

PHOTOGRAPHING MUSHROOMS
WEBSITE DOCUMENT

A- PHOTOGRAPHING MUSHROOMS WITH GILLS

Identifying mushrooms with gills represents as much of a challenge for professionals as it does for amateurs; these fungi account for 60% of the mycological flora of Quebec. Complete photographic documentation will, in most cases, identify the species or at least identify the group to which the mushroom belongs.

Taking photographs in the summer will allow enthusiasts to devote hours during the winter to the activity of identifying and sharing photos and knowledge with their families. We therefore invite you to use your camera to immortalize these mushrooms by photographing them according to the following themes:

- A-1 The overall appearance of the entire fruit body in its natural environment
- A-2 Cap features
- A-3 Stem features
- A-4 Stem shape
- A-5 Gills and their connection to the stem
- A-6 Stem interior
- A-7 Characteristics of Milkcaps
- A-8 Characteristic of Cortinarius
- A-9 Family photos

A-Photographing mushrooms with gills: bringing out the details



A-1 The overall appearance of the entire fruit body in its natural environment



A-2 Cap features



A-3 Stem features



A-4 Stem shape

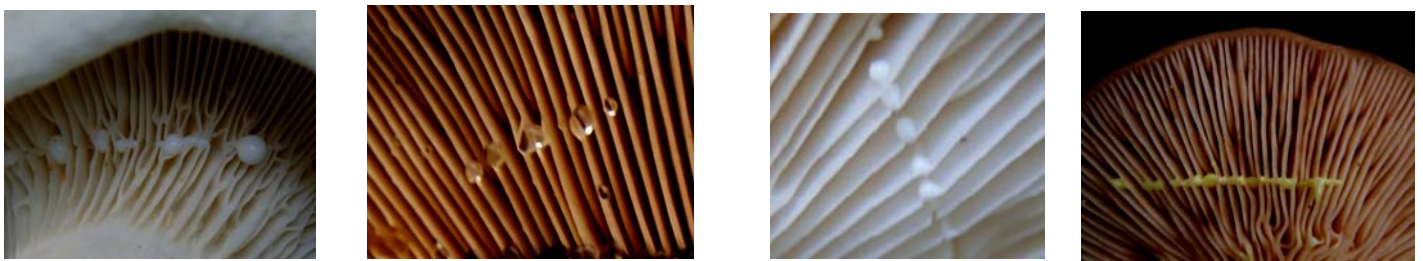
Photos:



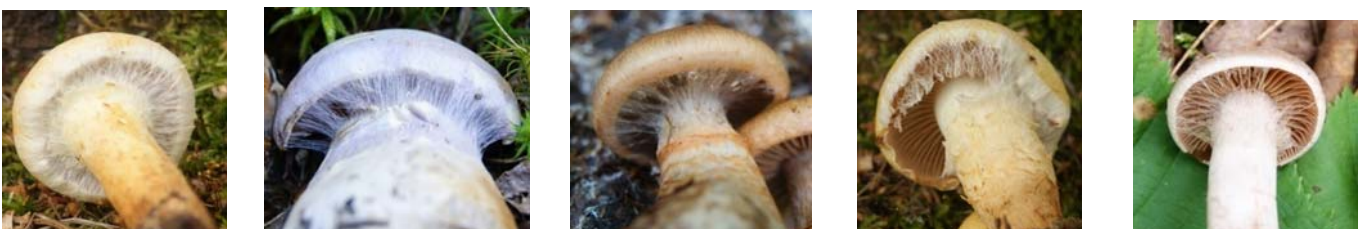
A-5 Gills and their connection to the stem



A-6 Stem interior



A-7 Characteristics of Milkcaps: To highlight the characteristics of Milkcaps, cut the gills of the developing fruit body; if the weather is dry or if the fruit bodies are too old or parasitized, there will be no production of milk.



A-8 Characteristic of Cortinarius: To photograph the cortina, search for young specimens since the cortina is no longer visible or barely visible when the cap has opened.



A-9 Family photos: Family photos that include mushrooms of all ages are most interesting because they illustrate all stages of development. Sectional photographs of these same mushrooms are even more valuable.

B- PHOTOGRAPHING MUSHROOMS WITH TUBES: BOLETES

Current identification guides do not usually identify all of the eighty-six mushroom species recorded in Quebec and several other species remain to be discovered in the boreal forest. Boletes are a particular challenge because they are a complex group and their many facets are rarely described in the literature. We invite you to explore them by photographing:

- B-1 The general appearance, from the lower end of the stem to the tip of the cap
- B-2 Is the cap sticky or dry?
- B-3 Cap features
- B-4 Stem features
- B-5 Stem shape
- B-6 Tubes: length, surface and connection to the stem
- B-7 Stem interior
- B-8a Complete change in flesh colour when cut
- B-8b Partial change in colour when cut or when the tubes are bruised
- B-8c Change in tube colour when bruised
- B-9 Tube pores
- B-10 Family photos and specific attributes

B-Photographing mushrooms with tubes: bringing out the details



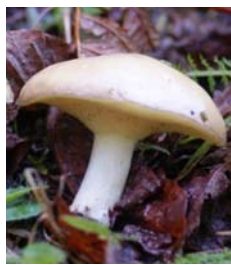
B-1 The general appearance, from the lower end of the stem to the tip of the cap: Photograph the fruit body in its natural habitat, emphasizing the size of the stem in relation to the size of the cap.



B-2 Is the cap sticky or dry?



B-3 Cap features: Is the cap smooth or areolate (covered in small depressions or indentations), cracked, flaky, scaly, with scalloped margins, etc.?



B-4 Stem features: Does the stem have a ring or garter? Is it smooth, rough, glandular, concolorous with the cap, with decurrent tubes, reticulate, etc.?



B-5 Stem shape: Is the stem straight, fat, bulbous, enlarged at the base?



B-6-a Tube length



B-6-b Tube surface: flat, conical, bulbous, fat



B-6-c Connection of the tubes to the stem: free, adnate (attached to the stem), decurrent, strongly decurrent, etc.



B-7 Stem interior: Is the stem solid, hollow, of a particular permanent colour?



B-8a Complete change in flesh colour when cut



B-8b Partial change in colour when cut or when the tubes are bruised



B-8c Change in tube colour when bruised

Note the colour changes:

- The colour change is referred to as instant or very fast if it occurs in the space of one to three seconds, slow if the new colours appear within two to six minutes, and very slow if they appear within eight to fifteen minutes.
- Rapid changes generally occur in mushrooms whose entire flesh surface changes colour when cut.
- The colour change tends mainly toward blue but also to yellow, red, brown or grey.
- For the colour change to occur normally, the mushroom must be freshly picked, healthy and in the process of growing. The day after it is picked, the mushroom's flesh will have lost much of its capacity for colour change.



B-9 Tube pores: One notes a variety of colours among the different species of Bolete; the colour of the tubes also changes as the spores ripen. One of the most dramatic examples occurs in the King Bolete since the pores of young fruit bodies change from white to dark green as they mature.



B-10 Family photos and specific attributes: Family photos are valuable descriptive documents, especially when the same mushrooms are photographed in sections. Certain attributes are unique: the exterior and interior of the yellow extremity of the stem, a generally lateral stem (one species in Quebec) or a cap cuticle that covers the tubes.