

NATS CURRENT NEWS

Monthly publication for  
THE NORTH AMERICAN TRUFFLING SOCIETY, INC.  
P. O. Box 296  
Corvallis, OR. 97339

March 1988

Editor: Pat Rawlinson

Vol. 6 No. 3

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Newsletter Ed: Pat Rawlinson, 34197 NE Colorado Lk. Dr., Corvallis, OR. 97333, 752-2243.

FORAY, Saturday, March 5, 1988, to the south slopes of McDonald Forest, Corvallis, OR. Meet at Benton Center, 630 NW 7th, Corvallis, OR., at 9:00 A. M. We will car pool to avoid too many cars in the forest.

Dress for the weather, and bring a lunch. This is always a good area to find truffles, and if time permits, we will drop over the top to the north slopes and the NATS study area.

For more information, call Steve Morgan, Brownsville 466-5206.

Steve Morgan  
Trufflemaster

MEETING, Monday, March 7, 1988, 7:30 P. M., Large Conference Room, Forest Sciences Lab, 3200 Jefferson Way, Corvallis, OR.

Michael Castellano will speak on "Truffles For Inoculation of Forestry Nurseries." This is a project Michael has been working on for some time, with great success, and his talk will be very informative.

MICROSCOPE STUDY COURSE: In order to further expand the horizons of NATS

members, before each monthly meeting, beginning March 7, 1988, Dr. Steven Miller will offer a tutorial session on the use of microscopes and the study and identification of truffles. The session will occupy the hour immediately preceding the regular meeting and will start at 6:30 P. M. All interested persons are invited to attend. A few microscopes, microscope slides and chemicals will be available, in addition to the NATS scope donated by Wanda Pavelek. So, bring some double edged razor blades, and any fresh truffles that you wish to identify. It should be great fun and an opportunity to learn more about truffles!!!

For more information, call Thom O'Dell, 757-4379.

PORTLAND CHAPTER NATS

For information about the foray and meeting, contact President Dan Wheeler, 774-0223.

PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

Thanks to the Enright family who acted as hosts for the February NATS foray. What a wonderful day-plenty

of sunshine and good cheer, followed by a cracker, cheese, truffle spread and wine tasting party. The hazel nut pie was also very enticing, and although the truffles we found were a bit on the small side, we did find some and had a good time in the process. Thanks to all who attended.

NATS has grown steadily in size, stature and recognition in the past few years. In order to keep up with all the current projects and forge ahead with new ones, we will be offering a list of special interest groups within the society so that each of us can zero in on our specialty or specialties. This is by no means intended to segregate the society, or to make anyone choose which group to affiliate with. In fact the opposite should be true in that those with special talents and knowledge will be more able to share them with the other members. These groups will also include some of the funner chores that we need to accomplish each month, and I know that there are many talented people who could lend a hand, ply their own passion and talents, and learn more about NATS in the bargain. What a deal! Details in next month's newsletter. Any suggestions on which special interest group you would like to see be assembled? Let me know.

Steve Miller  
NATS President

#### MEET YOUR OFFICERS

NATS Vice President, Thom O'Dell, was born in 1960 in Fort Belvoir, VA. Living in northern Virginia until 1980, life really began for him when he moved to Olympia, WA. to attend Evergreen State College. More importantly, he soon became aware of the legendary Mycoflora of the Pacific Northwest. Thom studied biology and chemistry, and learned new mushrooms every fall, graduating in 1983 with B.S. and B. A. degrees.

His jobs included planting trees and working in a nursery/orchard before becoming Lab Manager for Full Moon Mushrooms. In this job he helped produce and market the Oyster Mushroom Garden

and Garden Giant(*Stropharia rugosoannulata*) mushroom spawn.

While attending the Breitenbush Mushroom Conference in 1985 he met Dr. James Trappe and an interest in truffles kindled. Thom has been working for Dr. Trappe since June 1986, and enrolled in a PhD program in the Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology at OSU that fall. He is investigating the mycorrhizae of lupines in Oregon and Washington and their role in colonizing glacial forefronts.

Thom is also working on two projects with funds granted by the Spokane Mushroom Club. One is a survey of the Mycoflora of the alpine and subalpine regions of the North Cascades of Washington. The other project involves experiments to determine whether mycorrhizae can induce rooting in chestnuts.

NATS WELCOMES the following new members: from Oregon, Robert and Marjorie Jensen, Lebanon; from Washington, James Horne and Betty Davis, Centralia; from California, John Demarinis, Trinidad; R. Maurice Tripp, Santa Clara; Robert J. Gallo Family, Modesto; Anelle Kloski, Walnut Creek; Vic Crosetti, Redwood Valley; Don Ferrari, San Francisco; Nicolai Stez, Forestville; Louise Freedman, Hillsborough. Ralph Vlatka, Chicago, Ill.; Carolyn Jones, Burnsville, NC; Maurice Grimes, Milwaukee, WI; Cheryl Lundgren, Kent, WA.

#### TWO MUSHROOM STUDY TOURS

The Highlands of Mexico will be the setting for a Mushroom Study Tour, July 6-July 19, 1988. Forays will be in the forests of the Sierra Madres, with visits to Jalapa, Oaxaca, Mexico City, Teotihuacan and Monte Alban.

October 3-20, 1988 are the dates for a Mushroom Study Tour of Spain and the Pyrenees. The greatest variety of wild mushroom species in all of Europe is found in Spain. The regions of Catalonia, Basque, and Castilia will be visited.

Contact Emanuel Salzman, c/o Fungophile, PO Box 5503, Denver, CO. 80217.

TRUFFLE OF THE MONTH  
Rhizopogon vinicolor A. H. Smith

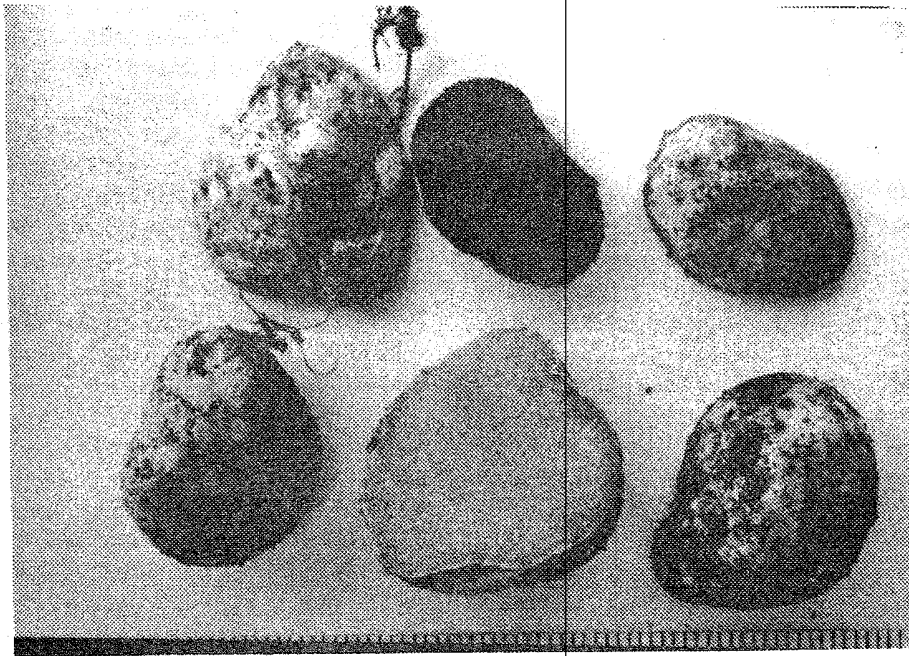


Photo by Dr. James Trappe

ORDER: Gasteromycetes

DESCRIPTION

By Dr. Steven Miller

**ETYMOLOGY:** "vinicolor" refers to the wine color often present in the peridium.

**BASIDIOCARPS:** 1-3 cm. diameter, subglobose, flattened, or irregular in outline.

**PERIDIUM:** Surface dry, appressed-fibrillose; hyphal strands sparse; white to yellowish white or pale yellow when young and uninjured, in age pale pink to vinaceous red or brownish red, bruising pink to reddish pink; with a hand lens the surface appears to be streaked with dark hyphae over a lighter colored background, in cross-section 0.1-0.4 mm thick, white, pale yellow or pink.

**GLEBA:** Loculate, locules 3-6 per mm in age, irregularly shaped; soft, cake-like when young, firm in age; white at first then dull yellow and finally yellowish brown to dark olive-brown, often maturing irregularly with patches of sterile tissue scattered in otherwise fertile areas.

**ODOR:** Sweet to fungoid.

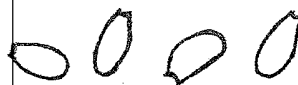
KOH on peridial surface reddish purple, negative on gleba.  $\text{FeSO}_4$  on peridial surface pale olive, negative on gleba.

**HABITAT AND DISTRIBUTION:** Occurs always with Douglas-fir, common in the spring into early summer from the west coast into the Rockies.

**COMMENTS:** This seems to be a variable fungus. Late in the season the vinaceous colors are hard to observe consistently and the gleba can take on an almost cinnamon color.

**EDIBILITY:** Edible. No distinctive flavor. The spongy texture soaks up flavors of foods it is cooked with. Use with stir fry dishes, add to your favorite casserole, marinate in liquor and use in pâté.

**SPORES:** 5-8 x 3-4(5) micrometers ( $\mu\text{m}$ )



10  $\mu\text{m}$

## VOCABULARY

Appressed - lying flat against

Fibrillose - covered with firm, thin threadlike fibers.

Loculate - having chambers

## FROM VERN MOORE

If you didn't make the foray to Michael and Elizabeth Enright's property, you missed out on quite an experience. The truffles were small and few in number, typical of the conditions in the Cascade foothills this year, but the day was beautiful as was the forest of fir and hemlock with its many trails. The fragrances along the way were ones that are normally associated with a later spring season. The Enrights show an enthusiasm matched only by their generosity to host such an event. They have a busy schedule tending many acres of Hazelnut trees and are building a "Castle on the Hill," which overlooks their beautiful land. It will be about two years before the house is completely finished but they encouraged NATS to have another foray there soon.

We have been blessed as an organization to have people such as the Enrights, Bob Mahaffy, Paul Bishop, Keith Sherry and others who are willing to be such gracious hosts.

There was a good turnout of people. Bob and Marge Jensen, the Emil Rahes, John and Pat Rawlinson, Steve Miller, Frank Evans, Betty Smith, Blanche Canaday, Dennis Wedam, Shawn and Alisa Anderson, Roger Knight, Janya Ross, Vern and Verba Moore, Fred Radabaugh (who drove down from Yelm, WA.-near Olympia), Jolayne Houtz and Ron Cooper from the Salem STATESMAN-JOURNAL, and of course, our great trufflemaster, Steve Morgan.

We welcomed Jim Horne and Betty Davis, Centralia, WA., new members attending their first monthly NATS meeting, Monday, Feb 8, 1988. President Steve Miller, who was also our guest speaker for the evening, departed from his original plan to discuss how to write truffle descriptions and presented a very interesting history of NATS and the kind of people who keep the organization running smoothly.

Our society is unique, the only one of its kind, and is worldwide in membership and scope. Our data bank of computer information, taken from our field data cards, is getting larger. We are fortunate to have a team of mycological experts to analyze our finds. Our membership, now close to 400 people, is growing rapidly, which causes some concern since many members cannot attend meetings and forays which would help them with truffle information. Since the meeting was an open discussion type, Steve welcomed input from those present and many good ideas and suggestions were brought forth.

NATS survives by volunteer help. I like the way Frank Evans put it -- getting involved. Through his extra projects for NATS, such as putting field data information in a data bank and co-editing the Cookbook of North American Truffles with his wife, Karan, he has acquired a deep satisfaction of creating something lasting, that is like nothing else.

We need involvement by more people, for the load is getting heavy for the few that are doing so much already. Many of these people are maintaining steady employment elsewhere. Our newsletter editor, who also gathers information of data finds, mails photo packs, slide packs, slide shows and cookbooks, often fills in for other NATS officers when their regular employment work schedules conflict with NATS functions. Our president, a full time postdoctoral fellow at Oregon State University still finds time to give lectures and classes to various organizations as well as doing NATS business. Our vice president, a graduate student in mycology, finds time to set up programs and speakers every month. Our secretary, a financial advisor and sales director for an investment service, travels much, yet gives her time. Our treasurer takes time out of his many interests to do a fine job. Our librarian, who is a librarian elsewhere, helps with NATS. We have a newspaper employee who heads a new chapter of NATS in Portland. And Frank Evans, whom I've already mentioned, is an engineer whose job often takes him to foreign countries, yet he finds

time to help NATS. Our trufflemaster, who is starting a new business venture, is a graduate forester but finds time to arrange forays, attends meetings faithfully and is always there to help.

Those of us who worked with Henry Pavelek realized that he found that sense of creative achievement in his involvement with NATS as well as being a member of the Board of Directors of Pacific Marine Fisheries, extension agent and agronomist, and Coast Guard Auxillary officer. Henry still found time to teach us about the flora and beauty of the forest.

If you're like me you may find your job mundane, mainly a way to survive financially. But you can find much reward and satisfaction by getting involved in an exciting organization that is young, fun, educational, going places, and as Steve Miller put it --most unique.

YOU'VE JOINED THE MEMBERSHIP, COME ON NOW, ENJOY THE FUN!

Vern Moore  
Membership

(Vern's modesty has prevented him from telling us that he finds time to be membership chairman and an important contributor to the NATS cause while working full time. His wife, Verba, is equally helpful with membership and NATS activities.) Ed.

#### CULINARY CORNER

##### Cabbage With Truffle and Croutons

Norene Wedam

Rinse and drain sauerkraut or use fresh, shredded, cooked cabbage. Make a white sauce, season to taste, and combine with cabbage. Heat through. Add finely minced truffle just before serving and heat until aroma is released. Put in serving dish and top with a little mild shredded cheese and a few croutons.

Recommended species:

Tuber, Picoa, Martellia, Melanogaster, Geopora.

#### 1987 FINDS

10/09/87 Van Duzer Corridor, Lincoln County, OR.

Leucogaster sp., (2 coll.).....Welles Bushnell

12/19/87 Paul Bishop's Tree Farm, Beavercreek, Clackamas County, OR.

Hymenogaster sp.....Dan Wheeler

Rhizopogon parksii Smith(3 coll.).....SAA

Rhizopogon villosulus Zeller(3 coll.).....SAA

Tuber californicum Harkn.....SAA

Tuber gibbosum Harkn.....SAA

12/21/87 Tillamook County, OR.

Rhizopogon villosulus Zeller.....Welles Bushnell

#### JANUARY 1988 FINDS

01/11/88 Headwaters of San Leandro Creek, Contra Costa County, CA.

Hysterangium separabile Zeller.....Christopher Thayer

01/12/88 Silverton, Oregon

Rhizopogon villosulus Zeller.....Welles Bushnell

Tuber gibbosum Harkn.....SAA

01/12/88 Silver Creek Falls area, Oregon

Rhizopogon parksii Smith(3 coll.).....Welles Bushnell

Rhizopogon villosulus Zeller.....SAA

01/20/88 Silverton, OR.

Hymenogaster parksii Zeller & Dodge.....Welles Bushnell

Rhizopogon parksii Smith.....SAA

### NATS PHOTO PACKS

35 color photographs of commonly found hypogeous fungi. Excellent field guide.

\$15.00 ppd

### NATS SLIDE PACKS

35 slides of hypogeous fungi, plus five(5) assorted slides pertaining to hypogeous fungi.

\$30.00 ppd

### THE COOKBOOK OF NORTH AMERICAN TRUFFLES

This unique book is the first cookbook of North American truffles. All recipes are favorites of NATS members. Edited by Frank and Karan Evans.

\$7.00 a copy

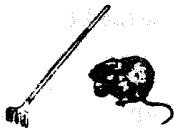
\$1.00 postage per book

To order any of the above, mail to:

NATS

P. O. Box 296

Corvallis, OR. 97339



The North American  
Truffling Society, Inc.  
P. O. Box 296  
Corvallis, OR. 97339

### NATS SLIDE SHOW

Complete with script, the slide show may be checked out by NATS members or mycological societies who wish to present a program on NATS and truffles. Borrower must pay postage both ways. Write to: NATS, P. O. Box 296, Corvallis, OR. 97339. Attention: John Rawlinson.

### MARCH CALENDAR

March 5, 1988 - Foray to McDonald Forest.  
Meet at Benton Center, 9:00 A. M.

March 7, 1988 - Meeting, Forest Sciences Lab, 7:30 P. M. Michael Castellano, speaker.

March 7, 1988 - Microscope Study Course.  
6:30 P. M., Large Conference Room, Forest Sciences Lab.



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