

THE MYCOPHILE

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www.namyco.org

BLENDING BURGER PROJECT™ FROM THE JAMES BEARD FOUNDATION

The Blend Makes Burgers Better

Here's why chefs are choosing to join this movement of blending finely chopped, umami-rich mushrooms [25% suggested] with ground meat in burgers and propelling the global food revolution forward:

Food Movement

"Sustainability and health are two very important things to me as a chef. Adding mushrooms to the ground meat will add freshness, make my guests rethink about vegetables in a different way, and think about how we can make recipes healthier."
– Raenel Stelly, Rae's Cuisine

Sustainability

"It's James Beard! I mean, how could I not join the fun. But seriously being a premier junior chef comes with a lot of responsibility. I want to be on the forefront of sustainable, healthy, nutritious food. I live in an urban city and I see food deserts and hunger. Being able to produce a delicious burger that both delights dinners and helps turn this iconic dish into something we can all still enjoy for generations to come is very important to me." – Logan Guleff, Junior Chef

Flavor

"Mushrooms are such a versatile ingredient and can go a long way in terms of adding flavor and texture. I'm excited to show our guests just how delicious blended burgers can be!" – Troy Guard, Tag Burger Bar



Nutrition

"Truthfully, this project lined up with our philosophy. We are always looking for ways to provide healthier options without sacrificing taste or experience. Sourcing sustainable products is also a must for us. The more we can educate our local community, the better. The question really was, 'why not do this?'" – Eric Damidot, Vitascope Hall

Good for Business

"Shortly after the debut of our blended burger, we had lines of people eager to try it—some patrons coming in almost every single day. In the end, our little 30 seat (48 if you count outside) restaurant made over 2,000 burgers in the two months! Selling 600 blended burgers during our burger bash week alone, all while still offering our regular menu." – Toni Elkhouri, Cedar's Café

UPCOMING FORAYS & OTHER EVENTS

The events page of *The Mycophile* publicizes forays and events of NAMA affiliated clubs which may be of interest to our members. If you would like to list your club's next big event, contact

Susan Kayser, Editor: mycophile@namyco.org.

Include date, location, brief description, link for information, and host organization name.

All California Club Foray 2018

Friday-Sunday, January 19-21, Albion, CA

Join the Bay Area Mycological Society for our 8th biannual ACCF, near Mendocino, CA. Open to NAMA members! Our Foray Mycologist is Michael Beug, author of *Ascomycete Fungi of North America*. Cost is \$200 per person and includes two nights lodging and all meals from Friday evening through Sunday breakfast. For more information and registration:

http://bayareamushrooms.org/forays/accf_2018.html

42nd Annual Sam Ristich NEMF Foray

26-29 July, 2018, at State University of NY at Geneseo.

<http://www.nemf.org/index.html>

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Stay connected with your friends at NAMA! Renew your membership today!

We know you enjoy being a part of the international mushroom community. We hope you'll take this opportunity to renew your NAMA membership. In 2018, you'll continue to enjoy all the benefits NAMA has to offer, including our newsletter, *The Mycophile*, full of educational articles, book reviews, and news about upcoming forays such as our annual foray near Salem, Oregon and a new regional foray near the historic Natchez Trace Parkway in Mississippi.

We hold an annual photography contest, provide an annual scholarship, host the poison case registry, the original Registry of Mushrooms in Works of Art, and a members-only email discussion group.

Visit <http://www.namyco.org/join.php> and select the "renew membership" button at the top of the page. Members of affiliated clubs receive a \$5 discount. For only \$25 (\$30 for non-affiliated members), you will receive 6 issues of *The Mycophile*, learn about the NA Mycoflora Project, and stay connected to this wonderful world of fungi. If you have a question about your membership, please contact Steve Bichler at membership@namyco.org.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2017

BY DAVID RUST

In the coming year, NAMA will have a new promotional video and a new membership brochure for clubs to use to explain who we are and what we do and to encourage folks in the community of mycophiles to join and work with us in a meaningful way. NAMA's committees on Medicinal Mushrooms, chaired by Dianna Smith, and Education, chaired by Charlotte Caplan, will create and publish new programs to benefit our members. The North American Mycoflora Project, led by Stephen Russell and Bill Sheehan, is set to launch a well-constructed, well-documented collaboration of professional mycologists and NAMA affiliated clubs. I urge you to visit Mycoflora.org and look for or sign up for a project in your area.

Pay a visit to our terrific website, <https://www.namyco.org/>, and find more that we have to offer, from a list of NAMA contacts to the Registry of Mushrooms in Works of Art. If you manage speakers for your club, check out the terrific presenters listed in the [NAMA Speakers Bureau!](#)

Membership Dues Renewal 2018

We know you enjoy being a part of the international mushroom community. We hope you'll take this opportunity to renew your NAMA membership. In 2018, you'll continue to enjoy all the benefits NAMA has to offer, including our newsletter, *The Mycophile*, which is full of educational articles and news about upcoming forays such as our annual foray near Salem, Oregon and a new regional foray near the historic Natchez Trace Parkway in Mississippi.

Every year, NAMA provides a scholarship to a promising PhD student, runs an annual photography contest, and holds the Wildacres Regional Foray in North Carolina.

We have documented fungi for 21 years and incorporated them into the Field Museum of Chicago's herbarium—and we now sequence many of those fungi as well.

Please renew your NAMA membership today. Visit <http://www.namyco.org/join.php> and select the “renew membership” button at the top of the page. Members of affiliated clubs receive a \$5 discount. For only \$25 (\$30 for non-affiliated members), you will receive 6 issues of *The Mycophile* and have full access to our expanded website.

A Request to Members with Spouses

When we send out *The Mycophile* electronically, every email on record receives the issue. We've noticed that of the hundreds of households with two (or more) members, we only have about 45 spouse/household email addresses. We don't like the way the Vieth system treats “the other member” in our database, or collects that info on PayPal, but you can fix it! Please, ask your spouse to log in and add their email address, and make updates to their record online. If you have forgotten your Member Log In or need your Password reset, contact Steve Bichler at membership@namyco.org.

Five things you can do to participate

1. Get involved with your local club and talk to other members about NAMA.
2. Find a [NAMA committee](#) that matches your interest, join it, and help it grow! Contact the committee chair directly, using this link and ask to be part of the committee.

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT, 2017, CONT.

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3. Encourage your club to put on a mushroom fair for the public in the height of your mushroom season. This is a great opportunity to educate folks interested in fungi and grow membership in your club.
4. Write an article for *The Mycophile* on your personal experience as a mushroomer.
5. Attend an annual foray (2018 in Salem, Oregon) or a regional foray (look for news on our event planned for Mississippi and our 21st Wildacres Regional Foray in North Carolina).

The Business of NAMA

I'd like to thank Adele Mehta who served as second vice president for the past six years. I know "second vice president" sounds like a no work position, but Adele has been a trooper putting together nominations every other year (the first vice president organizes nominations in years

when the second vp position needs to be filled). Adele has been helpful on many occasions when I needed advice and consultation. As we begin the new year, Connie Durnan joins the executive committee as second vice president. Connie was our registrar for the Northwoods foray and has been extremely helpful sorting out the finances for that event.

Speaking of which, you may have seen some "stuff" on Facebook about finances for the Northwoods foray. Yes, everybody got paid. Yes, we lost money on the foray, for a couple reasons. I want you to know that the executive committee takes our fiduciary responsibility seriously and, while we almost always break even or make a small profit on the annual forays, a loss occasionally happens. If you heard stories and want a more detailed explanation, please contact me at president@namyco.org or simply call me at 510.468.5014. I'm happy to set the record straight.

DECRIMINALISING MAGIC MUSHROOMS IN CA BY OLIVIA SOLON, THE GUARDIAN

As California prepares for the legalisation of recreational marijuana in 2018, one man is pushing for the state to become the first to decriminalise magic mushrooms. Kevin Saunders, a mayoral candidate for the city of Marina, just south of the San Francisco Bay, has filed a proposal that would exempt adults over the age of 21 from any penalties over possessing, growing, selling or transporting psychedelic psilocybin mushrooms. If he can get 365,880 voter signatures by the end of April 2018, the California Psilocybin Legalization Initiative will be placed on the statewide ballot. Saunders thinks that now is

the right time because, he says, the drug can help bridge the current political divide and restore a sense of community. <snip>

A profound magic mushroom experience helped Saunders get over a "debilitating five-year heroin addiction" in 2003, when he was 32. "I got to the root of why I made a conscious decision to become a heroin addict; I've been clean almost 15 years."

California is one of eight states where voters have legalised marijuana for recreational use, even though it's still

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A CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

BY WALT STURGEON

Gary Lincoff Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology

NAMA's Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology is given annually to recognize a person who has contributed extraordinarily to the advancement of amateur mycology. Its recipients have often extensively conducted workshops, led forays, written or lectured widely about mushrooms and identifying mushrooms, all on a national or international level. In 2015, the name of the award was officially changed to recognize the contributions of Gary Lincoff.

Nominations for this award should include a description of the accomplishments the nominee has made in the field of amateur mycology.

A name alone is not a sufficient nomination; neither is a profile on a website. The recipient must be living at the time of the award. Nominees who were not selected to receive the award are automatically re-nominated for 4 additional years, after which the nominee's name has to be re-submitted, and it's up to the nominator to keep track of this.

Selection among nominees is made by the voting of past award winners, and the award includes a plaque and lifetime membership in NAMA.

Nominations are accepted until April 1st of the award year.

Send a single copy of a Nomination by mail or email to:

Walt Sturgeon

Chair, NAMA Awards Committee
288 E North Avenue
East Palestine, OH 44413-2369
[Email: mycowalt \(at\) comcast.net](mailto:mycowalt@comcast.net)

The Harry and Elsie Knighton Service Award

The Harry and Elsie Knighton Service Award was established by the NAMA Board of Trustees to recognize and encourage persons who have distinguished themselves in service to their local clubs. It is named for the Knightons, whose efforts began the North American Mycological Association in 1967.

The annual award consists of a plaque; publicity for the winner and club in *The Mycophile*; a one-year membership in the organization; and registration, housing and foray fees for the next NAMA Foray.

Each year's recipient is selected by the three most recent recipients of the Award. Every NAMA-affiliated mycological club may nominate one candidate whom it feels has performed meritorious service during the current or preceding year, which has to be described!

Unselected nominees are automatically re-nominated for two additional years.

Nominations are accepted until April 1st of the award year.

Send a single copy of a Nomination by mail or email to:

Walt Sturgeon

Chair, NAMA Awards Committee
288 E North Avenue
East Palestine, OH 44413-2369
[Email: mycowalt \(at\) comcast.net](mailto:mycowalt@comcast.net)

MUSHROOMS OF THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES AND EASTERN CANADA

BOOK REVIEW BY STEVE TRUDELL

Mushrooms of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada

Timber Press Field Guide \$27.95

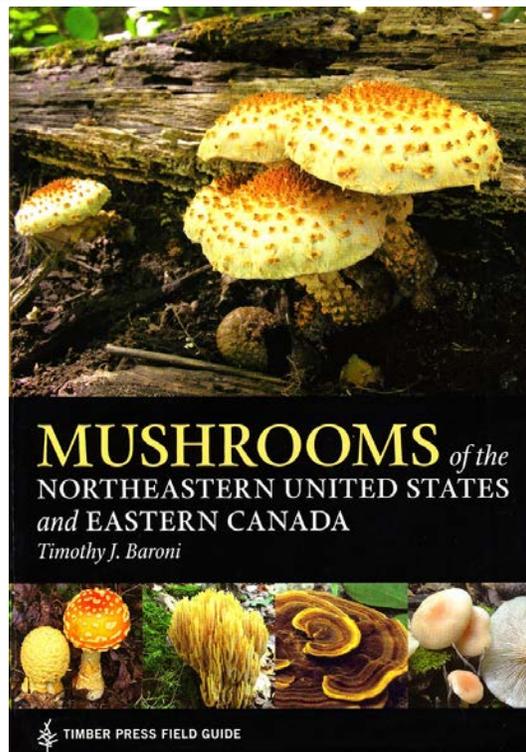
Timothy J. Baroni

Timber Press (<http://www.timberpress.com/>)

ISBN-13: 978-1-60469-634-9 (Flexibind; 600 pp, 562 color photos)

In 2006, Timber Press initiated a series of field guides for the Pacific Northwest with the publication of *Wildflowers of the Pacific Northwest*. *Mushrooms of the Northeastern United States and Eastern Canada* is the tenth book in the series and, as the title indicates, the Press has expanded its range beyond the Pacific Northwest, with this being the third volume from another region of North America. Two of the previous guides dealt with mushrooms—*Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest* and *Mushrooms of the Rocky Mountain Region: Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming*. The former covers 465 species in 352 pages and reviewers noted that the too-small size of the photos reduces their effectiveness for identification purposes. The latter features much larger photos than the earlier volume, but covers only about 200 species in 298 pages. In this third mushroom guide, Timber Press has found a winning combination—offering a high species count with detailed-enough descriptions and nice large photos, while keeping the thickness in line with being a “field” guide and the list price at \$27.95.

Tim Baroni is Distinguished Professor of Biology in the State University at New York. He teaches at SUNY–College at Cortland and works on the systematics of macrofungi. He has a particular fondness for the angular-pink-spored mushrooms of the Entolomataceae



(*Entoloma*, *Nolanea*, *Leptonia*, et al.) and has conducted much field research in the Caribbean and Latin America.

The content and organization of the book are typical for a field guide. The front matter is rather short, consisting of a single 17-page Introduction, addressing the Geographical Scope of the book (defined as the region encompassed by Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, [no Michigan?], Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin, New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Ontario, and most of Québec [no Nova Scotia and PEI?], a brief overview of the Toxins in Fungi, basics of the Biology of Fungi, What

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BOOK REVIEW, BY STEVE TRUDELL, CONT.

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To Call It, review of the basic Mushroom Structures, and finishing with advice on Collecting and Identifying Fleishy Fungi. Given the title of the book, one might assume that all of the species described in it are “mushrooms.” However, the introduction states that “botanically” (not “mycologically”?) a mushroom is a fleshy fungus fruit body that has gills, while allowing that sometimes boletes also are considered mushrooms. Although I agree with the suggestion that the user learn the names of the various groups of fleshy macrofungi (the usual morphologic groups such as polypores, corals, puffballs, and jelly fungi), I see no harm in considering them all to be mushrooms. Later references to “true mushrooms” further complicate things.

The back sections include a brief how-to on Basic Microscopy, Glossary, Further Reading, Mycological Resources (lists of websites and organizations), Photo and Illustration Credits, and Index to both scientific and common names.

The main part of the book occupies nearly 550 pages, on which are described and illustrated approximately 540 species. Each entry includes a large bold-face heading with the species name and authority (with the authors’ names spelled out for those of us who don’t recognize all of the author abbreviations). This is followed by the common name(s) for those that have them, a list of principal synonyms, and a capsule description. The more detailed description includes macroscopic features such as cap, gills, stem, ring, flesh, spore print, odor, and taste, plus habit and habitat, range, and microscopic features, the latter usually labeled as “Spores.” Technical jargon is kept to a minimum. The treatments conclude with comments that address key features (often

repeating them from the capsule description), similar species, misapplied names, and edibility. Most of the ranges are given as “widespread,” which is not very helpful without an indication of the area being referred to—the northeast, as defined for this book? North America? The world?—and the specific sort(s) of habitat in which the species occurs. Each description includes a photo, most of which occupy the full width (or nearly so) of the page. They range from borderline adequate (such as singletons and pictorial shots that fail to show key diagnostic features) to excellent in quality, and the generous size greatly enhances their utility for identification. An example is on p.8.

As has been done in the earlier Timber Press mushroom field guides, the identification process involves selecting the appropriate morphological group for the specimen, turning to the section of the book where that group is presented, using the keys to narrow the possibilities, and then carefully comparing the mushrooms in hand with the photos and text descriptions. Icons for the different groups appear in the front endpapers, accompanied by page references for each of them. Finding the section for the group you’re after is further facilitated by the use of different colored bars across the tops of the pages. The endpaper icons are the same ones used in the Rocky Mountain guide and so there are a few minor differences between their categories and the ones Baroni uses in the text. However this shouldn’t be much of a bother if it is noticed at all. The group sections each open with a short general introduction, followed by a polychotomous key intended to reduce the universe of photos that need to be examined in search of a match. These keys employ a few key features, such as substrate or gill attachment, to divide the included genera

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BOOK REVIEW, BY STEVE TRUDELL, CONT.

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into subgroups. A short list of key features is then presented for each genus. There are no comprehensive genus descriptions.

Seeing as how this is not the first mushroom book for northeastern North America, it's a fair question whether someone who already owns books such as *Mushrooms of Northeastern North America* (Bessette et al.), *Mushrooms of Northeast North America* (Barron), and *Mushrooms of the Northeast* (Marrone and Sturgeon) should add this one to his/her collection. By my count, together, these four volumes describe (in some detail) and illustrate 1070 species. The Bessette, Barron, and Baroni books cover 631, 554, and 542 species, respectively. In each of these books, about one-third of those species are in only that one of the four books (215, 162, and 168 "unique" species, respectively). The Marrone guide covers far fewer species (177 described and illustrated, with additional species briefly mentioned and/or pictured) and only 11 of them are unique to this book. Thus, even someone who owns all three of the earlier books would benefit from the additional coverage offered by Baroni's new guide. In addition, its nomenclature is, with a few exceptions, up-to-date, and it offers the best combination of sufficiently comprehensive descriptions and large, clear, close-at-hand photos of the four, in an attractive package, at a reasonable price. Buying it should be an easy decision for mushroomers on the

GILLED MUSHROOMS WITH BROWN SPORE PRINTS 283

Simocybe centunculus (Fries) P. Karsten

SYNONYMS *Agaricus centunculus* Fries, *Naucoria centunculus* (Fries) P. Kummer, *Ramicola centunculus* (Fries) Watling

Small olive-brown, densely woolly caps with translucent-lined margins; gills brown with olive tint, attached; stem colored as cap or with more olive hues, densely pubescent at first; on well-decayed hardwood trees

CAP 0.5–2 cm wide, convex, becoming plane, some with low broad central bump, dark grayish-brown with olive tints, but soon paler bronze or yellowish-brown, hygrophanous from center outward and even paler yellowish-tan, translucent-lined over margin at first, minutely woolly (tomentulose) overall (use a lens). **FLESH** brown, thin. **GILLS** pale yellowish-brown with olive tint, attached, close, broad,

edges white, frayed. **STEM** 0.5–3 cm long, 1–2 mm broad, equal, same color as cap or with darker olive tints, white mycelioid at base, minutely white fibrillose overall at first, becoming glabrous over the base. **SPORE PRINT** brown. **ODOR** not distinctive, or pungent (geranium odor for me). **TASTE** bitterish but with floral hints.

Habit and habitat clustered on well-decayed, crumbling wood of hardwood stumps or downed logs. August to November. **RANGE** widespread.

Spores broadly ellipsoid or slightly bean-shaped, smooth, pale tan in KOH, 6–8 × 4–5 μm.

Comments One of the LBMs that can be identified using solely field characters with some degree of confidence. The habitat and colors of the fruit bodies are distinctive. Compare with *Flammulaster erinaceellus* that is found in similar habitats.



Sample page from book

eastern side of the continent, both those with bulging bookshelves and those who are just getting started building their library of mushroom books.

MEET OUR NEW MCILVANEA EDITOR

My father, who foraged while hunting, knew one mushroom: 'pinkies' as he called them. So he was highly skeptical and cautionary when I told him that I had joined the New York Mycological Society. But that was several years ago, and here I am, still on the silent hunt. What is the attraction? A lot has to do with the group's ethos: careful but not timid, adventurous but not reckless and knowledgeable without pretension. This compels me to renew my memberships—NAMA included—each year, and now, to step forward and offer my services as editor of *McIlvainea*.

I am a research chemist who has published in several peer-reviewed journals, and therefore I am well-acquainted with the rigors of peer-review. My forte is process. 'How does it work?' or in the context of mushrooms, "How digestible is it?" motivates me more than "What is it called?" Alas, Linnean names will never drip off my lips. Therefore, I am better suited here to the role of editor rather than contributor. With the guidance of former *McIlvainea* editor, Dr. Michael Beug, I feel ready to leap to the other side of the manuscript. So let us begin...



Laura Juszcak is Assistant Professor in chemistry at Brooklyn College, the City University of New York. One of her duties is to teach chemistry to nonmajors wherein she emphasizes sustainability, including mycology whenever possible.

DECRIMINALIZING MAGIC MUSHROOMS, CONT.

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included in the federal government's list of schedule I drugs. Saunders and Kitty Merchant, who is co-author of the measure and his fiancée, believe that magic mushrooms—also listed as schedule I drugs—are the next logical step.

"I think we have learned a lot from marijuana and we are ready as a society," he said. ...

Merchant and Saunders are not the first couple to propose legalising mushrooms. The husband and wife team Tom and Sheri Eckert announced earlier this year that they

were pushing for a similar ballot measure in Oregon, hoping to make it the first state in the US to legalise the drug.

They have taken a more conservative approach than Saunders has, aiming for a 2020 ballot and seeking to legalise the drug to be taken only in licensed centres under the supervision of a certified facilitator. Individuals would not be able to just buy the mushrooms and consume them at home as they can with marijuana. ...

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/nov/25/magic-mushrooms-decriminalization-california>

NEW REGIONAL FORAY IN CANTON, MS BY SAM LANDES

Join us this Summer at the first Regional NAMA Foray in Mississippi. We will be staying at The Gray Center in Canton, Mississippi, just north of Jackson. Come explore a part of the country that can be overlooked sometimes.

The Foray will be held Thursday, June 28 through Sunday, July 1, 2018.

We will drive to a couple of wooded sites nearby on Friday morning then put our focus on foraging in the over 750 acres right outside our doors at the Center. They have an extensive network of trails with a varied terrain.

Registration will open in early February and is limited to 60 NAMA members. The rooms are all air conditioned and are accessible. There are two twin beds in each room with a private bath. You can choose to stay in the main lodge or opt to share a cottage. Each cottage has 8 bedrooms containing 2 twin beds and a private bathroom. The cottages have a shared meetings space, a full kitchen and a patio overlooking the lake.

We will have a presentation each night and a social afterwards. The Head Mycologist will be Dr. Juan Luis Mata of the University of South Alabama.



The Gray Center



PHOTOS FROM NAMA FORAY, CABLE WI BY DAVID RUST



Chicken of the Woods



Garrett Taylor and Roz Lowen discuss an asco identification

Presenter Nik Money and friends at a Saturday social



North American Mycological Association
Barbara Ching
2019 Ashmore Dr
Ames, IA 50014-7208

Change Service Requested

Newsletter of the North American Mycological Association

THE MYCOPHILE

Mushroom of the Issue

Roridomyces austrororidis



Roridomyces austrororidis

Debbie Viess

This curious, teeny tiny, former mycena species is mostly notable for its abundant slime coat. It occurs across the North American continent, mostly in temperate regions. Versions of this species can be found as far away as Australia and New Zealand, where it is called *Roridomyces austrororidis*. No DNA sequence currently exists for *R. austrororidis*, to show just how related these two highly similar but broadly separated species might be. Also noteworthy is the fact that *R. roridis* is bioluminescent. Unlike with our more familiar and far larger *Omphalotus* species, only the mycelia of *R. roridis* shows that spectral glow.