

Hypogeous Fungi – Recording, Ecology & Distribution

a workshop organized by the

European Mycological Association

jointly with the

University of Łódź, Department of Algology and Mycology



4-8 September 2006

Międzybrodzie Bialskie

Poland

First announcement

You are kindly invited to attend the EMA's first workshop, which will be held in the mountains of southern Poland in the picturesque location of Międzybrodzie Bialskie. The theme will be hypogeous fungi, their recording, ecology and distribution, and the workshop will provide opportunities to:

- share and exchange knowledge of effective methods to find fruitbodies of hypogeous fungi and to make taxonomical analysis of them,
- improve understanding of ecological conditions favouring their occurrence,
- deal with practical aspects of their chorology and patterns of distribution.

The workshop programme comprises field sessions, collecting hypogeous fungi, time to analyse collected material and share the results, presentations and short communications according to participant wishes and proposals. Visits to selected places of more general interest are also planned, e.g. to Wadowice, the birthplace of Pope John Paul II.

ORGANIZERS

European Mycological Association
University of Łódź, Department of Algology and Mycology
With help locally from Stowarzyszenie "Darz Grzyb" (The Society of Mushroom Lovers)

Chairman of the Workshop

Dr David Minter, EMA President

Scientific Leader

Professor Maria Ławrynowicz, the noted expert on hypogeous fungi

Secretaries

Dr Izabela Kałucka

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PRE-REGISTRATION

Please, fill in and send the pre-registration form before **1.05.2006**. to
ikalucka@biol.uni.lodz.pl

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Monday 4 September 2006

Arrival of workshop participants, registration

18.00 – welcome, opening of the workshop

19.00 – Opening Dinner in Żywiec, visit to one of the most famous Polish breweries and beer tasting

Tuesday 5 September 2006

7.30-8.15 – breakfast

8.30-13.00 – field trip to the Grojec Mountain Range

13.30-14.30 – lunch

15.00-18.00 – individual study of the material collected

18.00-18.30 – summarizing session

19.00-20.00 – dinner

20.30 – workshop meeting*

Wednesday 6 September 2006

7.30-8.15 – breakfast

8.30–16.30 – field trip to Żar Mountain

9.00 – visit to the Hydro-electric Station inside Żar Mountain

11.00 – ascent to the mountain's summit by narrow-gauge railway (the view there provides a vast panorama of the Beskidy Range and three artificial lakes: Jezioro Żywieckie, Jezioro Międzybrodzkie, Zbiornik Czaniecki). Field session.

13.00 – lunch in the field

14.00-16.00 – field session

16.30-18.00 – individual study of the material collected

18.00-18.30 – summarizing session

19.00-20.00 – dinner

20.30 – workshop meeting*

7.09.2006. Thursday

7.30-8.15 – breakfast

8.30-13.00 – field trip to the Radziechowy Wieprz Mountain Range

13.30-14.30 – lunch

15.00-18.00 – individual study of the material collected

18.00-18.30 – summarizing session

19.00 – Workshop Dinner, meeting local authorities, bonfire, live music.

8.09.2006. Friday

8.00-8.45 – breakfast

9.00 – closing of the workshop

10.00 – departure of workshop participants

optional:

10.00 – a trip to Wadowice, the birthplace of Pope John Paul II
departure in the afternoon

* – workshop meetings: by this is meant time dedicated for personal contacts, exchange of experience and knowledge, as well as informal poster presentations and short communications on hypogeous fungi depending on guests' proposals and wishes. Participants are welcomed to prepare their contributions.

EMA GOVERNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The workshop will provide an opportunity for the EMA Governing Committee to meet and discuss current EMA matters.

FIELD SESSIONS

Three field sessions are planned: to Grojec, Żar and Radziechowy-Wieprz mountains. Two of them: Grojec Mountain (612 m above sea level) and a hill localized near the town Radziechowy-Wieprz, are made of calcareous rocks and belong to the Beskid Żywiecki Range. During the third session we will visit the Żar Mountain (761 m above sea level) in the Beskid Mały Range, which is made mainly of sandstones. This mountain is famous for its pump-storage power station, one of the biggest in the world. It can hold 2.5 million cubic meters of water in its asphalt-concrete basin. On the summit there is a view point with a wide panorama of the Beskid Range, a part of the Carpathian Mountains.

The climate of this range is typical of European mountain zones: the weather is very changeable, winds can be strong and blow mainly from the south (especially on Żar Mountain), and precipitation is high (800-1200 mm), frequently resulting in local floods.

The vegetation is dominated by mixed mountain forests composed of spruce, beech and fir. They are strongly affected by the specific local microclimate characterized by high humidity level resulting from the proximity of the Soła river valley and several lakes.

The area of Beskid Mountains is known for its excellent conditions for hypogeous fungi but has not yet been thoroughly studied in this respect.

REGISTRATION FEE

The fee for the EMA members is **€100** for others – **€110** It includes attendance of all workshop trips and sessions, the Opening and the Workshop Dinner, transportation during the workshop, and workshop materials.

The Registration fee should be paid **before 1 June 2006** to:

Account holder: University of Łódź

Bank name: Bank Polska Kasa Opieki S.A.

II Oddział w Łodzi

Account number: 14 1240 3028 1111 0010 0434 7782

Headword: Truffles

Please send a photocopy or scanned JPG-format image of your payment proof to the Workshop Secretary Dr Izabela Kałucka. The University of Łódź will send the confirmation receipts of payments addressing the persons/institutions mentioned on the proofs.

VENUE

The workshop will be held in the Waterfall Holiday & Health Spa (“Nad Wodospadem”) in the picturesque location of Międzybrodzie Bialskie, in the Beskidy Mountains, southern Poland.

The workshop is situated not far from some famous and interesting places in Poland, 70 km from Krakow and 38 km from Wadowice, the birthplace of Pope John Paul II; it is also 36 km from another interesting but infamous place, the Auschwitz Concentration Camp (Oświęcim).

Address:

Centrum Medyczne "Nad Wodospadem"
Medyków 19
Międzybrodzie Bialskie

A detailed map of the exact area can be found at

www.witanski.com.pl/mapy_online/czernichow/czernichow.html

(the workshop accommodation is located at the crossing of 5/6 and D/E)

Some information (in Polish) and photos are available at www.nadwodospadem.com.pl

ACCOMODATION AND BOARD

The following rooms are available:

Main building (42 places):

7 twin rooms each with 2 single beds (90x200)

8 double rooms each with 1 double bed

2 rooms each with 4 single beds

1 apartment (1 room with 2 single beds, 1 room with 1 double bed, 1 bathroom)

All rooms have bathrooms and balconies.

Summer cottages (slightly more simple accommodation): 9 for 3 persons
1 for 2 persons

The price of accommodation will depend on the kind of room and number of participants, but will not exceed 50 PLN per night per person in the main building and 45 PLN per night for a whole cottage in the summer cottages.

As the number of rooms in each category is limited, places will be allocated on a "first come, first served" basis.

The prices of meals:

Breakfast – 10 PLN

Lunch – 15 PLN

Dinner – 20 PLN

The above prices could vary slightly depending on the number of participants.

TV sets are available by prior reservation (10 PLN per day).

During the workshop the hotel will be closed for other people. Parking place for 20 cars will be at the disposal of guests. There is also sauna and billiards in the hotel.

Participants will pay their accommodation and board themselves at the hotel. Note that payments can be made in PLN (złoty) and in cash only (the hotel makes out bills and can issue invoices). There will be opportunities to change money or to access cash machine. The current rate of exchange is ca. 1€ = 3.87 PLN

Check-out time at the hotel is 16.00. The hotel day ends at 10.00.

There is the possibility for participants to book rooms for a few days prior to or after the workshop if they want to come earlier or stay longer.

All questions and requests regarding accommodation and board should be sent to the Workshop Secretary Dr Małgorzata Ruszkiewicz-Michalska mrusz@biol.uni.lodz.pl.

TRANSPORTATION

The place of the workshop is situated 70 km from Krakow, 70 km from Katowice, 15 km from Bielsko-Biała and 16 km from Żywiec. Participants can arrive by car, plane, train or 'bus. Detailed information about connexions between those cities and Międzybrodzie Bialskie will be provided in the Second Announcement.

For those coming by car we recommend to visit <http://www.viamichelin.com/> to see general, as well as detailed maps, and to plan the route (type Poland and Miedzybrodzie Bialskie, or one of the places mentioned above – Krakow, Katowice, Bielsko-Biała, or Zywiec)

During the workshop trips participants will be transported by 'bus.

FIELD AND LABORATORY EQUIPMENT

Participants are advised to bring their own equipment for collecting fungi (baskets, field fridges, boxes, and envelopes) as well as driers, optical devices (microscopes) and literature for taxonomical identifications.

The conference room will be equipped with a slide projector, overhead projector, whiteboard and flipchart. A projector for computer presentations can be also supplied, if required.

The weather at the beginning of September in the Polish mountains can be variable and unstable, oscillating between summer hot and sunny days with temperatures reaching 25°C and autumn rainy days with temperatures dropping to 8-10°C. Thus some clothes for hot, as well as for cold and wet weather may be useful. Do not forget to check the weather forecast prior to the workshop (e.g. <http://weather.icm.edu.pl/> - choose "stara wersja" above the map, then Bielsko-Biała or Żywiec in the list of the Polish towns).

As field excursions are planned, good water-resistant shoes proper for mountain walks are recommended.

CONTACT

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