The Labrador list (blue + red print) has a much larger proportion of additions to the cumulative list (indicated in bold print) than does the Gros Morne list (green + red print). Thus, a different habitat has different mushrooms, since a larger proportion from there is new.

Not convinced? Then look at the proportion of bold print species (new to the cumulative list) in red names (species common to both Gros Morne and Labrador). Now compare that to the proportion of bold print (new to the cumulative list) among the blue names (found only in Labrador). There's a huge difference. In other words, a species found in Labrador AND Gros Morne this time is unlikely to be new but one found in Labrador alone is. So the fruiting profile of Labrador, collected and identified in the same week by many of the same people, is quite different from that of Gros Morne.

Big deal? Perhaps. This may provide another method of defining habitat differences. The trees don't always tell the story. The boreal forest looks much the same all over. Yet Dave Malloch said that in 30 years of collecting and study, he has NEVER seen many of the species that are common in our boreal forest. Consequently he feels the boreal forest must harbour two different habitats, the inland and the coastal boreal forest. Indeed, this seems to be the case. And the mushrooms told the story. Well, analyzing the sort of data we generate year after year may allow us to reach the same conclusions without the need of a 30-year experience. This is cool.

The above analysis of our data is in the process of being written up for wider distribution. You heard about it here first. In addition, we may have enough information to publish a review of *Amanitas* in Newfoundland. Undoubtedly some of our new species will be reported in the scientific literature. These are just some of the spin-offs from our forays. Our data may hide a lot more information than we know. It is public information, open for review or analysis to anyone.Who knows what contributions we will make over the years? So keep it up!

If the foregoing seems a bit complicated, don't worry. The primary purpose of a foray is not to generate data for some esoteric analyses. The primary purpose is to have fun getting to know the many mushrooms with which we share our corner of the world. It's nice to be able to go out in nature and observe what grows there. It's nice to do so in the company of like-minded people. It's nice to have experts identify for us what we find, in hopes we learn a few more mushrooms each year… However, it is also kind of nice to know that the data we generate while having fun, can actually be applied to a purpose beyond making a longer and longer list of Latin names each year. It's nice to know that what we do can be useful in helping provide more insight into the nature we enjoy. And if we have fun doing it, all's the greater the enjoyment. N'est-ce pas?

# Advance Notice

## FORAY NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR 2006

## Avalon Peninsula

Lavrock Centre

## Sept 15-17, 2006

Mark your calendars!

Please check this spring for details on our web site <http://www.hnhs.ca/mushrooms/>.
If you want a brief preview of the Avalon's mushrooms, download Avalon Report from the site.

# LOGOS

The first two years we chose unidentified mushrooms for our logo, partly to illustrate the many undescribed and unique mushrooms available for discovery in Newfoundland & Labrador and partly for their simple beauty - an *Amanita* in 2003 and a *Mycena* in 2004.

Because bogs are an integral part of our landscape, a bog mushroom seemed suitable for our permanent logo, a fitting symbol of our land. Perfect symmetry, balanced form and understated but elegant colour made the beautiful *Omphalina gerardiana* the choice for our permanent logo.

As with many mysteries, time has offered a solution to our unidentified mushrooms. Dr Rod Tulloss has identified the *Amanita* of our first year, based on examination of similar mushrooms from the same area, as *A. groenlandica*. After three years' search, the mystery *Mycena* was found again in 2005, and this time identified as *M. overholtsii*.

Ironically, while we found out what the unidentified mushrooms were, we also found out that we really didn't know what the identified one was. In 1836 Berkeley described a small scaly-capped mushroom in sphagnum of English bogs, naming it *Agaricus sphagnicola*. In 1873 Peck described a similar mushroom from sphagnum in North American bogs under the name *Agaricus gerardiana*. The creation of more genera had these mushrooms flit from genus to genus, flirting with *Clitocybe* for a while and eventually stopping at *Omphalina*. Subsequent comparisons have led mycologists to believe these were the same mushroom, in which case the species epithet reverts to the earlier name, *O. sphagnicola*. Enter the age of DNA: most *Omphalinas* were reclassified and new genera created to accommodate them all. Our mushroom was reassigned to the genus *Arrhenia*, thus *A. Sphagnicola*.

The story does not end here! In 1960 Orton described a similar but darker mushroom, calling it *O. fusconigra*. Because its colouring was much more interesting than that of the standard issue *A. sphagnicola*, this dark one was the very mushroom we chose for our logo. Since Orton's description, it has flip-flopped between species and variety, with variety enjoying current favour. Thus, the correct nom-du-jour for the mushroom on our logo is *Arrhenia sphagnicola* var. *fusconigra*. Who knows what the morrow will bring?

The Newfoundland pine martin (*Martes americana ssp. atrata*), now an endangered species, is the logo of the Humber Natural History Society. It is an obvious symbol of the fragility of our natural environment and our need to know something about it in order to preserve it. While there is a list of endangered animals and plants, updated through constant monitoring, there is none for mushrooms, because nobody knows which mushrooms even grow here. We hope our Forays will help to correct some of these deficiencies.

HUMBER NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY