

FUNGUS OF THE MONTH –Archive

2017

Laetiporus sulphureus.



Phaeolepiota aurea



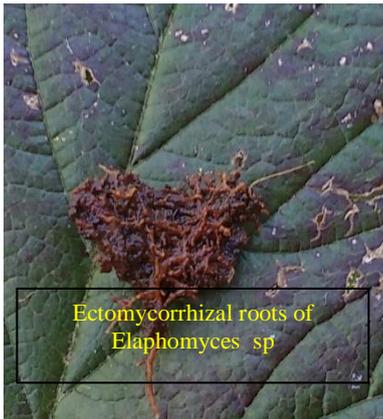
Flammulina velutipes

Flammulina velutipes aka Velvet Shank is a fairly common sight on stumps or ends of logs of broadleaved trees, usually in the winter months. It is also a good edible fungus, cultivated on bags of sawdust, in which case it surprisingly loses its lovely golden-brown colour and becomes pure white. One can hardly think of this form as the same fungus – but it *is* the same and is sold by its Japanese name of Enoki or Enokitake.



April 2018

Hypogeous Fungi are a mysterious branch of the fungal family in that they are (generally speaking) completely subterranean and, unless specifically sought for, only found by accidental turning over of the earth around the roots of plants. They are often ectomycorrhizal and include the edible truffles. The woodland known as Seckar Wood has recently been the subject of considerable disturbance caused by the unfortunately destructive removal of Rhododendron trees, inevitably resulting in much turning over of soil but revealing relatively large numbers of Elaphomyces species, unfortunately not truffles.



AUGUST 2018



Pluteus aurantiorugosus. This elegant specimen was found at Brockadale by Francis Heckinbottom of the BMS and MYFG, to whom we owe the photographs. Currently believed to be the first Yorkshire record, this is also scarce nationally with a count of nine specimens in the FRDBI, none as far north as this on such a dry year as this one - no significant rain for at least a month - it is a pleasure to find anything and such an unusual species is particularly encouraging.

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2018

Mycologically speaking this year has so far been relatively uninteresting in Yorkshire. What fungi have appeared have mostly been isolated specimens of common species. There has been much sunshine and dry weather, the wood lands have seen acres of drying bracken, the only bright spark has been a slight reduction in the plague of that most undesirable alien - Himalayan Balsam. In search of more interest we visited our niece, who lives below a large wood on the shore of Loch Ness and even here the expected autumn flush of fungi appears diminished.

But we did find this:- **Pleurocybella porrigens**, usually a northern species which is gradually coming South towards Yorkshire. Always attractive, it appears on decaying conifer wood, sometimes in plate-like structures but often with the elegant tube below.

