



OMPHALINA

ISSN 1925-1858



APPENDIX 1

CUMULATIVE INDEX
GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Newsletter of





FORAY NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

is an amateur, volunteer-run, community, not-for-profit organization with a mission to organize enjoyable and informative amateur mushroom forays in Newfoundland and Labrador and disseminate the knowledge gained.

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COVERS

Front: probable pale form of *Rickenella fibula* in a *Sphagnum* bog. This is the cover of our first issue, where we speculated that this might be *Gyroflexus brevisasidiatus*. Well, it is not anything remotely like that species!

Back: The real *Gyroflexus brevisasidiatus*, the cover of issue 4 of Volume 1, where a correction of the misidentification appears.

These covers are reproduced here to convince you that this really is an amateur journal, put together by amateurs.

APPENDIX 1

APPENDIX 1—no date: constantly updated

CUMULATIVE INDEX

By species

p. 3

By topic

p. 7

By author

p. 10

DIRECTIONS FOR AUTHORS

p. 10

CUMULATIVE INDEX

The index is divided into three sections:

Index by species

Lists every taxon by its scientific binomial that has received at least a modest description, including photo. Does not list species merely mentioned in the course of a text or discussion (usually).

Index by topic

Lists, in alphabetic order, the topics covered, exclusive of scientific names of taxa. Some may be doubly listed. Some may be lumped under a category (Book review, Poisoning, Recipe, etc.).

Index by author

Lists authors, last name first, in alphabetic order.

Currently updated to the end of **Volume 5+**.

Plan is to update it at the end of each volume. Therefore, if you are looking for something that you are sure was in **OMPHALINA**, and do not find it, look through the issues of the current volume.

By species

<i>Abies balsamea</i>	4(11):24	<i>Cladonia</i>	2(9):15
<i>Agaricus bernardii</i>	6(1):22-23	<i>Cladonia amaurocraea</i>	4(11):15
<i>Agaricus bitorquis</i>	3(8):10	<i>Cladonia arbuscula</i>	4(11):6
<i>Agaricus silvicola</i>	3(4):7	<i>Cladonia bellidiflora</i>	2(9):17
<i>Agrocybe arenicola</i>	3(9):12	<i>Cladonia borealis</i>	2(9):19
<i>Aleuria aurantia</i>	4(11):20	<i>Cladonia ciliata</i>	4(11):17
<i>Alliaria petiolata</i>	4(7):22	<i>Cladonia coccifera</i>	2(9):19
<i>Alnus incana ssp. rugosa</i>	2(4):18	<i>Cladonia cristatella</i>	2(9):17
<i>Alnus viridis ssp. crispa</i>	2(4):18	<i>Cladonia deformis</i>	2(9):18
<i>Alpova cinnamomeus</i>	2(8):4, 2(8):7, 5(8):17-20	<i>Cladonia macilenta</i>	2(9):19
<i>Amanita bisporigera</i>	3(4):7	<i>Cladonia mitis</i>	4(11):8
<i>Amanita wellsii</i>	3(11):14	<i>Cladonia oricola</i>	4(11):9
<i>Annulohyphoxylon multiforme</i>	4(1):13	<i>Cladonia rangiferina</i>	4(11):10
<i>Antrodiella canadensis</i>	4(6):8	<i>Cladonia stygia</i>	4(11):12
<i>Antrodiella semisupina</i>	4(2):12	<i>Cladonia sulphurina</i>	2(9):18
<i>Apiosporina morbosa</i>	4(1):16	<i>Cladonia verticellata</i>	3(2):3
<i>Arctoparmelia</i>	4(4):4	<i>Cladonia bryi</i>	4(11):15
<i>Arctoparmelia centrifuga</i>	4(4):5	<i>Clavaria acuta</i>	6(1):13
<i>Arctoparmelia incurva</i>	4(4):6	<i>Claviceps purpurea</i>	4(1):16
<i>Armillarea ostoyae</i>	2(7):10	<i>Claviceps purpurea</i>	4(4):15
<i>Arrhenia epichysium</i>	5(7):24	<i>Collema furfuraceum</i>	5(9):13-15
<i>Arrhenia griseopallida</i>	5(7):22	<i>Collybia tuberosa</i>	3(1):22, 2(9):12
<i>Arrhenia obscurata</i>	5(7):5-21	<i>Connopus acervatus</i>	3(5):16
<i>Arrhenia peltigerina</i>	4(10):8, 5(7):23	<i>Coprinopsis atramentaria</i>	2(9):13
<i>Atheniella adonis</i>	3(5):4	<i>Coprinus comatus</i>	2(5):7, 3(8):10
<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>	4(8):3	<i>Corallorhiza striata</i>	2(9):6
<i>Betula michauxii</i>	4(8):14	<i>Cordyceps ophioglossoides</i>	2(8):5
<i>Betula papyrifera</i>	4(8):3	<i>Cortinarius armillatus</i>	2(1):13
<i>Biscogniauxia repanda</i>	4(1):3, 4(1):11, 5(3):20-22	<i>Cortinarius boulderensis</i>	6(1):11
<i>Blasiphalia pseudogrisella</i>	4(10):8	<i>Cortinarius niveotraganus</i>	2(5):16
<i>Bovista plumbea</i>	2(8):12	<i>Cortinarius rubellus</i>	3(1):17
<i>Buellia stillingiana</i>	4(8):5	<i>Cortinarius sanguineus</i>	5(8):14-15
<i>Byssonectria terrestris</i>	3(4):12	<i>Cortinarius semisanguineus</i>	3(8):13
<i>Caldonia stellaris</i>	4(11):11	<i>Craterellus tubaeformis</i>	4(1):17
<i>Caldonia terrae-novae</i>	4(11):13	<i>Crepidotus applanatus</i>	5(11):10-13
<i>Caldonia uncinialis ssp. biuncinialis</i>	4(11):15	<i>Crepidotus calolepis</i>	5(11):10-13
<i>Caldonia uncinialis ssp. uncinialis</i>	4(11):15	<i>Crepidotus cesatii</i>	5(11):10-13
<i>Caloscypha fulgens</i>	4(11):20	<i>Crepidotus fusisporus</i>	5(11):10-13
<i>Cantharellus roseocanus</i>	2(4):13, 2(7):14, 4(9):22	<i>Crepidotus fusisporus</i>	5(11):10-13
<i>Cerrena unicolor</i>	3(3):3	<i>Crepidotus versutus</i>	5(11):10-13
<i>Cheimonophyllum candidissimum</i>	5(11):5-6	<i>Cryptodiaporthe corni</i>	4(1):14
<i>Cladina</i>	4(11):4	<i>Cypripedium reginae</i>	2(2):14, 4(6):4

<i>Cystoderma</i>	4(7):6
<i>Cystoderma amianthinum</i>	4(7):9
<i>Cystoderma jasonis</i>	4(7):10
<i>Cystodermella</i>	4(7):6
<i>Cystodermella adnatifolia</i>	4(7):10
<i>Cystodermella cinnabarina</i>	4(7):11
<i>Cystodermella granulosa</i>	4(7):12
<i>Cystostereum murrainii</i>	3(9):12
<i>Dacrymyces chrysospermus</i>	3(9):8
<i>Daedalopsis</i>	4(8):12
<i>Daedalopsis confragosa</i>	4(8):12
<i>Daedalopsis septentrionalis</i>	4(8):12
<i>Dasyscyphus controversus</i>	3(9):12
<i>Dasyscyphus virgineus</i>	1(7)
<i>Diatrype stigma</i>	4(1):14
<i>Diatrypella betulina</i>	4(1):12
<i>Diatrypella favacea</i>	4(1):13
<i>Elaphomyces</i>	2(8):5
<i>Encoelia furfuracea</i>	4(6):9
<i>Endogone pisiformis</i>	2(8):6
<i>Entoloma incanum</i>	5(10):9
<i>Entoloma luridum</i>	3(5):13
<i>Entoloma parasiticum</i>	4(2):3, 4(2):7
<i>Entoloma pseudoparasiticum</i>	4(2):3
<i>Entoloma subsinuatum</i>	3(4):4, 3(5):13
<i>Erioderma pedicellatum</i>	3(3):22
<i>Eutypella sorbi</i>	4(1):11
<i>Exobasidium oxycocci</i>	5(9):21
<i>Femsjonia peziziformis</i>	4(8):20
<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>	2(5):14
<i>Fomitopsis</i>	4(7):14
<i>Fomitopsis ochracea</i>	2(2):9, 3(3):6, 4(7):15, 5(1):24
<i>Fomitopsis pinicola</i>	2(2):12, 2(5):12, 4(7):15
<i>Fomitopsis rosea</i>	4(7):16
<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>	4(6):4
<i>Gamundia leucophylla</i>	1(5)
<i>Ganoderma applanatum</i>	2(5):13
<i>Geoglossum cookeianum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Geoglossum fallax</i>	4(5):14
<i>Geoglossum glabrum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Geoglossum simile</i>	4(5):14
<i>Geoglossum umbratile</i>	4(5):14
<i>Geopyxis carbonaria</i>	4(11):20, 5(2):15-16
<i>Gloeophyllum sepiarium</i>	3(9):20
<i>Gloioxanthomyces nitida</i>	2(7):4, 3(1):12
<i>Gloioxanthomyces vitellina</i>	2(7):4, 3(1):12
<i>Gnomoniopsis chamaemori</i>	3(9):12

<i>Gomphidius borealis</i>	5(3):3-10
<i>Gomphidius glutinosus</i>	5(3):3-10
<i>Gomphidius maculatus</i>	5(3):3-10
<i>Gomphidius nigricans</i>	5(3):3-10
<i>Gomphus floccosus</i>	3(7):8
<i>Graphis scripta</i>	4(8):5
<i>Gymnopus alaklivirens</i>	5(5):21-27
<i>Gymnopus alpinus</i>	5(5):13-15, 5(5):21-27
<i>Gymnopus confluens</i>	5(5):21-27
<i>Gymnopus dryophilus</i>	5(5):13-15, 5(5):21-27
<i>Gymnopus eneficola</i>	5(5):5-12, 5(5):21-27
<i>Gymnopus subnudus</i>	5(5):21-27
<i>Gymnosporangium</i>	3(10):10
<i>Gymnosporangium clavariiforme</i>	3(10):15
<i>Gymnosporangium clivipes</i>	3(10):16, 4(10):10
<i>Gymnosporangium corniculans</i>	3(10):17
<i>Gymnosporangium cornutum</i>	3(10):18
<i>Gymnosporangium nidus-avis</i>	3(10):19
<i>Gyroflexus brevibasiatus</i>	1(4)
<i>Gyromitra ambigua</i>	3(11):12
<i>Gyromitra esculenta</i>	5(2):15-16
<i>Hapalopolus nidulans</i>	3(3):21
<i>Hemimycena lactea</i>	2(8):13
<i>Hericium americanus</i>	4(8):18
<i>Hohenbuehelia abietina</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hohenbuehelia fluxilis</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hohenbuehelia petalodes</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hohenbuehelia pinacearum</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hohenbuehelia reniformis</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hohenbuehelia tremula</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hohenbuehelia unguicularis</i>	5(11):20-23
<i>Hydnotrya cubispora</i>	6(1):20-21
<i>Hydnum umbilicatum</i>	4(4):9
<i>Hygrocybe</i>	5(1):2-6
<i>Hygrocybe jackmanii</i>	2(9):3
<i>Hygrocybe nitida</i>	2(7):4, 3(1):12
<i>Hygrocybe vitellina</i>	2(7):4, 3(1):12
<i>Hypocrea alutacea</i>	4(5):20
<i>Hypocrea leucopus</i>	4(5):20
<i>Hypogymnia physodes</i>	4(8):6
<i>Hypogymnia tubulosa</i>	4(8):6
<i>Hypomyces lactifluorum</i>	2(9):4
<i>Hypoxyton fuscum</i>	4(1):10
<i>Hypsizygus ulmarius</i>	4(6):12
<i>Inocybe geophylla</i>	5(10):6
<i>Inocybe lilacina</i>	5(10):6
<i>Inonotus obliquus</i>	2(1):2, 4(9):9, 4(9):12

<i>Lactarius "deterimus"</i>	3(8):4
<i>Lactarius auricola</i>	6(1):12
<i>Lactarius helvus</i>	3(5):14
<i>Lactarius lignyotus</i> var. <i>marginatus</i>	3(7):4
<i>Lactarius lignyotus</i> var. <i>nigroviolascens</i>	4(5):12
<i>Lactarius scrobilatus</i> var. <i>canadensis</i>	3(7):14
<i>Lactarius thynos</i>	3(8):4
<i>Lactarius</i> , sect. <i>deliciosi</i>	3(8):4
<i>Lecanora hybocarpa</i>	4(8):6
<i>Lentinellus cochleatus</i>	3(2):12
<i>Lepista nuda</i>	5(9):16
<i>Leptoporus mollis</i>	3(3):21
<i>Leucoagaricus leucothites</i>	3(4):7
<i>Leucoagaticus americanus</i>	5(1):22-23
<i>Lycoperdon</i>	2(8):10
<i>Lycoperdon perlatum</i>	2(8):10
<i>Lycoperdon utrifforme</i>	2(8):12
<i>Macrotyphula contorta</i>	1(6), 3(1):4
<i>Macrotyphula fistulosa</i> var. <i>contorta</i>	1(6), 3(1):4
<i>Megacollybia rodmanii</i>	3(6):12
<i>Melamsporella caryophyllacearum</i>	2(1):9
<i>Melanconis marginata</i>	4(1):15
<i>Melanilixia fuliginosa</i>	4(8):7
<i>Microglossum atropurpureum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Microglossum fumosum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Microglossum olivaceisquamosum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Microglossum rufum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Mitrla borealis</i>	5(1):20-21
<i>Mitrla elegans</i>	3(9):12, 4(11):16, 5(1):20-21
<i>Morchella</i>	2(4):4, 4(1):17, 5(2):3-6
<i>Morchella importuna</i>	5(2):3-6, 5(2):11-12
<i>Morchella septentrionalis</i>	3(5):19
<i>Morchella</i> sp. Mel-19	5(2):3-6, 5(2):13-14, 6(1):15-16
<i>Morchells</i> sp. Mel-36	5(2):3-6, 5(2):7-10, 5(2):17-18, 5(2):19-21
<i>Morganella pyriformis</i>	2(8):11
<i>Mycenella trachispora</i>	3(11):21
<i>Naiadolina flavimerulina</i>	3(9):12, 4(4):18
<i>Neolentinus lepideus</i>	4(6):12
<i>Neottiella vivida</i>	5(4):24
<i>Panellus stipticus</i>	5(11):16-18
<i>Parmelia sulcata</i>	4(8):7
<i>Paxillus involutus</i>	2(7):19
<i>Peltigera aphthosa</i>	2(8):9
<i>Peltigera leucophlebia</i>	2(8):9
<i>Peniophora</i>	4(5):4

<i>Peniophora aurantiaca</i>	3(12):6, 4(5):6
<i>Peniophora cinerea</i>	4(5):9, 4(5):10
<i>Peniophora erikssonii</i>	3(12):6, 4(5):7
<i>Peniophora nuda</i>	4(5):9
<i>Peniophora polygonia</i>	4(5):8
<i>Peniophora rufa</i>	4(5):8
<i>Peniophorella praetermissa</i>	4(6):16
<i>Peziza ammophila</i>	5(9):12, 5(11):24
<i>Peziza domiciliana</i>	3(8):10
<i>Phellinus abietis</i>	5(1):15-17
<i>Phellinus chrysoloma</i>	5(1):15-17
<i>Phellinus igniarius</i>	2(5):15
<i>Pholiota limonella</i>	5(1):13-14
<i>Phyllostopsis nidulans</i>	3(1):19
<i>Physcia aipolia</i>	4(8):8
<i>Piptoperus betulinus</i>	2(5):11, 4(4):7
<i>Platanthera orbiculata</i>	3(2):10
<i>Platismatia glauca</i>	4(8):7
<i>Pleurocybella porrigens</i>	2(9):8, 4(6):12, 5(11):3-4
<i>Pleurotus</i>	3(3):16
<i>Pleurotus dryinus</i>	4(6):12
<i>Plicatura crispa</i>	5(11):7-9
<i>Plicatura nivea</i>	5(11):7-9
<i>Pluteus elaphinus</i>	5(9):4-10
<i>Pluteus eos</i>	5(9):4-10
<i>Pluteus leoninus</i>	5(9):4-10
<i>Pluteus methvenii</i>	5(9):4-10
<i>Pluteus primus</i>	5(9):4-10
<i>Psathyrella typhae</i>	3(9):12
<i>Puccinia caricina</i> var. <i>pringheimiana</i>	4(5):22
<i>Puccinia caricis-sheperdiae</i>	3(7):12
<i>Pychnoporellus fulgens</i>	3(3):21, 4(2):12
<i>Pyrrhospora varians</i>	4(8):8
<i>Ramalina dilacerata</i>	3(5):20
<i>Rhizomarasmius epidryas</i>	3(11):22, 4(2):10
<i>Rhizopogon pseudoroseolus</i>	2(8):8
<i>Rhytisma andromedae</i>	5(3):17-18
<i>Rhytisma salicinum</i>	3(8):8
<i>Russula griseascens</i>	6(1):14
<i>Russula paludosa</i>	3(11):3
<i>Russula peckii</i>	4(7):21
<i>Sabuloglossum arenarium</i>	4(5):14
<i>Sarcomyxa serotina</i>	4(6):12
<i>Sarcosoma globosum</i>	6(1):7-10
<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	5(2):15-16, 5(11):15
<i>Serpula lacrymans</i>	2(9):10
<i>Sheperdia canadensis</i>	3(7):12

<i>Splachnum rubrun</i>	2(6):22
<i>Stenocybe pullatula</i>	3(9):18
<i>Stropharia alcis</i>	2(9):12
<i>Taphrina robinsoniana</i>	3(6):8, 2(4):10, 2(4):8
<i>Tomentella fuscocinera</i>	2(9):6
<i>Trametes hirsuta</i>	5(4):14-22
<i>Trametes ochracea</i>	5(4):14-22
<i>Trametes pubescens</i>	5(4):14-22
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	2(2):2, 5(4):14-22
<i>Trichoglossum hirsutum</i>	4(5):14
<i>Trichoglossum walteri</i>	4(5):14
<i>Tricholoma albobrunneum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma apium</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma atrodiscum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma avernense</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma caligatum</i> var. <i>occidentalis</i>	5(6):10-13
<i>Tricholoma columbetta</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma dulciolens</i>	5(6):5-9, 5(6):10-13
<i>Tricholoma dulciolens</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma guldeniae</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma luridum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma magnivelare</i>	5(6):10-13
<i>Tricholoma matsutake</i>	2(6):5, 5(6):5-9, 5(6):10-13
<i>Tricholoma myomyces</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma nigrum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma roseoacereum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma</i> sect. <i>Caligatum</i>	5(6):5-9
<i>Tricholoma subsejunctum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma terreum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma virgatum</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholoma viridilutescens</i>	5(6):15-23
<i>Tricholomopsis</i>	2(7):6
<i>Tricholomopsis decora</i>	2(7):7
<i>Tricholomopsis osiliensis</i>	2(7):9
<i>Tricholomopsis rutilans</i>	2(7):6
<i>Tricholomopsis sulfureoides</i>	2(7):8
<i>Tricholomopsis sulfureoides</i>	3(5):9
<i>Trombetta canadensis</i>	3(7):8
<i>Tuber</i> sp. 16	6(1):17-18
<i>Tuber</i> sp. 19	6(1):17-18
<i>Turbinellus floccosus</i>	3(7):8
<i>Variolaria multipunctoides</i>	4(8):8
<i>Vulpicida pinastri</i>	2(7):13
<i>Xanthoria</i>	4(1):21
<i>Xanthoria elegans</i>	4(1):21
<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	4(1):22
<i>Xanthoria polycarpa</i>	4(1):23

<i>Xanthoria solediata</i>	4(1):22
<i>Xeromphalina campanella</i>	5(2):15-16
<i>Xylaria hypoxylon</i>	4(10):6

By topic

\$1,000 question	2(8):4
Aeciospore	3(10):11
Alder	2(4):18
Andromeda bog rake	5(3):19
Angel wings	5(11):3-4
Balsam fir male cones	4(11):24
Basidiospore	3(10):12
Birth, fate new names	5(1):8-12
Book review: Ascomycetes	5(4):25-27
Book review: Building rotters	4(4):14
Book review: Giant polypores	5(1):19
Book review: Indicator mushrooms	5(9):20
Book review: Millman	3(2):6, 5(1):19
Book review: Ohio guide	4(4):14
Book review: Outer spores	5(9):20
Book review: Petersen	4(6):10
Book review: Poroid fungi Europe	5(8):10-11
Book review: Sienet ja metsien luontoarvot	5(9):20
Book review: The little town where time stood still	5(9):18-19
Book Review: Tricholomas	4(4):12
Book review: Wax caps	3(4):19
Bracket key	2(2):6
Chaga	2(1):2, 4(9):9, 4(9):12
Christmas lichen	2(9):15
Christmas mushroom	1(7)
Clothing & Equipment	5(4):8
Colour change, morel	5(2):17-18
Commercial picking	4(9):3, 4(9):5, 4(10):54
Conks in section	2(5):11
Cooking: workshop	3(12):13
Crimped gills	5(11):7-9
Crown mushrooms	4(8):9
Distress fruiting	2(4):4
Diversity & biogeography of fungi	6(1):3-6
Dr. Kare's thesis	5(8):13
Dryads	5(5):17-20
Dryophiles, dryophobes	5(5):17-20
Dye report	5(10):20
Earth tongues	4(5):14
Edibles: collect, find	3(11):8, 4(2):14, 4(9):16, 4(9):22

Evolution, mushrooms	3(1):14
Faculty foray report, 2014	5(10):7
Fairy rings	3(2):10
False truffles of NL	2(8):7
Finnish Red Book, 2010	2(5):10
Fire morels	5(2):15-16
Fogo	4(3):4
Fogo mushrooms	4(3):6
Foray 2014 in Gros Morne	5(4):3
Foray report: Fogo 2013	4(10):4
Foray report: Fogo mini 2012	4(3):11
Foray report: Goose Bay 2012	3(11):5
Foray report: mini GNP, 2012	3(11):16
Foray report: Terra Nova 2012	3(12):4
Fungi on polypores	3(9):10, 4(2):12
Garlic mustard	4(7):22
Global fungal distribution	6(1):3-6
Good mushroom year	4(9):14
Gros Morne wetlands	5(8):4-5
Gros Morne forests	5(6):3-4
Gros Morne granitic highlands	5(7):3-4
Gros Morne trails	5(4):5-7
Growth of morel	5(2):19-21
Guttation	3(3):10
Gymnosporangium worm	3(10):21
Halloween mushrooms	3(10):4
Home in the Arctic	4(6):16
Homewreckers	3(8):10
Hrabal, Bohumil	5(9):18-19
Hygrocybe genera	5(1):2-6
In memoriam: Parmasto	3(4):21
Jelly oysters	5(11):20-23
Killdevil Camp	5(4):4
Killer conks	3(3):21
Learning mushrooms	4(3):24
Lichen collection, ID, glossary	3(2):4, 3(12):8
Lichen survey, 2014	5(10):40-43
Lichen walk report	5(10):18
Lichen weeds	2(6):18
Lichen, new	5(1):24
Lichens	2(3):9, 2(5):17
Lichens on birch	4(8):3

Lichens on Newfoundland birch	4(8):14
Life cycle Gymnosporangium	3(10):10
Light coloured zonate bracket key	2(2):6
Majority rule consensus taxonomy	5(6):10-13
Male cones, balsam fir	4(11):24
Moose Ötzi Piptoperus	4(4):7
Morel names	5(2):23, 5(4):28
Morel uipdate	4(2):17
Morelling	3(7):17
Morels	5(2):3-6
Murrill, WA	5(6):10-13
Mushroom sex	3(3):16
Mushrooming in TNNP	2(3):14
Mushrooms	1(5)
Mushrooms in the news	5(8):8-9
New generic names	5(1):8-12
New NL trichs	5(6):15-23
Newfoundland chanterelle	2(4):13, 2(7):14
On the wings of a predator	5(11):19
Orange cup fungi	4(11):20
Overpicking	4(10):54
Oyster reproduction	3(3):16
Oysters of NL	4(6):12
Parallel evolution	2(6):4, 2(8):18
Parmasto, Erast	3(4):21
Pasadena moose truffle	6(1):20-21
Peck, CH	5(6):10-13
Photgraphy: stacking	5(3):15-16
Photography: aperture	3(5):6
Photography: Autofocus	3(3):18
Photography: autofocus	3(3):18
Photography: composition	3(6):14
Photography: eliminating blur	2(6):7
Photography: macro & manual focus	3(4):10
Phylogenetic tree	3(1):10, 3(1):20, 3(5):18, 4(7):18, 4(8):23
Pick for the pot report	5(10):23
PlastoBounce	4(1):7
Pluteus cervinus complex	5(9):4-10
Poisoning, dog	5(1):22-23
Poisoning: big white gilled	3(4):7
Poisoning: conks	3(3):21
Poisoning: Daniel Fahrenheit	2(8):17
Poisoning: Entoloma subsinuatum	3(4):4
Poisoning: Fahrenheit	2(8):17
Poisoning: Haemolysis	2(7):19
Poisoning: Johann Schobert	2(6):17

Poisoning: Julius Schäffer	2(7):18
Poisoning: Nicholas Evans	3(1):16
Poisoning: orellanine	3(1):17
Poisoning: Orellanine syndrome	3(1):17
Poisoning: Paxillus syndrome	2(7):19
Poisoning: Pleurocybella toxin	2(9):8
Poisoning: polyporic acid	3(3):21
Poisoning: radioactive	2(3):16
Poisoning: Shiitake dermatitis	3(3):20
Poster: edible mushrooms	5(8):6-7
Primordium	4(9):14
Puffballs	2(8):10
Pyrenomycetes	4(1):10
QuuQup report	5(10):24
Recipe: Chaga chocolate crescents	3(4):18
Recipe: Chaga latte	4(2):9
Recipe: Chanterelle soup	4(11):22
Recipe: Chanterelle Vodka	2(1):7
Recipe: Cod, morel sauce	3(6):19
Recipe: Creamy mushroom sopup	4(10):24
Recipe: Goat & honey poke	1(7)
Recipe: Hedgehogs in oil	2(1):8
Recipe: Lepista pizza	5(9):17
Recipe: Morel Béchamel	5(2):22
Recipe: Morel sauce, cod	3(6):19
Recipe: Morel, goat cheese pizza	3(7):19
Recipe: moroccan chicken	5(8):17-23
Recipe: Murmansk Leccinum wellington	1(1)
Recipe: Mushroom caviar	2(4):7
Recipe: Mushroom paté	3(11):15
Recipe: mushroom risotto	5(3):23
Recipe: Parboiling Lactarius	2(9):20
Recipe: partridge & chanterelles	5(8):17-22
Recipe: Potstickers	4(11):23
Recipe: Russula salad	2(9):21
Recipe: wild mushroom soup	5(8):17-21
Red mushroom of Labrador	3(11):3
Reindeer lichens	4(11):4
Reportt: Fogo lichens 2013	4(10):50
Richard Squires Mycoblitz	5(10):8
Rotters	3(9):10, 3(9):12, 4(2):12, 4(2):13
Rusts	2(1):11
Serpentine lichen	5(9):22
Sex, reproduction, fungi	3(3):16
Singer, Rolf	5(6):10-13
Sir Richard Squires Park	5(4):10-11
Slugs & mushrooms	3(6):4

Smith, AH	5(6):10-13
Soil fungi NL, distribution	6(1):7-10
Soli fungi	6(1):3-6
Species list 2012, mushrooms	3(12):23
Species list 2013, lichens	4(10):46
Species list 2013, mushrooms	4(10):29
Species list, lichens 2014	5(10):35-39
Species list, mushrooms, 2014	5(10):26-31
Species list: Goose Bay 2012	3(11):10
Spermatia	3(10):11
Split gills	5(11):15
Splitting of <i>Hygrocybe</i>	5(1):2-6
SPM stamps	5(11):14
spore quilt	1(7)
Styropod	2(6):10
Tables report	5(10):19
Taxonomy	3(1):3, 3(1):8
Teliospore	3(10):12
Three-way life of <i>Gomphidius</i>	5(3):11-13
Tick alert	4(4):22
Ties that bind	2(2):14, 4(6):4
Totipotentiality	2(6):4
Training manual, stewardship	5(8):12
Tree of life	4(4):21
Truffle, NL	6(1):17-18
Truffles of NL	2(8):4
Unbroken chain	2(5):6
Vandals	3(8):10
Viking return	5(1):13-14
Watercolour report	5(10):22
Weather & morel colour	5(2):17-18
Whim of the winds	1(7)
White and lilac inocybes	5(10):6
Wine & mushrooms	3(4):16
Witches' brooms	2(1):9
Wood rot	2(9):5
Wood rot walk report	5(10):21
Workshop: Mushroom growing	3(12):11
Workshops	5(4):9
Wristers	2(6):14
Xerophilia of <i>Biscogniauxia</i>	5(3):20-22

By author

Aarnaes, Jon-Otto	4(2):3-6, 4(2):7-8
Abraham, Daniel	5(11):14
Ahti, Teuvo	2(9):21, 4(11):4-15, 5(10):35-39, 5(10):40-43
Aime, Catherine M	5(3):3-10
Aldrovandi, Matt	5(5):13-15, 5(5):17-20
Ammirati, Joe	6(1):11
Autry, Kaari	3(7):19
Beug, Michael	2(3):16, 2(9):8, 3(3):20, 5(1):24, 5(2):13-14
Bishop, Glynn	5(10):22
Boertmann, David	2(7):4-5, 3(1):12-13
Boyle, David	3(3):16-17, 2(12):11-12)
Boyle, Margaret	4(2):3-6, 4(2):7-8
Brake, Zoe	5(1):19
Bravi, Becki	2(6):5-6
Brooks, Darin	4(2):14-15, 4(9):16-21
Bryden, Bill	4(4):7, 4(8):18-19, 6(1):22-23
Bunyard, Britt	2(4):7
Burzynski, Michael	4(4):15-17, 5(2):7-10, 5(4):3, 5(4):4, 5(4):5-7, 5(4):8, 5(5):3-4, 5(6):3-4, 5(7):3-4, 5(8):4-5, 5(8):6-7, 5(10):23, 5(10):26-31
Ceska, Oluna	5(10):19
Chatzidakis, Zoe	4(6):4-7
Clayden, Stephen	4(8):3-4, 4(8):14-17
Cornish, Jim	1(5), 1(7), 2(1):13-14, 2(2):12-13, 2(5):7-9, 2(5):17-21, 2(6):7-9, 2(7):10-12, 2(8):10-12, 2(9):13-14, 3(1):22-23, 3(3):18-19, 3(4):10-11, 3(4):12-14, 3(5):4-5, 3(5):6-8, 3(6):14-17, 3(8):13-14, 3(9):8-9, 3(10):4-8, 4(1):17-19, 4(4):9-11, 4(6):10-11, 5(11):16-18
Deduke, Chris	4(10):50-53, 5(1):24, 5(10):35-39, 5(10):40-43
Endicott, Walter	4(9):3-3, 4(9):5-8, 4(9):9-11, 5(3):15-16
Fequet, Betty Anne	3(11):5-8
Frøslev, Tobias	5(6):5-9
Ginns, Jim	4(2):12, 4(4):18-20
Graham, Sarah	5(11):15
Gulden, Gro	3(11):21, 3(11):22-23, 4(2):3-6, 4(2):7-8, 5(6):5-9
Hallenberg, Nils	3(12):6-7, 4(5):4-5, 4(5):6-9, 4(5):10-11
Handrigan, Pat	3(7):8-10
Hanel, Claudia	4(8):3-4
Hayward, Jeremy	2(8):7-8, 5(8):17-20
Herzberg, Gene	5(1):20-21
Horton Tom	2(8):7-8, 5(8):17-20
Howse, Inger	3(7):17-18

Hughes, Karen	5(5):5-12, 5(5):13-15, 5(5):17-20
Justo, Alfredo	5(9):4-10
Kalamees, Kuulo	6(1):12
Lebeuf, Renée	3(4):19-20, 3(7):14-16, 4(8):20-22, 5(1):15-17, 5(7):5-21, 5(8):17-20, 5(10):9
Liimatainen, Kare	2(5):16
Lodge, Jean	5(1):2-6, 5(1):8-12
Malloch, Dave	4(1):3-6, 4(2):10-11, 4(4):18-20, 4(10):54, 5(4):25-27
Mann, Henry	2(2):2-4, 2(4):10-12, 2(6):10-11, 2(9):4-5, 3(1):3, 3(2):12-13, 3(6):8-11, 3(10):10-12, 3(10):13-20, 3(12):21-22, 4(1):7-9, 4(4):15-17, 4(6):4-7, 4(10):10-11, 4(11):24, 5(2):11-12, 5(7):5-21, 5(10):21, 5(11):7-9, 6(1):7-10, 6(1):20-21, 5(8):10-11
Mann, Phyllis	5(2):11-12
Manuel, Ian	3(6):19
Manuel, Urve	3(4):18
Marceau, Anne	5(2):7-10, 5(10):23
Maunder, John	3(6):4-7
McCarthy, John	4(4):4-6, 4(8):3-4, 4(8):5-8, 4(8):14-17, 4(11):4-15
McGrath, Robin	3(11):3-4, 3(11):15, 3(11): 22, 3(11):23, 5(1):18, 5(3):23, 5(8):17-21, 5(8):17-22, 5(8):17-23
Millman, Lawrence	4(6):16-19
Muirhead, April	4(2):14-15, 4(9):16-21, 5(8):12
Murrin, Faye	2(3):14-15, 4(3):6-10
Naelapea, Tõnu	3(9):18
Nikolaenko, Anastasia	1(1)
Niskanen, Tuula	2(5):16
Noordeloos, Machiel	3(5):13
Nuytinck, Jorinde	3(8):4-6
O'Donnell, Kerry	5(2):3-6, 5(2):7-10, 5(2):13-14, 5(2):22
Ohenoja, Esteri	2(5):10, 3(7):12-13
Pascali, Linda	2(1):8
Pascali, Umberto	2(1):7
Payne, Pauline	4(3):4-5
Petersen, Ron	5(5):5-12, 5(5):13-15, 5(5):21-27
Piercey-Normore, Michele	3(1):10-11, 3(1):20, 3(5):18-19, 3(12):8-10, 4(1):21-23, 4(7):18-19, 4(8):23, 4(10):46-49, 4(10):50-53, 5(9):13-15, 5(9):22, 5(10):18, 5(10):35-39, 5(10):40-43
Pircher, Mac	2(6):18-19, 2(7):13, 2(8):9, 2(9):15-19, 3(2):3, 3(3):22-23
Randsalu, Erik	4(7):22

Redhead, Scott	4(4):18-20
Ryvarden, Sir Leif	3(3):6-9, 3(9):10-11, 4(6):8, 5(1):15-17, 5(4):14-22
Saar, Irja	3(5):9-11, 4(7):6-13
Schioldan, Trine	5(10):20
Sturgeon, Walt	3(3):3-4
Sveshnikov, Dmitry	4(6):4-7, 6(1):7-10
Tedersoo, Leho	6(1):3-6, 6(1):7-10
Thompson, Peter	4(6):9
Thorn, Greg	2(4):13-18, 2(7):14-16, 4(2):3-6, 4(2):7-8, 4(6):4-7, 4(8):20-22, 5(11):5-6, 5(11):10-13, 5(11):19, 5(11):20-23, 5(11):24
Thurlow, Geoff	3(4):16-17
Thurlow, Yvonne	4(10):24
Trudell, Steve	5(6):5-9, 5(6):15-23
Vauras, Jukka	3(5):9-11
Verbeeken, Mieke	3(8):4-6
Vilneff, Cassia	2(4):13-17
Voitk, Aare	3(6):4-7, 4(8):3-4, 5(10):24
Voitk, Andrus	1(4), 1(5), 1(6), 1(7), 2(1):2-6, 2(1):9-10, 2(1):11-12, 2(2):6-8, 2(2):9-11, 2(2):14-19, 2(3):9, 2(4):4-6, 2(4):18, 2(5):4-6, 2(5):11-15, 2(5):6, 2(6):4, 2(6):5-6, 2(6):17, 2(6):22, 2(7):6-9, 2(7):14-16, 2(7):18, 2(7):19-20, 2(8):4-6, 2(8):7-8, 2(8):13-14, 2(8):17, 2(8):18-19, 2(9):3, 2(9):6-7, 2(9):10-12, 3(1):4-7, 3(1):8-9, 3(1):14-15, 3(1):16, 3(1):17-18, 3(1):19, 3(2):4-5, 3(2):6-7, 3(3):10-11, 3(3):21, 3(4):7-9, 3(4):21, 3(5):9-11, 3(5):14-15, 3(5):16-17, 3(5):20, 3(6):4-7, 3(6):8-11, 3(6):12-13, 3(6):19, 3(7):4-7, 3(8):4-6, 3(8):8-9, 3(8):10-12, 3(9):5-7, 3(9):12-16, 3(9):19-20, 3(10):10-22, 3(11):10-11, 3(11):13-13, 3(11):14, 3(11):16-20, 3(12):23-35, 3(12)(36-39), 4(1):10-16, 4(2):3-6, 4(2):7-8, 4(2):13, 4(2):17-19, 4(3):11-13, 4(3):24-25, 4(4):12-13, 4(4):14, 4(4):21, 4(5):4-5, 4(5):12, 4(5):14-19, 4(5):20-21, 4(5):22, 4(6):4-7, 4(6):12-15, 4(7):6-13, 4(7):14-17, 4(7):21, 4(8):3-4, 4(8):9-11, 4(8):12-13, 4(8):14-17, 4(8):20-22, 4(9):12-13, 4(9):14, 4(9):22-23, 4(10):6-7, 4(10):8-9, 4(10):29-45, 4(11):16-19, 4(11):20-21, 5(1):2-6, 5(1):8-12, 5(1):13-14, 5(1):15-17, 5(1):22-23, 5(2):7-10, 5(2):15-16, 5(2):17-18, 5(2):19-21, 5(2):23, 5(3):3-10, 5(3):11-13, 5(3):17-18, 5(3):19, 5(3):20-22, 5(4):10-11, 5(4):14-22, 5(4):24, 5(4):28, 5(5):5-12, 5(5):13-15, 5(5):17-20, 5(7):5-21, 5(7):22, 5(7):23, 5(7):24, 5(8):8-9, 5(8):13, 5(8):14-15, 5(8):17-20, 5(9):12, 5(9):16, 5(9):17, 5(9):18-19, 5(9):20, 5(9):21, 5(10):6, 5(10):7, 5(10):8, 5(10):26-31, 5(10):32-34, 5(11):3-4,

Voitk, Andrus	5(11):10-13, 6(1):7-10, 6(1):13, 6(1):14, 6(1):15-16, 6(1):17-18, 5(6):5-9, 5(6):10-13
Voitk, Maria	1(5), 1(7), 2(6):14-16, 2(9):20, 3(3):10-11, 3(5):19, 3(5):20, 3(11):8-9, 3(12):13-14, 4(2):9, 4(4):22, 4(5):22, 4(8):3-4, 4(8):20-22, 4(9):22-23, 5(2):7-10, 5(2):15-16, 5(2):17-18, 5(2):19-21, 5(3):20-22, 5(4):9, 5(7):5-21, 5(7):22
Voitk, Tiina	1(7)
Wiersma, Yolanda	5(9):13-15
Wissinck, Marian	3(12)4-5, 4(10):4
Wright, Tony	2(4):8-9, 5(10):26-31

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

OMPHALINA invites submissions on any subject even remotely related to mushrooms, mycology or fungi. This includes those fungi sometimes called lichens. Treatment need not be “scientific”. In addition to exposition, the vehicle may be art, poetry, dramaturgy, fiction, humour, story-telling, photography or any other treatment.

Contributors definitely do not need to be experts. OMPHALINA very much solicits contributions from amateurs among our members. A variety of input and style, letting each author keep her voice, makes a journal interesting. Too much of even the best of writers becomes, in the end, just that: too much. We have seen that our own members and other amateurs, people who admit from the outset that they know very little about mushrooms or about writing, have produced very appealing, interesting, informative and refreshing contributions.

When something provokes your interest or curiosity, that spark shines through, so use the inspiration and share the moment. This invitation in no way reduces the worth of the scientific contributions, but a complementing participation by amateurs helps strike a balance that raises the worth of the journal to its readers. The Editor can only do so much. In the end, quality is determined by the contributions.

A guide for the business part of writing something for OMPHALINA follows. Much of it is lengthy, not only telling you how, but also why. Discussions with several contributors over the years have made it clear that explaining why makes it more “human” for many, and saves several long (and repetitive to us) discussions. If you would like to write something, but this wallowing discussion of pedantic “rules” and policies deters you, stop reading. Contact the Editor, who will be glad to work on a contribution with you.

Content	11
Scope	11
Originality	11
Audience	11
Keys	11
References	11
Names	12
Illustrations	13
Copyright	13
Editing	13
Review	13
Crediting	13
Prior publication issues	14
Honorarium, stipend, remuneration or other payment	15
Summation	15

CONTENT

Although **OMPHALINA** has evolved from being only a newsletter for Foray Newfoundland & Labrador, to a vehicle for mycological information and entertainment, its prime (even if proportionately very small) function is still to be a liaison for members and a vehicle for distributing news, notices and other matters to members and foray registrants.

SCOPE

The primary subject matter of **OMPHALINA** is the mycota of Newfoundland and Labrador. There are many excellent amateur and professional outlets for general mycology or interesting aspects of various regional mycology, but no other source for the mycology of our province. For this reason, articles dealing with other mycologic foci are unlikely to be published. This is no reflection on their merit, but merely a matter of falling outside the guidelines **OMPHALINA** has set for itself. Topics of very general mycological interest, of course, apply equally to this province.

ORIGINALITY

OMPHALINA publishes original material. In the past we have reprinted articles from other publications of interest to our readers, and may do so again, but since most of these are readily available to our readership and since (and so long as) we have a goodly amount of original local material, we prefer the latter. Exceptions may be made for work of particular appeal, import or interest.

AUDIENCE

The primary audience of **OMPHALINA** is made up of members of Foray Newfoundland & Labrador. Most members are interested and intelligent, but may not have a background in biology, let alone mycological training or experience. Authors should bear in mind that they are addressing a non-expert audience that understands concepts and ideas well, but may have difficulty with technical details and professional jargon. Technical content may be best summarized or explained, omitting excessive detail, and technical words should be avoided, explained, or added as an appendix. Most readers, but not necessarily all, now know “pileus” and “stipe”, but these words have nothing to offer over the more accessible “cap” and “stem”. If you have to use “medulla” and then add a glossary, saying it means “pith”, don’t! Where

possible, illustrations should be used to supplement explanations. If you feel you need a glossary, at the very least you also need illustrations to explain the terms in the glossary—words alone are insufficient—and at the very worst, you should consider a major revision, if ours is your intended audience. If our members are not your intended audience, **OMPHALINA** is the wrong forum for your work.

KEYS

With good descriptions of differentiating features, lucidly demonstrated in detail by quality illustrations, keys may be redundant, at least for smaller groups. If you need keys, try to avoid traditional dichotomous keys. They may work for the experienced, but for beginners they can be deadly: one unclear distinction leading to a wrong choice will lead the search astray. Summarizing differences between species in tabular format is preferable. A tabular key presents several characters at once, so that if one is unclear, others may help make the correct determination.

REFERENCES

Follow the examples, for a journal article and a book, below:

1. Subramanyan ZK, Ninatarkka J-P, Schmidt HW: Increased Ω -dihydropentacarboxylase transfer of water across the mitochondrial wall of *Meripilus giganteus* during foggy days in Ohio. International Journal of paramycological pseudophysiology, 64:119-127. 2007.
2. Subra M, Manyan S: Mitochondrial wall enzymes, in Roozgarten AED, ed.: Mushroom mitochondrial magic, HC Andersen Trykkeri, København. 2012.

OMPHALINA uses a sequential numbering system (with superscript in the text) for references. It is a little more difficult for authors to keep straight, especially through several revisions of a MS, and authors must check the numbering for all references meticulously, when the final version of the MS is finished. We use this system not to hassle authors, but because it makes uninterrupted text easier to follow, and avoids needless repetitive and space-devouring brackets around author names and publication dates. It is also easier for the reader to find the exact reference.

All authors are listed fully, by last name and initial(s) without period or space between initials in case

of several given names, separated from each other by a comma; the last author's name is followed by a colon, which leads to the title. Apart from capitalizing the first word of the title, capitals are used only for proper nouns. Italics are used for scientific names of genus and below. After the title, list the publication, followed by volume (issue in brackets, if needed) and first and last page. The year is listed last.

People very often refer to a citation to learn its date of publication. Consistently placing it at the end makes it very easy to locate. Placing it after the authors and before the title, makes it very difficult to locate, due to the varying number of authors, even if a limited number are listed, and the varying length of their names. Listing cited authors alphabetically is helpful only to those who scan a Reference list to see if they have been cited. OMPHALINA does not address this audience.

NAMES

OMPHALINA encourages the use of scientific names (i.e. the binomial system of naming organisms) in all published material. Reference to such naming should use the term “scientific name”, not “Latin name”, as these names are the internationally accepted norm in science, but very often are not Latin, even though latinized in use. Font should follow scientific convention (italics for Genus and lower ranked names if the text is in normal font, and normal font, if the text is in italics. Indication of lower rank may be abbreviated (with a period), but follows the font style of the text. Thus:

Clitorellus vittiformis var. *cupuloides* f. *paragraffica*.

Italics are reserved for binomials only, and usually not used for foreign terms. They are used when they refer to the organism. They are not used when they refer to the words, or their meaning. Thus:

Tricholoma matsutake, was first described as *T. nauseosum*. If it turns out that *Tricholoma belladonnum* was a legitimate earlier name for the species, then further discussion about the respective merits of *matsutake* or *nauseosum* as a fitting epithet for the mushroom might be moot. *Nauseosum* means nauseating or nauseous.

(Note that if the meaning is obvious, quotation marks, although formally correct, may be avoided for easier flow.)

If a scientific name is anglicised, it is no longer used as a strict scientific name, and follows the rules of font and capitalization of normal text.

Although the correct and full scientific name includes the name of the author(s)—in text font style—OMPHALINA prefers authors names be omitted most times. If they are used, we prefer they be written out in full, rather than using sanctioned abbreviations.

The reason for this is, again, one of approachability for our lay reader. Many may read mycological matters for the first time. OMPHALINA may have been published for a while, and the foray may have gone on a long time, but new readers have not ended. Every year about 30% of Foray participants are new, most of whom have not had any previous contact with mycology or biology. Since all the names are new for them, they might as well learn scientific names as “common” names, and thus be able to talk about these organisms with anybody else in the world and know what is being discussed. That said, mastery of foreign terminology the first time around is a bit daunting. To require that they also deal with author names may be enough disincentive to turn them away. However, in the few situations where author names are required, if they appear written out in full, the reader will understand that we are dealing with live people, not some secret (and, to the first-timer, meaningless) scientific code to be memorized.

Caterpillarius tractorius is not easy, but manageable. *Caterpillarius tractorius* (L) Fr, although correct, is meaningless to the uninitiated. *Caterpillarius tractorius* (Linnaeus) Fries is daunting, but at least very soon beginners will learn that Linnæus was the father of the binomial system of nomenclature and Fries was the father of mushroom classification. They will recognize the names as referring to real people.

Exceptions to the requirement for scientific names may be made for articles of a certain style, where artistic integrity requires that common or local names may be used. These are not proper names, and, hence, are not capitalized, even if the writing uses capitals to emphasize meaning. Thus:

... suddenly we encountered BIG bighorn sheep ...
not
... suddenly we encountered little Bighorn sheep ...

and certainly not

... suddenly we encountered MEDIUM SIZED Bighorn Sheep ...

ILLUSTRATIONS

Show me, don't tell me!

OMPHALINA takes pride in its illustrations. No description of an organism or natural phenomenon is complete without illustrations. Illustrations are a standard part of the formal description. For most readers without a background of biological training, visual aids are more effective than words in explaining a concept or getting a message across. Most textbooks are limited to a few images because of cost and cannot show the range of appearance of a mushroom. As an electronic publication, OMPHALINA does not share these concerns.

Good images also make the publication more attractive, inviting the reader in. As a rule OMPHALINA tries to have at least one illustration per page. The virtual printing of a web-based journal has no cost implications to good colour images.

Images should be of the best quality possible, within reason. Large files in high resolution tiff format should be used whenever possible. Do not compress files for transport. We have accounts for ftp transfer of files too big to send by e-mail. We should like to retain the maximal amount of original information in the image file. Much information is lost in the pdf printing process. The concept is simple: put in as much as you can, in order to have the maximal possible left. The computer screen is limited in what it can resolve, but some of our subscribers print out the issues, and some of them use very sophisticated, high-end printers, where image quality is evident. We also keep a high resolution file of each issue, available on request, for the crispest of pictures.

For a guide to effective use of images with verbal economy, look at Jens Petersen's The kingdom of Fungi. Our own review [OMPHALINA 4(6):10], said that the illustrations made a glossary unnecessary. Imagine—explain the entire kingdom of Fungi to a lay audience without a single word translated in a glossary!

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give OMPHALINA the right to publish it, subject to editing, policies and schedule, but apart from that, you retain the copyright for your work and may at any time use it for any other purpose, altered or as is. A statement to that effect is placed on the inside front cover of every issue.

EDITING

Editing does not imply correcting “mistakes”, but may happen because of many other reasons, such as compliance with editorial style, policies, or space and layout considerations. As an integral part of the content, images are subject to the editorial process, just as the text. Since submitted work is subject to editing, all work is returned to the contributor for approval after layout. Once approved, it is understood that minor changes may still be required to fit with remaining content in an issue, or other reasons, but no major alterations should be expected without further consultation.

In his time, the present Editor has benefitted a great deal by critical editors. The content or message of his work remained, but virtually invariably its presentation was made stronger or more clear by the editing. It is this same service that the Editor strives to give, in turn, to contributors—within his abilities. In the end, it is the author's work, so the author's opinion counts.

REVIEW

All work may be subject to review. Peer review is not standard for OMPHALINA articles, but may be sought, when a need is perceived. Most content is edited for style, spelling, grammar and readability. Catching all typos and inaccuracies is not guaranteed, and it has even happened that editorial changes have introduced typos into a previously perfectly spelled work. Life is not fair!

CREDITING

Authors are credited for their work by listing their names with the title. Because most authors are known to our readership, by default the given name by which they are known is used, even if that is not their formal name, e.g. Dave Malloch, not David Warren Malloch. Authors who have a specific way their name should appear for all their writing are requested to notify the Editor to make sure it will be done as they wish. In an effort to keep the relationship between author and reader as close and

human as possible, titles positions and employment, institution or other affiliations are not listed. Authors for whom crediting their employer for facilities and/or time to do specific work is important, should either list their employer in the Acknowledgment section of their paper, or, where this is not sufficient, contact the Editor to ensure that the required exception will be made.

Authors decide whose contribution is sufficient to be listed as co-author and whose contribution requires crediting in the Acknowledgments section. The Editor does not make these decisions, but lists the authors as submitted. All work, whether it be photographs, art, statistics, or whatever, not done by the authors, should be credited. In the case of photographs, OMPHALINA will list the name of the photographer beside or on each picture not taken by the authors. Since illustrations are considered an integral part of a presentation, it is expected that most photographs are taken by the authors. If not, it is expected that the authors obtain most photographs required for their work. Authors should make sure permission to use work of others accompanies submissions. Like any aspect of preparing a contribution, the editors will help as much as they can, if requested.

Because illustrations are integral to a work, they are not attributed, if made by the authors. OMPHALINA considers illustration very important to a lucid presentation, but in no way values the writing less. We may be picture-heavy, but we love words! As integral parts of a work, illustrations are no different from words, and do not merit especial attribution, if done by any of the authors, no more than the words do. OMPHALINA does not note beside the Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion or any other section of a work, which author contributed the specific words or computations. Authors who wish to specify who did what part of the work, may do so in the text (e.g. “All non-credited photographs were taken by N.O. Picksles”, or “Nuclear sequencing was done by P. Split”, or “Nick Pitt was instrumental in ensuring proper punctuation in the References; any complaints should be addressed directly to Nick <nit.pick@whinencyr.boo_hoo.ca>”, etc.

PRIOR PUBLICATION ISSUES

Some authors of scientific work using our material, may have concerns about publishing matter in

OMPHALINA that they also wish to publish in journals dedicated to peer reviewed scientific papers. We have no wish to jeopardize the acceptance of such work by prior publication in OMPHALINA, yet should very much wish to tell our readers about our mushrooms, especially since most are unlikely to read the more technical journals.

Most national or international journals do not have a concern if an abbreviated and limited part of the work is released to an amateur publication of limited distribution in the region where study material was collected. No “real” journal should feel threatened by our 60-80 membership distribution, even if OMPHALINA is also sent to past faculty and a few other professionals further afield. And, yes, once distributed, electronic distribution can become wider, but most scientists wait to get detailed news from recognized and respected scientific sources.

Often this has been circumvented by the technique of Preliminary Report. It is not unusual in the scientific community to release a condensed form of some interesting early findings as a Preliminary Report. This serves several purposes. It lets collaborators or sponsors know about progress. It allows colleagues to comment, thus shaping the final work in response to constructive comments. And it allows the investigators a chance to begin getting their material in order, to be better prepared for the final publication. What a relief to know the direction the results are headed, have all the references typed up, etc., so that this can just be plugged into the final product, when the time comes.

Because of our different readership, OMPHALINA does not need the amount of technical detail required by a full scientific report. Thus many of the findings of a scientific enquiry will not be included for OMPHALINA, and remain as original material for the audience of peers for whom it is intended. For example, many species treated that do not occur here, can be omitted, microscopic findings can be omitted or concisely mentioned in passing, a very rudimentary clade tree can be used, or even skipped altogether, and so forth. The main gist, as it applies to our material, may be there, but not the scientific material required for a fellow scientist to weigh the evidence and judge the results and their meaning.

If there is doubt, a good approach is to ask the Editor of the intended scientific journal for advice. Most are

very reasonable and cooperative, and have an interest in the spread of mycological knowledge beyond the reach of their own journal. If there is a concern, or doubt, the release to *OMPHALINA* can be delayed until acceptance by a scientific journal is known.

These matters are not uncommon. As I write this (Dec., 2013) I have two completed preliminary reports awaiting publication in future issues of *OMPHALINA*, and am sitting mum on two other completed investigations, where the authors have preferred to hear about acceptance elsewhere, before having the material released in *OMPHALINA*. These latter two articles will not be released to anybody before the authors give permission, so that for example, new species described from our material are still entered on our lists under their old, and now, incorrect, names. However, either a small nip of cognac or even a smaller amount of torture, will get them out of me, no sweat.

HONORARIUM, STIPEND, REMUNERATION OR OTHER PAYMENT

There ain't none.

SUMMATION

Editorial policies have been outlined to make it easier to prepare your manuscript for our readership. Reasons for "policies" have been given. As you may have noticed, when reasons existed to deviate from these guidelines, it has been done. Our first concern is that your contribution is most effective in reaching our audience, and we are willing to work with you to that end. Our province is small and its naturalist community smaller. Lacking a wide choice in contributors, we are very grateful to those we have, both in and outside our borders, and should like to cooperate with them as much as possible, in order to build up a happy and vigorous nib of writers.



OMPHALINA

ISSN 1925-1858



APPENDIX

CUMULATIVE INDEX
GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Newsletter of

