

Chanterelles and the like

The form group have rather fleshy fruitbodies with a ± central stem and a deeply decurrent hymenophore that may be completely smooth or consist of ± branched veins to wrinkles. The fruitbodies can be massive or hollow.

The core group is *Craterellus* and *Cantharellus*. These genera belong in *Cantharellales* and both form ectomycorrhiza.

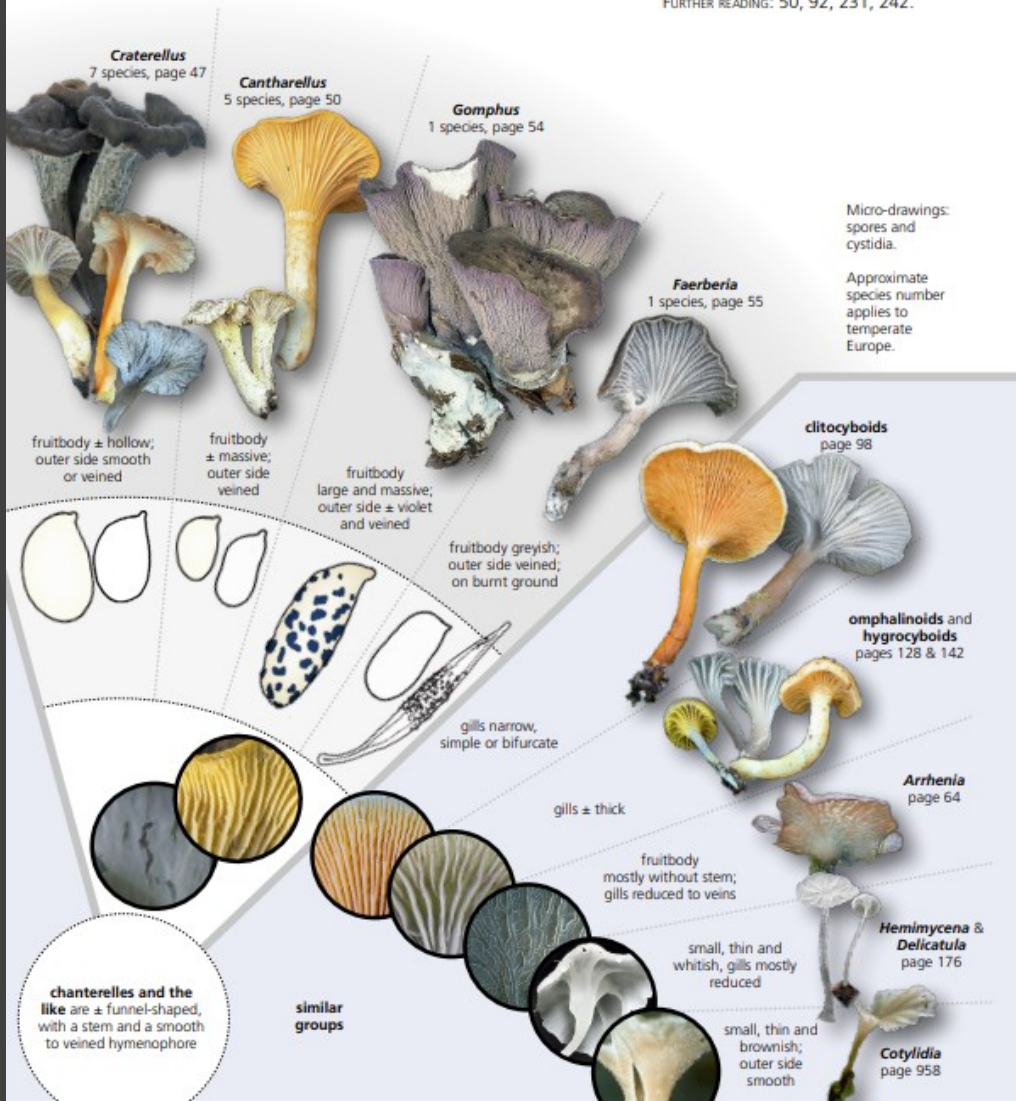
Gomphus clavatus, which belongs in *Gomphales*, also forms ectomycorrhiza, while *Faerberia carbonaria*, which is situated in *Polyporales*, is a decomposer.

SIMILAR GROUPS:

– clitocyboids have similar shapes to the chanterelles, but have typical gills that may be forked (page 98).

– some omphalinoids have a veined hymenophore, but are smaller with reduced stems (page 128).
– funnel-shaped hygrocycboids and omphalinoids have decurrent gills (pages 128 & 142).
– some mycenas (e.g. *Hemimycena*) may look similar, but are small, fragile and white (page 176).

FURTHER READING: 50, 92, 231, 242.



Chanterelles within the genus *Craterellus* have a smooth or veined outer side where the hymenium is situated. They also have a ± hollow stem.

•• *Craterellus cornucopioides* is a thin-fleshed, grey-black to brown, rarely yellow-brown, trumpet-shaped fungus with an undulating margin and with an almost smooth, grey hymenium, which is strongly decurrent. The stem is hollow; the cap surface is felty and the smell is very pleasant. The smooth, hyaline spores measure $(9-10-13.5(-16) \times (5.5-6.5-8.5(-9.2)) \mu\text{m}$. Forms ectomycorrhiza with mostly *Fagus* and *Picea* on better, typically ± clay-rich, calcareous soils.

Craterellus cinereus >> has obvious wrinkles. The two species occasionally occur close together. A yellowish form has been separated as *C. konradii* (lower image).

Widespread and locally common, becoming scarcer towards the north; mostly September–October.



Jan Westerholt

Cantharel-achtigen

[Arrhenia](#)
[Cantharellus](#)
[Clitocybe-achtigen](#)
[Cotyldia](#)
[Craterellus](#)
[Delicatula](#)
[Faerberia](#)
[Gomphus](#)
[Hemimycena](#)
[Hygrocycbe-achtigen](#)
[Omphalina-achtigen](#)

Clitocyboids

Clitocyboid agarics have short to deeply decurrent gills. The cap is umbonate, applanate or funnel-shaped and the flesh is mostly obviously fibrillose but not very tough. Some species form small fruitbodies, but most are medium-sized to very large. Most clitocyboids have white to cream spore-deposits, but in some species belonging to the genera *Clitocybe* and *Paralepista* they are clay-pink.

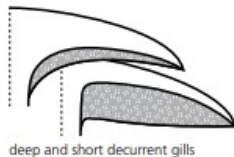
Almost all clitocyboids are decomposers of litter or soil. Exceptions include *Ossicaulis* and *Omphalotus* that are lignicolous. *Hygrophoropsis* and *Aphroditeola* may also grow on remnants of wood. *Catathelasma* forms ectomycorrhiza with conifers.

The generic division of the clitocyboid agarics has gone through large changes, with many species, previously accepted in *Leucopaxillus* and *Clitocybe*, now being assigned to a number of new genera.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

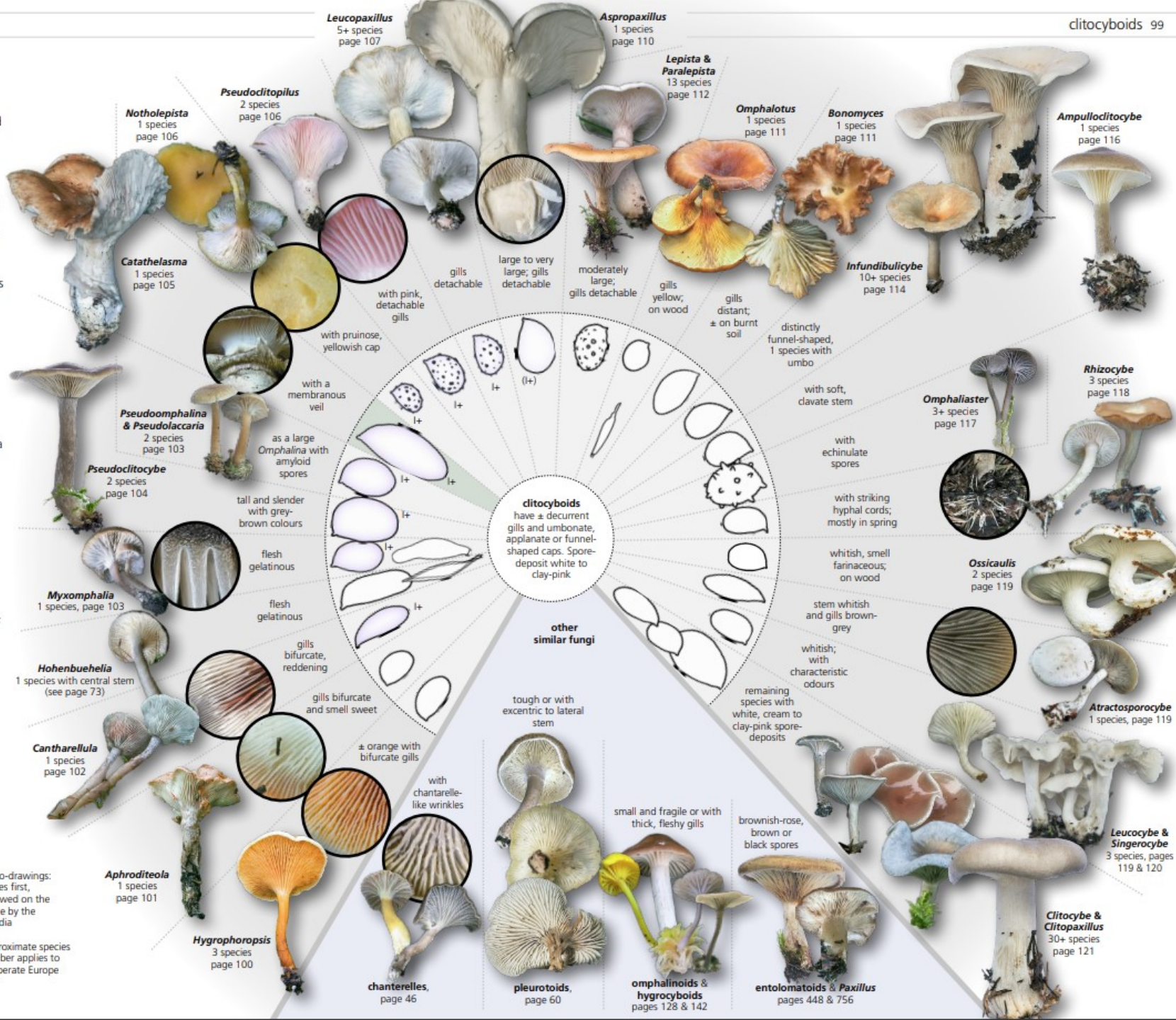
- omphalinoids may look rather similar, but are mostly more fragile and smaller. Some have a biotrophic association with mosses, etc., others are decomposers (page 128).
- pleurotoids likewise have deeply decurrent gills but have excentric stems. Many of these (e.g. *Neolentinus* and *Lentinellus*) have distinctly tough flesh (page 60).
- entolomatoids may be shaped like clitocyboids, but have brownish-rose, verrucose, striate or angular spores (page 448).
- *Paxillus* and others are shaped like clitocyboids but have brownish spore-deposits (page 756).

LITERATUR: 8, 9, 10, 27, 110, 156, 174, 181, 183, 340, 344.



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by the cystidia

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe



Clitocybe-achtigen

- [Ampulloclitocybe](#)
- [Aphroditeola](#)
- [Aspropaxillus](#)
- [Atractosporocybe](#)
- [Bonomyces](#)
- [Cantharel-achtigen](#)
- [Cantharellula](#)
- [Catathelasma](#)
- [Clitocybe](#)
- [Clitopaxillus](#)
- [Entoloma-achtigen](#)
- [Hohenbuehelia](#)
- [Hygrocybe-achtigen](#)
- [Hygrophoropsis](#)
- [Infundibulicybe](#)
- [Lepista](#)
- [Leucocybe](#)
- [Leucopaxillus](#)
- [Myxomphalia](#)
- [Notholepista](#)
- [Omphaliaster](#)
- [Omphalina-achtigen](#)
- [Omphalotus](#)
- [Ossicaulis](#)
- [Paralepista](#)
- [Paxillus](#)
- [Pleurotus-achtigen](#)
- [Pseudoclitocybe](#)
- [Pseudolaccaria](#)
- [Pseudoclitopilus](#)
- [Pseudoomphalina](#)
- [Rhizocybe](#)
- [Singerocybe](#)



Omphalinoids

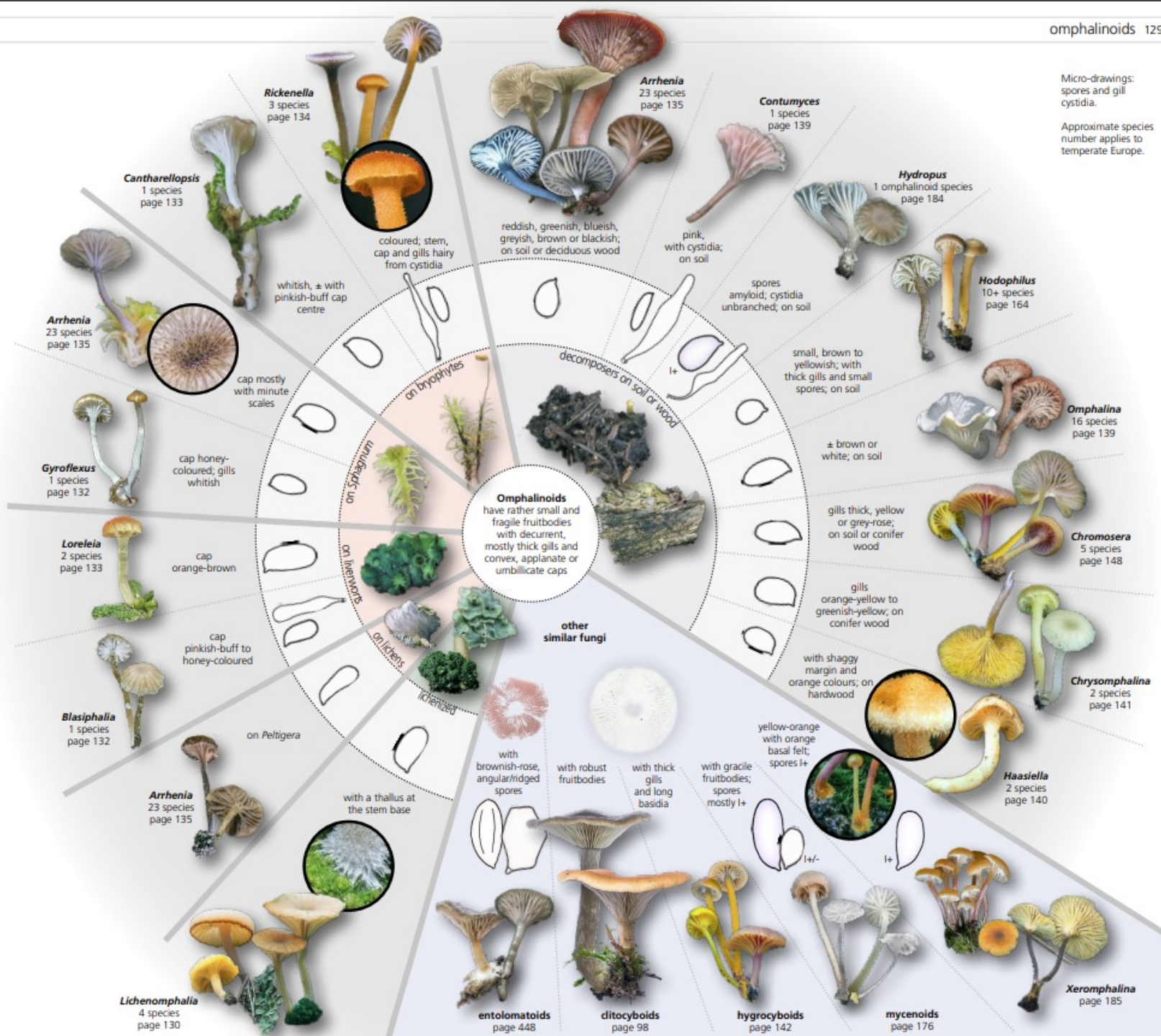
The omphalinoid fungi are a loosely defined form group of white-spored agarics with relatively small, mostly dry, somewhat fragile and elegant fruitbodies and rather deeply decurrent gills. Although the name suggests that all are umbilicate, this is far from the case. They can also be convex, umbonate or applanate without an umbilicus.

Some omphalinoid fungi are biotrophic, either as lichenized with algae or as parasites on mosses (left side of the wheel). Others are decomposers (saprotrophs) of litter, herbs or wood (right side of the wheel).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- some hygrocyboids (*Hygrocybe* and others) with decurrent gills look distinctly omphalinoid. However, the hygrocyboid fungi have, in general, very slender basidia (6-9 times as long as wide) and live mostly as biotrophs amongst phanerogams (page 142).
- some mycenas with decurrent gills are also omphalinoid. Many mycenas can be separated by their amyloid spores, but e.g. *Phloeomana speirea* and related species and the genus *Hemimycena* are inamyloid (page 176).
- the clitocyboids have predominantly decurrent gills, but are mostly larger and tougher than the omphalinoids (page 98).
- some species of entolomatoids also look similar, but these have brownish rose spore-deposits, and the spores are ridged or angular (page 448).

LITERATUR: 156, 181, 262.



Micro-drawings: spores and gill cystidia.
Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Omphalina-achtigen

- [Arrhenia](#)
- [Blasiphalia](#)
- [Cantharellopsis](#)
- [Chromosera](#)
- [Chrysomphalina](#)
- [Clitocybe-achtigen](#)
- [Contumyces](#)
- [Entoloma-achtigen](#)
- [Gyroflexus](#)
- [Haasiella](#)
- [Hodophilus](#)
- [Hydrops](#)
- [Lichenomphalia](#)
- [Loreleia](#)
- [Mycena-achtigen](#)
- [Omphalina](#)
- [Rickenella](#)
- [Xeromphalina](#)



Hygrocybe-achtigen

Hygrocyboids

The hygrocyboid agarics (waxcaps and others) are recognized by their thick, wax-like and mostly rather distant gills, and many species have very vivid colours. Microscopically, most hygrocyboids have unusually long and slender basidia, typically 6–9 times as long as wide. The spore-deposits are whitish and the spores smooth and inamyloid; as a general rule cystidia are lacking.

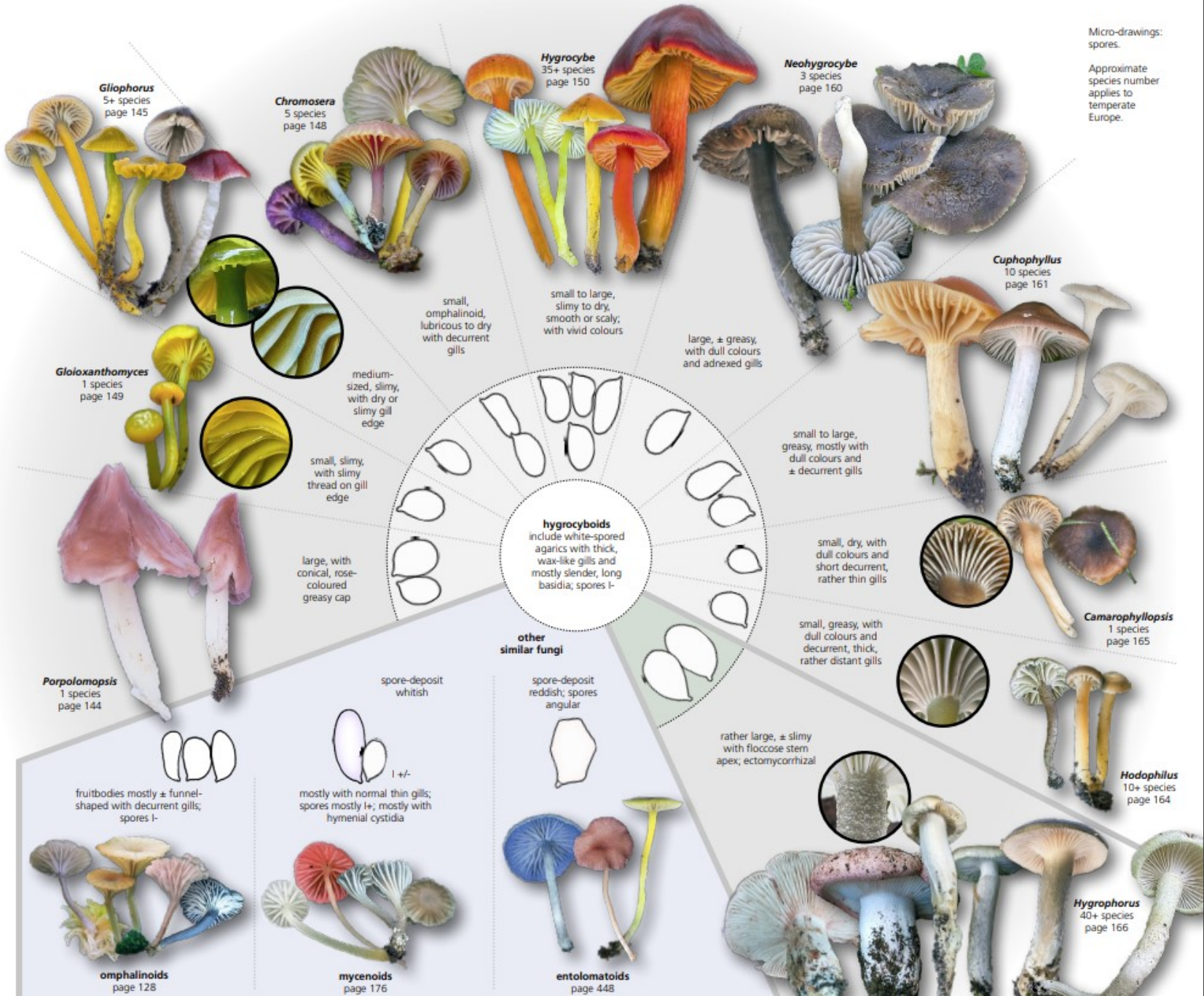
Most hygrocyboids are thought to be biotrophic, with a poorly understood symbiosis with herbs. Using DNA-analysis techniques, living hyphae have been detected inside tissues and seeds of *Plantago*. Species of *Hygrophorus* are also proven to be biotrophic, but they form ectomycorrhiza with a number of woody partners. One species (*Hygrophorus exiguus* \times) appears to be associated with *Tricholoma* mycorrhiza.

Most hygrocyboid agarics have very demanding habitat requirements. They are particularly sensitive to fertilizers and many favour habitats with a long continuity. The hygrocyboids share the same habitats and have similar preferences to a number of clavarioids, entolomatoids and earthtongues; they are all good indicators of sites of special nature conservation value.

In most of Europe the typical habitat for hygrocyboids, except *Hygrophorus* and *Hodophilus*, is old, unfertilized grassland – a habitat that has declined dramatically over the past 50 years. In other parts of the world, the hygrocyboid agarics are predominantly to be found in forests with long continuity. Species of *Hodophilus* tend to prefer thorny thickets on clay soils.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
 – omphalinoids may also have thick, fleshy gills; many are parasites on mosses or are lichenized, but some are saprotrophs (page 128).
 – mycenoids generally have 'typical' gills and most have cystidia and amyloid spores. They are all believed to be saprotrophs (page 176).
 – entolomatoids may be colourful, but have angular, pinkish spores (page 448).

LITERATUR: 1, 2, 3, 43, 57, 156, 172, 178, 183.



Mycenoids

Mycenoids are small, rather fragile or somewhat tough agarics with white spore-deposits. Most species have a bell-shaped or convex cap, but may become applanate or even somewhat funnel-shaped with age. The gill attachment comes in all forms, except completely free. Smell and surface features – dry versus slimy etc. – are important characters. In the field it is important to note whether the fruitbodies have a distinctive odour, e.g. radish-like, like iodoform or nitrous, and whether parts of the fruitbody are slimy.

The mycenoid fungi often have smooth, amyloid spores. Many species have characteristic cystidia in the hymenium or in other places.

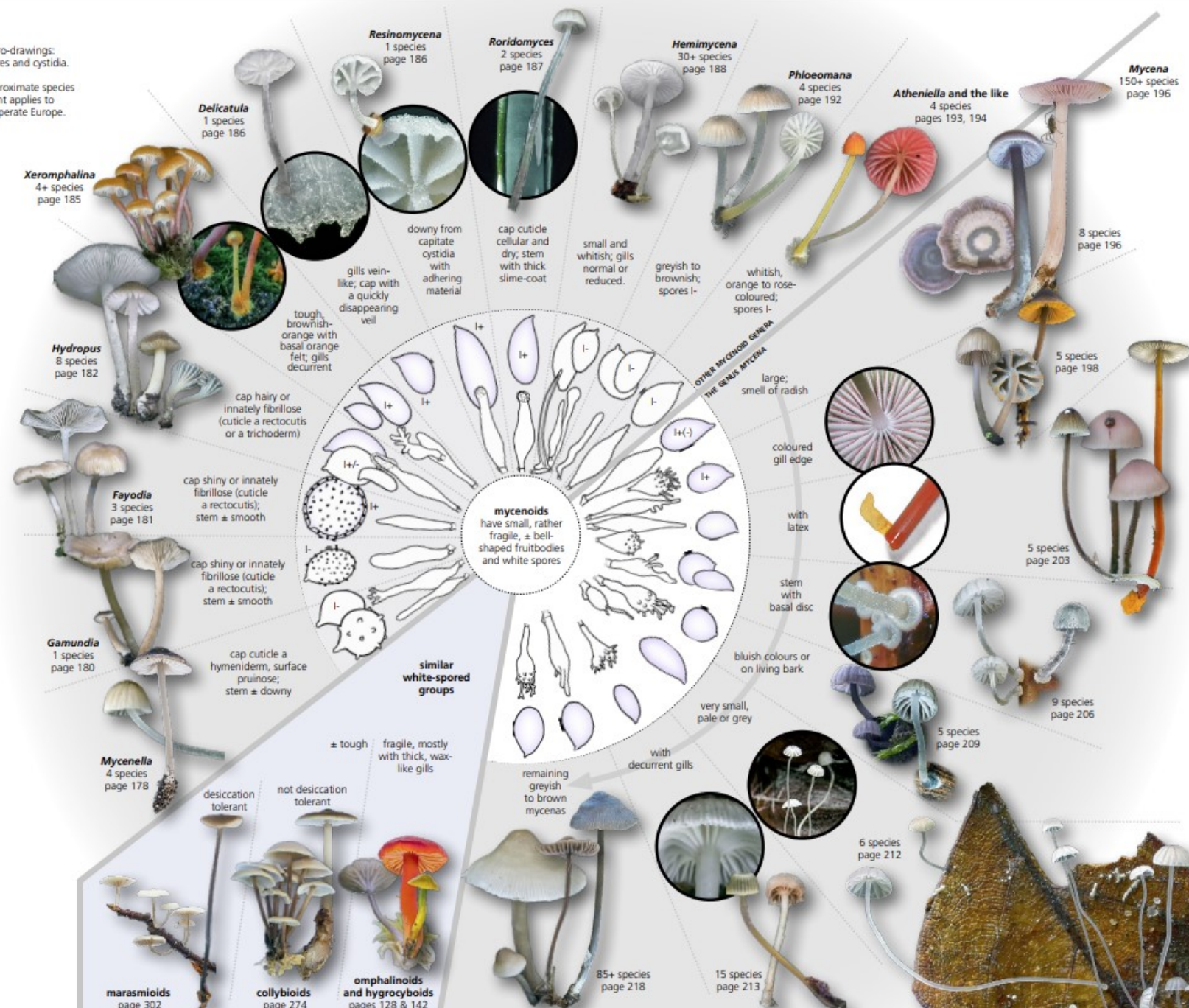
The mycenoid fungi are mainly decomposers and often occur on leaf or needle debris, on dead wood or on the bark of living trees. A few species (e.g. *Mycena galopus*, page 205) may form mycorrhiza-like associations with Ericaceous plants.

Mycena is the most speciose mycenoid genus in temperate Europe, and the next is *Hemimycena*. The latter has inamyloid spores and the fruitbodies are small or very small and whitish; some are without gills and form a link to the cyphelloid fungi (page 1076).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
 – omphalinoids and hygrocyboids with decurrent gills may look rather similar (pages 128 & 142).
 – collybioids and marasmioids may also look similar, but these are mostly somewhat tougher or can revive after desiccation (pages 274 & 302).
 – similar entolomatoids have rose-coloured spore-deposits (page 448).
 – similar *Panaeolus* species have blackish spore-deposits (page 554).
 – similar little brown mushrooms (LBMs) have grey-brown to red-brown spore-deposits (page 616).

FURTHER READING: 12, 15, 104, 156, 183, 206, 272, 273.

Micro-drawings: spores and cystidia.
 Approximate species count applies to temperate Europe.



Mycena-achtigen

- [Atheniella](#)
- [Delicatula](#)
- [Fayodia](#)
- [Gamundia](#)
- [Hemimycena](#)
- [Hydropus](#)
- [Hygrocybe-achtigen](#)
- [Marasmius-achtigen](#)
- [Mycena](#)
- [Mycenella](#)
- [Omphalina-achtigen](#)
- [Phloeomana](#)
- [Resinomyцена](#)
- [Roridomyces](#)
- [Xeromphalina](#)



Collybioids

The collybioids are characterized by convex or umbonate to applanate, silky-fibrillose, greasy, hairy or slimy caps, adnexed to broadly adnate gills and white spore-deposits. *Rhodocollybia* has a pale grey-rose deposit and *Macrocyttidia* may have a ± brown deposit. Most species are moderately tough. The spores are, with a few exceptions, inert to iodine.

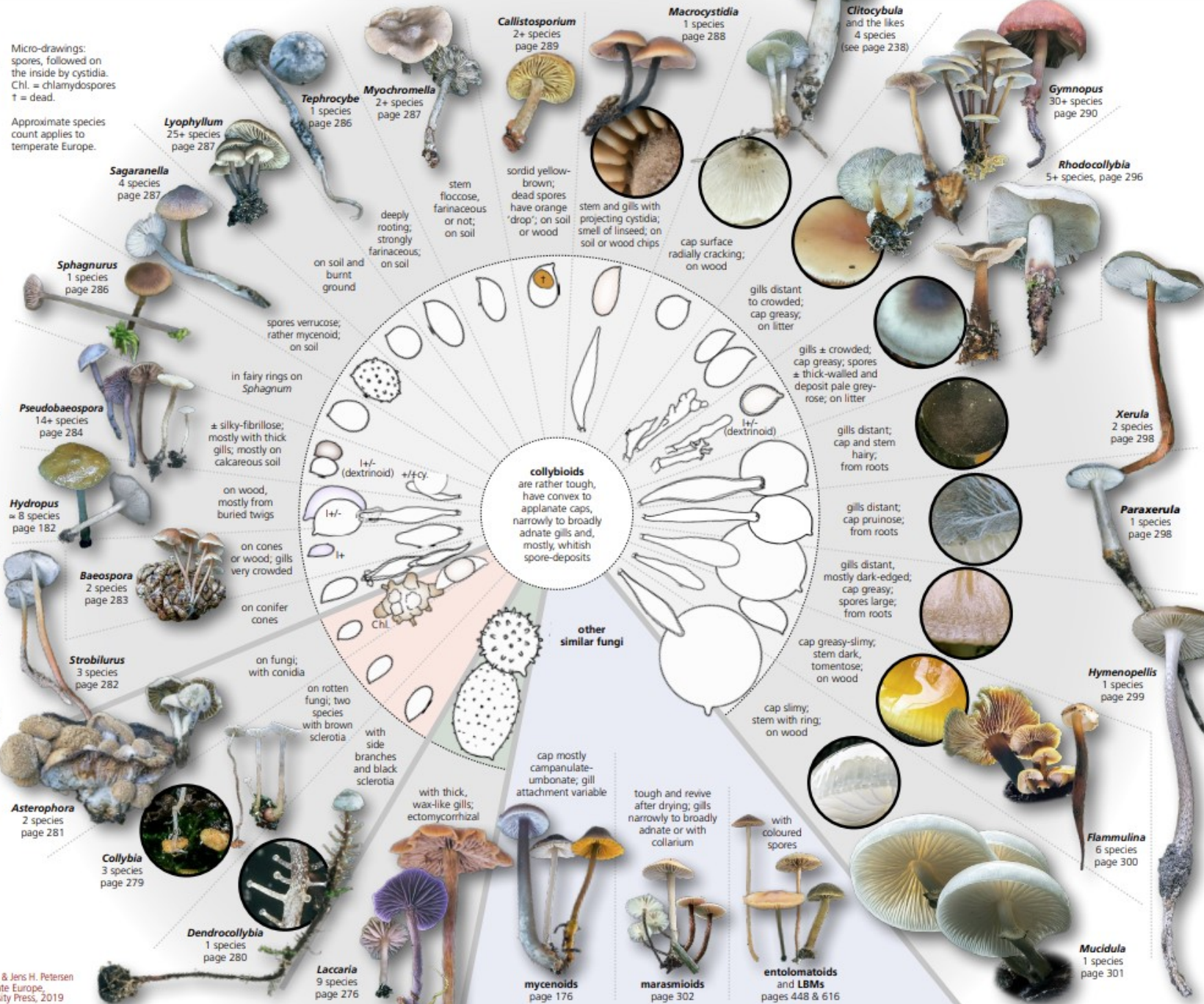
The collybioids function predominantly as decomposers. A number of species have long, rooting stems, which arise from buried substrates such as tree roots or buried cones. *Laccaria* differs by being important ectomycorrhizals.

In older literature many collybioid species were included in the genera *Lyophyllum*, *Collybia* and *Xerula*. However, molecular phylogenetic studies have shown that these genera are all strongly polyphyletic, and this has led to much 'splitting', as can be seen from the many unfamiliar names.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

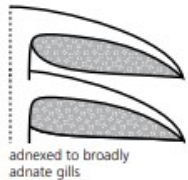
- mycenoids with narrowly adnate gills may look very similar. However, they mostly have campanulate-umbonate caps, tend to be more fragile, and most species have amyloid spores (page 176).
- marasmioids are rather similar to the collybioids in shape and habitat, but most can tolerate desiccation. The stem is typically darker with a pale apex. They are also somewhat tougher (page 302).
- tricholomatoids are more fleshy and have ± emarginate gills (page 226).
- entolomatoids have brownish-rose spore-deposits and angular spores (page 448).
- LBMs (little brown mushrooms) may have collybioid shapes, but are brown-spored (page 616).

FURTHER READING: 4, 13, 24, 25, 30, 156, 181, 183, 246, 348.



Collybia-achtigen

- [Asterophora](#)
- [Baeospora](#)
- [Callistosporium](#)
- [Clitocybula](#)
- [Collybia](#)
- [Dendrocollybia](#)
- [Entoloma-achtigen](#)
- [Flammulina](#)
- [Gymnopus](#)
- [Hydropsis](#)
- [Hymenopellis](#)
- [Kleine bruine paddenstoelen](#)
- [Laccaria](#)
- [Lyophyllum](#)
- [Macrocyttidia](#)
- [Marasmius-achtigen](#)
- [Mucidula](#)
- [Mycena-achtigen](#)
- [Myochromella](#)
- [Paraxerula](#)
- [Pseudobaeospora](#)
- [Rhodocollybia](#)
- [Sagaranelia](#)
- [Sphagnurus](#)
- [Strobilurus](#)
- [Tephroclybe](#)
- [Xerula](#)



Marasmioids

The marasmioid fungi have applanate to convex, rather tough caps and highly variable gill attachments, including a collarium around the stem (page 312). The stems are mostly dark, except for the apex, and some species have strong odours. The fruitbodies revive after desiccation. Microscopically many species have cystidia with finger-like protuberances.

The marasmioid fungi can be

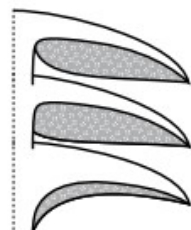
very difficult to distinguish from the collybioids, especially the genus *Gymnopus* (pages 290 & 306). Likewise, *Xeromphalina* (page 185) creates a bridge between marasmioids and mycenoids.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

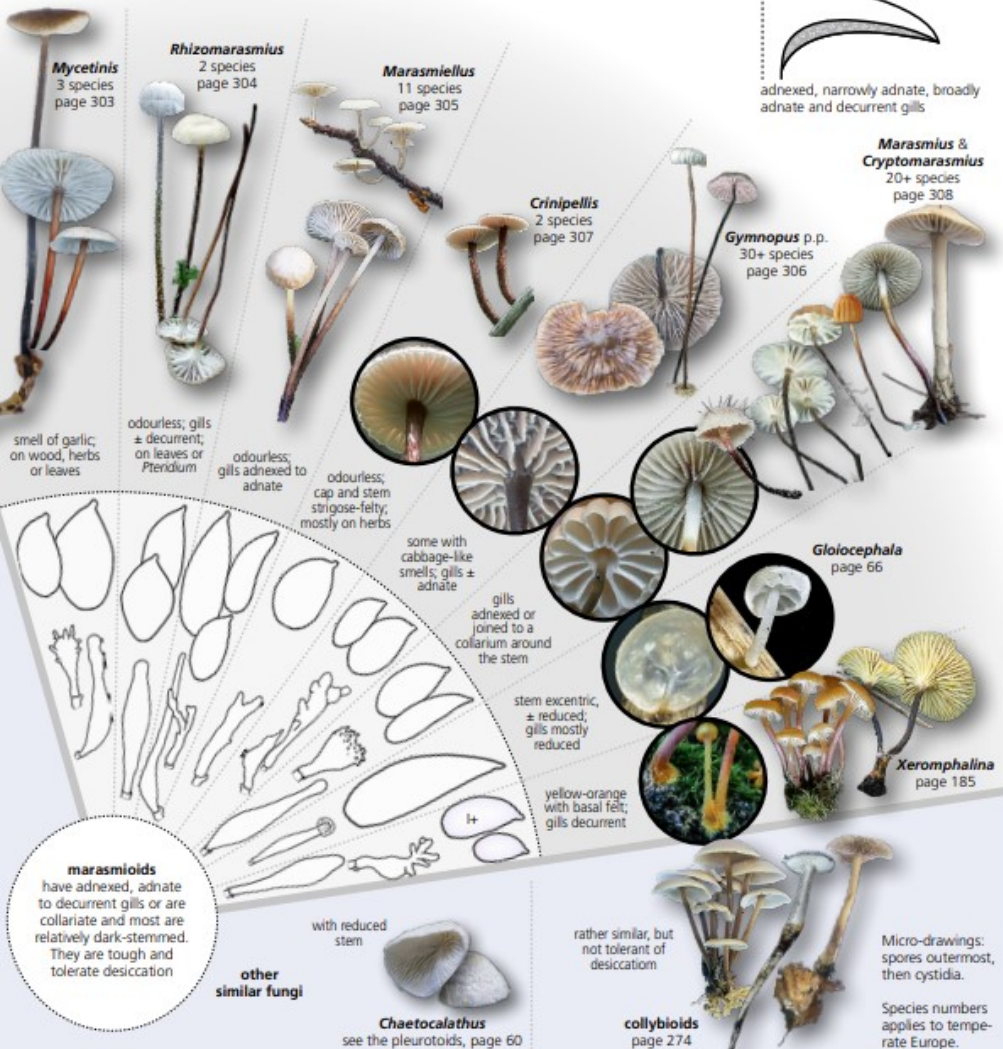
– collybioids usually have adnexed gills and the stems are mostly not darker than the caps (page 274).

– marasmioid species without stem or with excentric stems are to be found amongst the pleurotoids (page 60).

FURTHER READING: 13, 156, 181, 202.



adnexed, narrowly adnate, broadly adnate and decurrent gills



Mycetinis is recognized by the smell of stale garlic or old rubber-bands.

Mycetinis alliaceus is a large, tough, strongly garlic-smelling marasmioid with a very dark, finely felty-downy, stiff stem. The gills are pale and rather distant. The spores measure 7.5–11 × 6–8 μm. Almost exclusively on trunks and buried twigs of *Fagus*.

Mycetinis querceus ▽ is browner and occurs directly on leaf-litter. *Mycetinis alliaceus* var. *subtilis* × is a rather common dwarf form with a pale, marginally striate cap.

Widespread and very common in parts of temperate Europe, rare or absent from others; May–January.

Mycetinis querceus is a strongly garlic-smelling, large, pale marasmioid; the stem becomes felty towards the base. The spores measure 7–10 × 4–5 μm. Occurs mostly on *Quercus* leaf-litter late in the season (often *Q. rubra*), but also on *Fagus* leaf-litter.

Mycetinis alliaceus Δ has darker stems, grows on wood and, in comparison to *M. querceus*, has cheilocystidia. *Mycetinis scorodoni* ▽ has a reddish, smooth stem. Similar species of *Gymnopus* (pages 290 & 306) are either odourless or have a cabbage-like smell.

Widespread, but mostly rather uncommon; mainly October–January.

Mycetinis scorodoni is a medium-sized marasmioid with a shiny, reddish stem, pale cap and a strong garlic smell. Spores 7–10 × 3–5 μm. Occurs in open, dry places, e.g. in dunes, and can be found on e.g. stems of *Artemisia campestris* and similar coarse herbs, but occasionally also on wood, e.g. in *Syringa* hedgerows.

Crinipellis scabellus ▷▷ occurs in the same habitats but has projecting hairs on the stem and is odourless. *Marasmius oreades* ▷▷ is less red and has a different smell. Other *Mycetinis* species have ± felty stems, are larger and more bound to woodland.

Widespread and rather common; mainly July–November.



Marasmius-achtigen

Chaetocalathus
[Collybia-achtigen](#)
 Crinipellis
 Cryptomarasmius
 Gloiocephala
 Gymnopus
 Marasmiellus
 Marasmius
 Mycetinis
 Rhizomarasmius
 Xeromphalina

Cystoderma and the like

This group is characterized by the granulose surface of the cap and stem that constitutes remnants of a universal veil. In some species a ring or ringzone is present on the stem. The gills are adnexed, adnate or emarginate and the spore-deposit is either whitish or brownish-yellow. The spores are amyloid or inamyloid

and smooth. The flesh may contain asexual spores. Some species have hymenial cystidia.

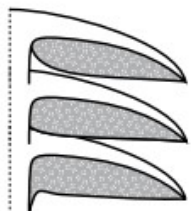
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– the lepiotoids have completely free gills (page 320).

FURTHER READING: 156, 181, 324.



Left: young caps. Right: expanded caps with remnants of veil at the margin.



adnexed to broadly adnate or emarginate gills



Phaeolepiota
1 species 315

very large;
smells of cyanide;
spore-deposit
brownish-yellow



Cystoderma
7 species
page 316

whitish, yellowish
to ± brown;
spores amyloid



Cystodermella
3 species
page 318

whitish, ±
brownish-red
to orange-red;
spores inamyloid



lepiotoids, page 320

Micro-drawings:
spores.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.



with free gills

**other
similar fungi**

Cystoderma and the like
have a grainy universal
veil, which is left as a
coating and a ring zone.
Decomposers on soil or
rarely decayed wood



Phaeolepiota aurea is a large, fleshy, completely dry, orange-yellow agaric with a large, flaring to hanging ring, the upperside of which is ± coloured by the brownish-yellow spores. The entire fruitbody is mealy-grainy. The gills are adnexed. The odour may be somewhat like cyanide or bitter almonds. The spores are fusiform, smooth, and measure 11–12 × 4.5–5.5 μm. Occurs on rich, often disturbed, soils, e.g. in fertilized lawns or stands of nettles, typically in troops and fairy rings.

Could possibly be confused with the ± fibrillose *Gymnopilus spectabilis* (page 602) but that species has ornamented spores and grows on wood. It may also recall an enlarged *Cystoderma* ▷▷ or *Cystodermella* ▷▷ but the spore-deposit colour is distinctive. In Japan it is parasitized by a species of *Squamanita* (page 228), which may reflect its close relationship with *Cystoderma*, a common host for this parasitic genus of agarics.

Widespread and locally common, more or less absent from the boreal zone; mainly September–November.

**Cystoderma-achtigen**

[Cystoderma](#)
[Cystodermella](#)
[Lepiota-achtigen](#)
[Phaeolepiota](#)

Lepiotoids

The lepiotoids have whitish or greenish spore-deposits and free gills but the universal veil is less membranous in comparison to the amanitoids, p. 352. In some species the universal veil is powdery or granulose, sometimes in the form of small spines. Often have complex, muff-like rings formed by parts of both the universal and the partial veil. The spores are often dextrinoid.

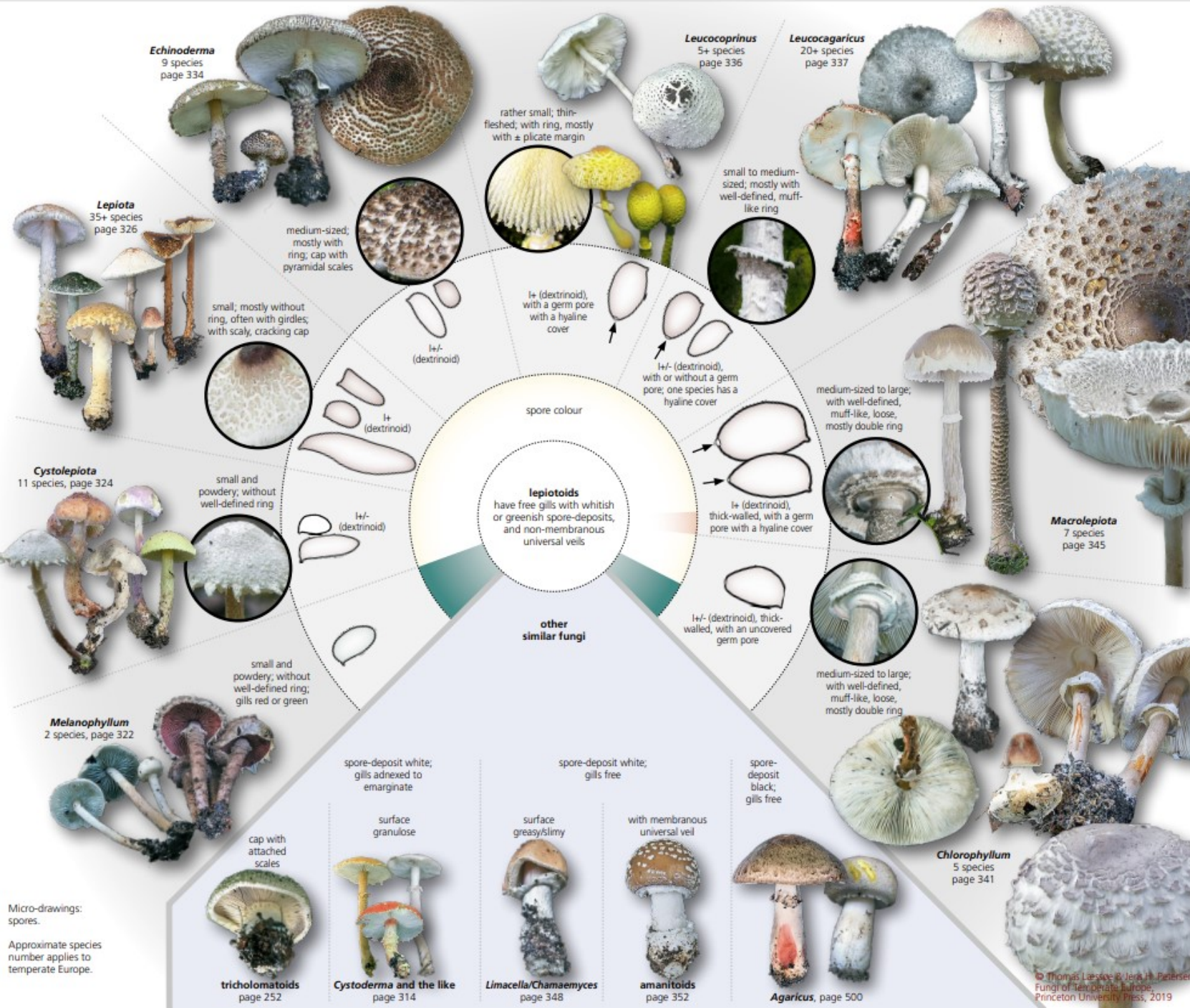
The lepiotoids are decomposers and are mostly found on black, mull soils, e.g. in damp, rich woodlands, along road-sides with *Urtica*, in scrub and gardens, and on old compost. Some species of *Macrolepiota*, *Chlorophyllum* and *Lepiota* also grow in open dry grasslands, including dunes.

The smaller lepiotoids apparently need a specific climatic scenario in order to produce fruitbodies, and years may pass without significant fruiting. When this does happen it is often over in a week or two.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the amanitoids are similar but have a membranous universal veil (page 352).
- *Limacella* and *Chamaemyces* may look similar but have a greasy/slimy cap surface (page 348).
- *Cystoderma* and others have adnexed to emarginate gills (page 314).
- *Floccularia* has adnexed to emarginate gills (page 252).
- *Agaricus* (page 500) has black spores. Young fruitbodies of e.g. *A. sylvicola*, with immature spores, can be recognized by the sweet marzipan smells. Reddening species may recall species of *Chlorophyllum*, but these have more complex rings.

FURTHER READING: 6, 85, 156, 183, 226, 332.



Lepiota-achtigen

- [Agaricus-achtigen](#)
- [Amaniet-achtigen](#)
- [Chlorophyllum](#)
- [Cystoderma-achtigen](#)
- [Cystolepiota](#)
- [Echinoderma](#)
- [Lepiota](#)
- [Leucocoprinus](#)
- [Leucoagaricus](#)
- [Limacella](#)
- [Macrolepiota](#)
- [Melanophyllum](#)
- [Tricholoma-achtigen](#)

Chamaemyces and Limacella

These genera are characterized by \pm free gills, white spore-deposits and the absence of a membranous universal veil, although some species may have a slimy universal veil. They have membranous or thread-like partial veils left as a ring or ring zone on the stem. The cap surfaces are smooth, do not crack, and are mostly greasy to slimy.

Chamaemyces and *Limacella* are decomposers, which occur mostly in exceptionally mull-rich habitats in scrub

and forests. Most, perhaps all, species are associated with calcareous soils.

Chamaemyces is closely related to the lepiotoids (page 320), while *Limacella* is relatively close to the amanitoids (page 352).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– the amanitoids have \pm free gills and a membranous universal veil that covers the greasy cap (page 352).
– volvariellas have free gills, a

membranous universal veil seen as a volva, and a brownish-rose spore-deposit (page 487).

– the lepiotoids have free gills and powdered, plicate, scaly or cracking, dry, cap surfaces (page 320).

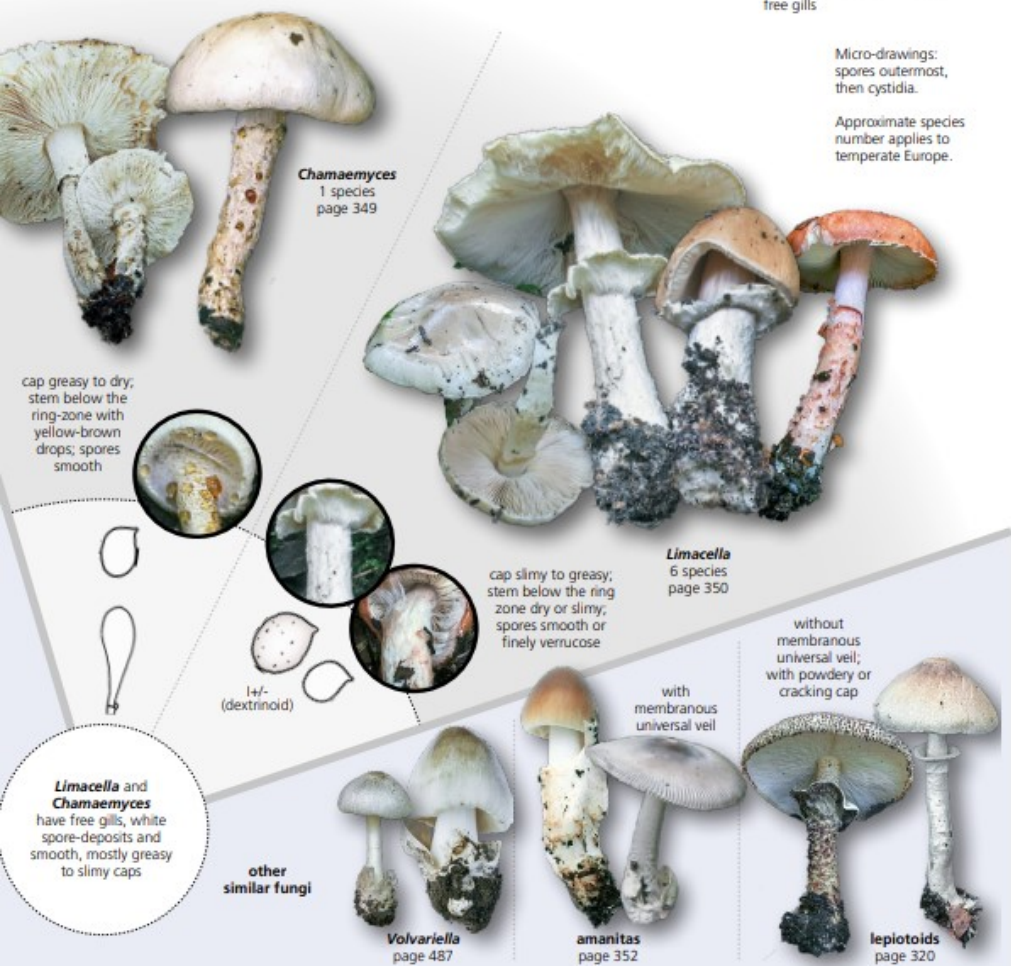
FURTHER READING: 90, 156, 181.



free gills

Micro-drawings:
spores outermost,
then cystidia.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.



Chamaemyces fracidus recalls something between an *Amanita* and a *Limacella*, but it is easily recognized by the grainy-scaly covering below the ring-zone and by the wet, mostly guttulate, convex, pale buff cap, which may have remnants of a veil at the margin. The stem is also \pm covered in yellow-brown drops. The whitish gills are free to almost free. The odour is strong, \pm gas-like or sour. Has clavate cheilo- and pleurocystidia. The spores are smooth, inert to iodine, measure $4.5\text{--}5.5 \times 2.5\text{--}4 \mu\text{m}$, and lack a germ pore. Occurs on calcareous soils in deciduous forests (typically *Fagus*), mostly in sites with numerous other rare species of fungi.

This species also goes by the name *Lepioteila irrorata*. It may recall *Echinoderma hystrix* (page 335), but that species has pyramidal, brown scales on the cap. Farther south a darker type, *Chamaemyces fracidus* f. *pseudocastanea*, can be found.

Rather rare and local, absent from the boreal zone; mainly July–October.



Martin KF2

Chamaemyces Limacella

[Chamaemyces](#)
[Limacella](#)
[Lepiota-achtigen](#)

Amanitoids

The amanitoids are recognized by free, or more rarely, adnexed gills, whitish or somewhat greenish spore-deposits and, almost always, a membranous universal veil (velum), which, at maturity, may be seen as a volva at the base of the stem and/or as loose patches on the cap. The spores may be amyloid or inamyloid.

Most of the amanitoids form ectomycorrhiza and are, therefore, usually found in forests and parks. The

genus *Saproamanita* is saprotrophic.

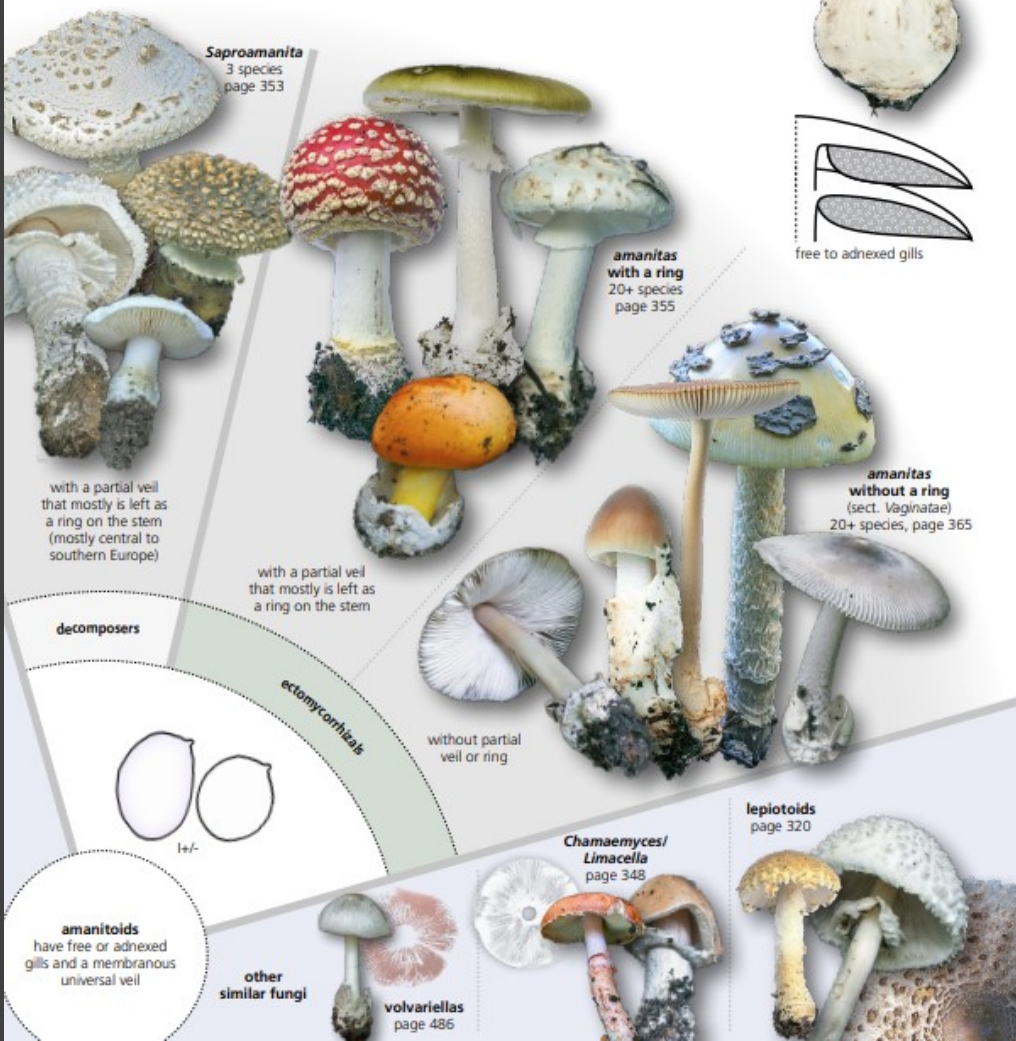
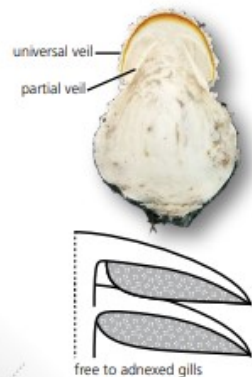
Amanita is a species-rich genus that includes some of the most notorious poisonous mushrooms, not least the ringless species (*Amanita* sect. *Vaginatae*) which form a very confusing group where specific identification can be difficult.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– the lepiotoids have either a powdery universal veil, or it is absent (page 320).

– limacelloids are rather similar, but have a slimy universal veil (page 348).
– volvariellas are separated by their brownish-rose spores (page 486).

FURTHER READING: 149, 156, 183, 218, 263, 281.



Saproamanita are decomposing *Amanita*-like agarics. They usually occur in open land and mostly form fairy rings.

Saproamanita vittadinii is a magnificent, ± white to pale buff amanitoid with highly projecting scales on the cap and stem. The stem also has white to pale buff belts along almost its entire length; it lacks a bulb but does have a complex ring. The gills are tinted buff or green. The spores are ellipsoid, amyloid and measure (9–)10–13 (–15) × (6.5–)7.5–10(–11) μm. Occurs in fairy rings without connections to mycorrhizal trees or scrub.

The mycorrhizal *Amanita solitaria* ⇨ is very similar, but has echinulate scales on the lower part of the stem.

Mainly a southern species but reaches as far north as the Netherlands and central England; autumn.



Amanita-achtigen

[Amanieten](#)

[Chamaemyces](#)

[Lepiota-achtigen](#)

[Saproamanita](#)

[Volvariella](#)

Entolomatoids

This group includes the genus *Entoloma* in a broad sense and the closely related genera *Clitopilus*, *Clitopilopsis*, *Clitocella*, *Rhodophana* and *Rhodocybe*. They are characterized by adnexed-adnate, emarginate to decurrent gills and \pm brownish-rose spore-deposits. The spores are either verrucose, striate-ridged or three-dimensionally angular (faceted). An important character of entolomatoids is whether the pigment in the cap cuticle is incrusted or intracellular. Species with excentric or lateral stems are treated under the pleurotoid fungi (page 88).

Some species apparently have a parasite-like association with plants in the *Rosaceae*, while other species around *Entoloma rhodopolium* are mycorrhizal. The ecology of many species is still not known.

All genera belong in the same family, the *Entolomataceae*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– *Pluteus*, *Volvariella* & *Volvopluteus* have the same spore colour but free gills (page 486).

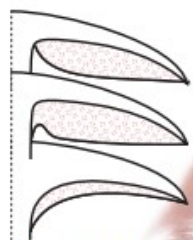
– some species of *Lepista* have brownish-rose spores and tricholomatoid fruitbodies. They are recognized by their minutely warty spores and a characteristic sweetish smell (page 249).

– some clitocyboids and the omphalinoid *Arrhenia discorosea* have \pm brownish-rose, smooth spores (pages 98 & 138).
– the large collybioids in the genus *Rhodocollybia* have somewhat brownish-rose, smooth spores (page 296).

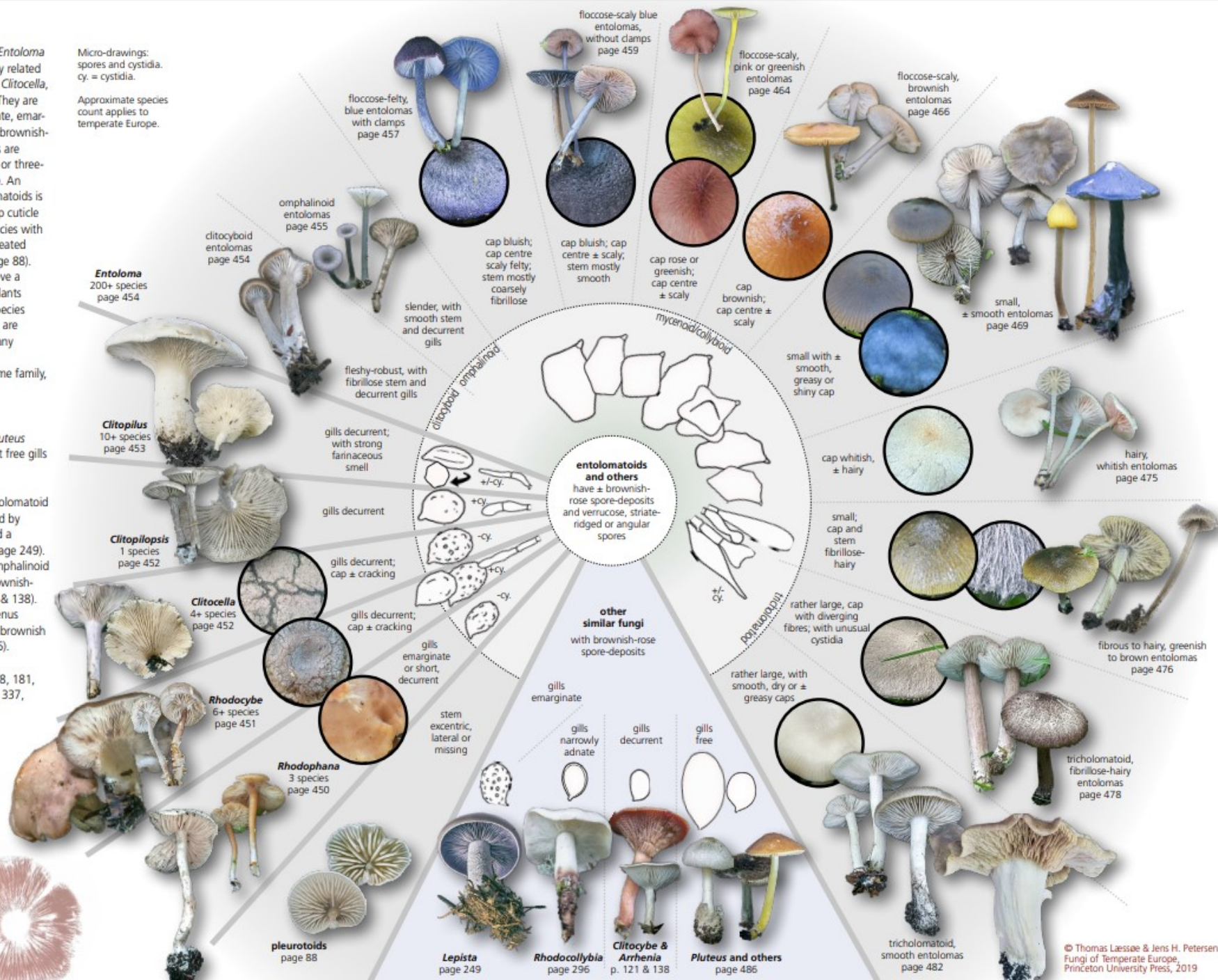
FURTHER READING: 45, 89, 156, 158, 181, 182, 204, 223, 224, 335, 336, 337, 338.

Micro-drawings:
spores and cystidia.
cy. = cystidia.

Approximate species
count applies to
temperate Europe.



adnexed, emarginate
and decurrent gills



[Arrhenia](#)
[Clitocella](#)
[Clitocybe](#)
[Clitopilopsis](#)
[Clitopilus](#)
[Entoloma](#)
[Lepista](#)
[Pleurotus-achtigen](#)
[Pluteus-achtigen](#)
[Rhodocollybia](#)
[Rhodocybe](#)

Pluteoids

Volvopluteus, *Volvariella* and *Pluteus* are characterized by their free gills and brownish-rose spore-deposits. They are decomposers either of wood or organic material in the soil. One species, *Volvariella surrecta*, is a parasite on fruitbodies of *Clitocybe nebularis*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– *Amanita* has white spore-deposits and the poisonous species have a partial veil that is left as a ring on the stem (page 352).

– *Limacella* is ± sticky and has white spore-deposits and no volva at the base (page 348).

– *Leucoagaricus leucothites* has pinkish gills, white spores, and a ring but no volva (page 339).

– entolomatoids have attached gills and ridged or angular spores (page 448).

FURTHER READING: 6, 89, 140, 141, 156, 182.



Volvopluteus gloiocephalus is a large agaric with a smooth, greasy to slimy, greyish cap surface, a long, greyish stem and a rather large, white volva (the remnants of the universal veil) at the base. The spore-deposit is brownish-rose. Cheilocystidia clavate. The spores are smooth and measure $10.5\text{--}17.5 \times 6.5\text{--}9\ \mu\text{m}$. Mostly found in disturbed places, including stubble fields, compost heaps, bales of damp straw, etc. It can occur by the thousands in stubble and in newly sown fields late in the season.



The amanitoids (page 352) usually have the same greasy-smooth cap surface but they are generally ectomycorrhizal and have white spores; the most similar species, *Amanita phalloides* (page 359), has a ring on the stem. Species of *Volvariella* >> are dry to somewhat sticky on the cap and always distinctly radially fibrillose. Species of *Pluteus* >> lack a universal veil and thus a volva.

Widespread and common, decreasing towards the north; May–December.



Pluteus-achtigen

[Volvopluteus](#)
[Volvariella](#)
[Pluteus](#)

Agaricus and Allopsalliota

The genera *Agaricus* and *Allopsalliota* are characterized by free, permanent, non-dissolving gills and dark chocolate-brown spore-deposits. Ink caps (*Coprinus*, *Coprinopsis* and *Coprinellus*, page 520) also have \pm free gills and \pm black spores, but their gills normally dissolve with maturity.

Molecular phylogenetic studies have led to descriptions of a large number of *Agaricus* species that cannot be recognized by morphological characters. Using traditional morphology, only 40+ broadly defined species can be keyed out in temperate Europe.

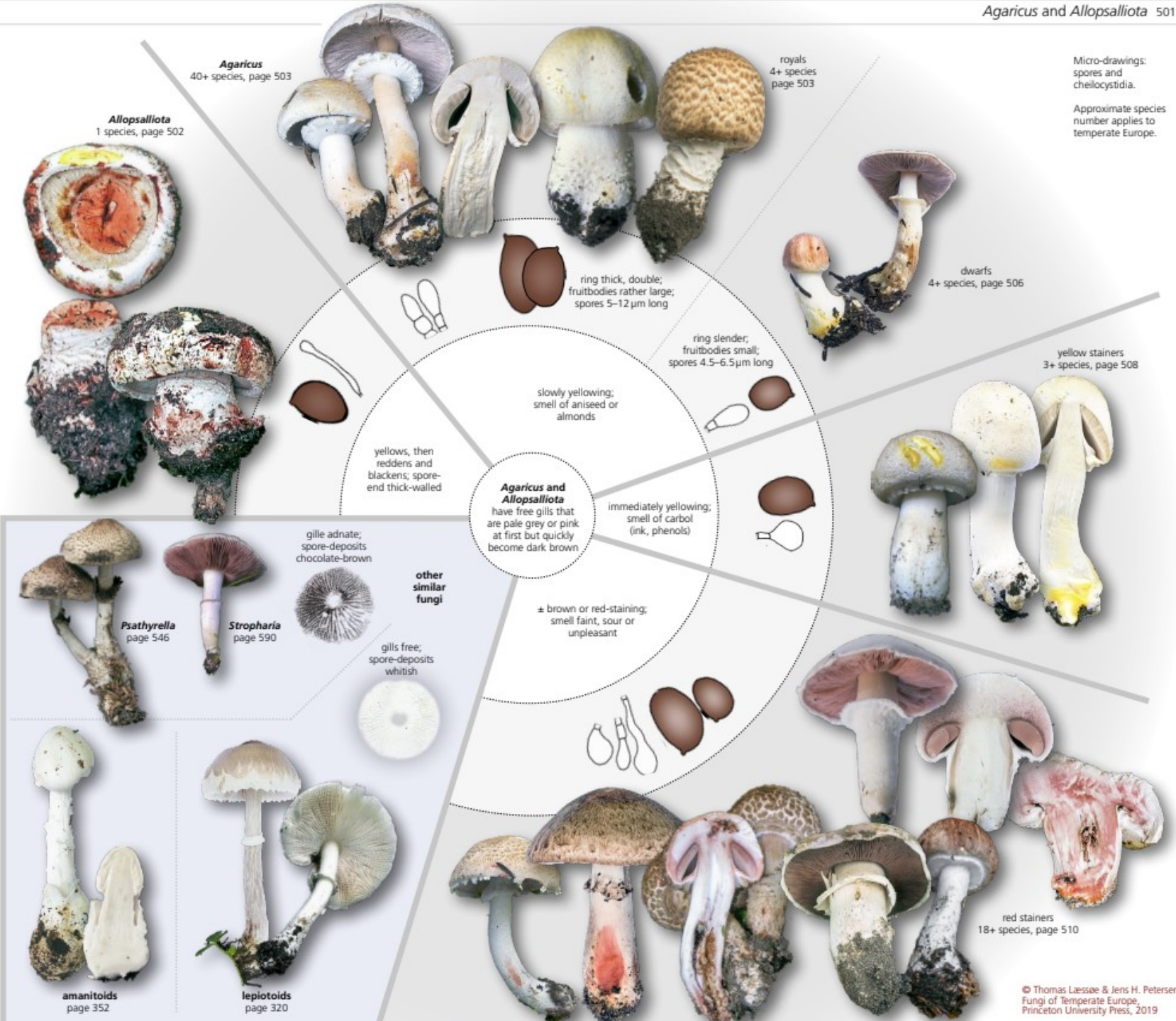
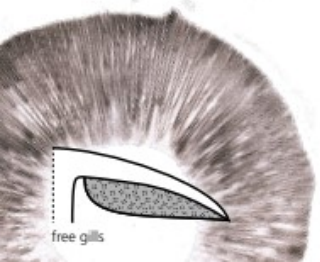
Agaricus and *Allopsalliota* are decomposers that often occur in fairy rings.

Many species are edible but the slowly yellowing species (the royals) may contain high levels of cadmium, and the yellow stainers can cause stomach upsets. In addition, most species contain potentially carcinogenic hydrazines (agaritin). Species of *Agaricus* should therefore only be consumed in fairly small amounts and then only when cooked.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- *Stropharia coronilla* recalls a small, yellowish *Agaricus* but has narrowly adnate gills (page 590).
- annulate species of *Psathyrella* have narrowly adnate gills (page 546).
- similar lepiotoids have white spore-deposits (page 320).
- the very poisonous *Amanita virosa* has a membranous universal veil and a white spore-deposit, as do other species of *Amanita* (page 357).

FURTHER READING: 91, 147, 148, 156, 182, 226, 236, 237.



Agaricus

Allopsalliota

[Agaricus](#)

[Allopsalliota](#)

[Amanita-achtigen](#)

[Lepiota-achtigen](#)

[Psathyrella](#)

[Stropharia](#)

Coprinoids

The coprinoids include the genera *Coprinus*, *Coprinellus*, *Coprinopsis* and *Parasola*, of which there are more than 150 species in temperate Europe. They are recognized by the black spores and the almost always free gills. Many coprinoids also have a unique maturation process. The spores mature from the gill edges inwards and, as soon as the spores are released, that part of the gill disintegrates and becomes liquid, and so the process continues. This allows for very closely spaced gills, since the risk of spores being caught between them is reduced. Nevertheless, many spores are still caught and produce the inky liquid associated with the vernacular name ink cap. The coprinoids can be grouped according to the appearance of the surface of the cap and veil, e.g. whether the veil is grainy or thread-like. These characters are borderline between macro and micro, and a good hand lens is required. The coprinoids may produce many different spore types, from smooth and ellipsoid to lemon-shaped, heart-shaped or truncate and they may have prominent warts. They always have a germ pore and occasionally a loosening, colourless outer wall. All have cystidia.

The phylogenetic and morphological differences between psathyrelloid (page 546) and coprinoid fungi are not straightforward. Some members of e.g. *Coprinopsis* do not have gills that dissolve and are treated among the psathyrelloids.

All coprinoids are decomposers and some coprophilous species have a very short life-cycle, fruiting just a few weeks after spore germination. All fruitbodies are very short-lived. At least some of the coprophilous species are able to kill competing mycelia in the substrate.

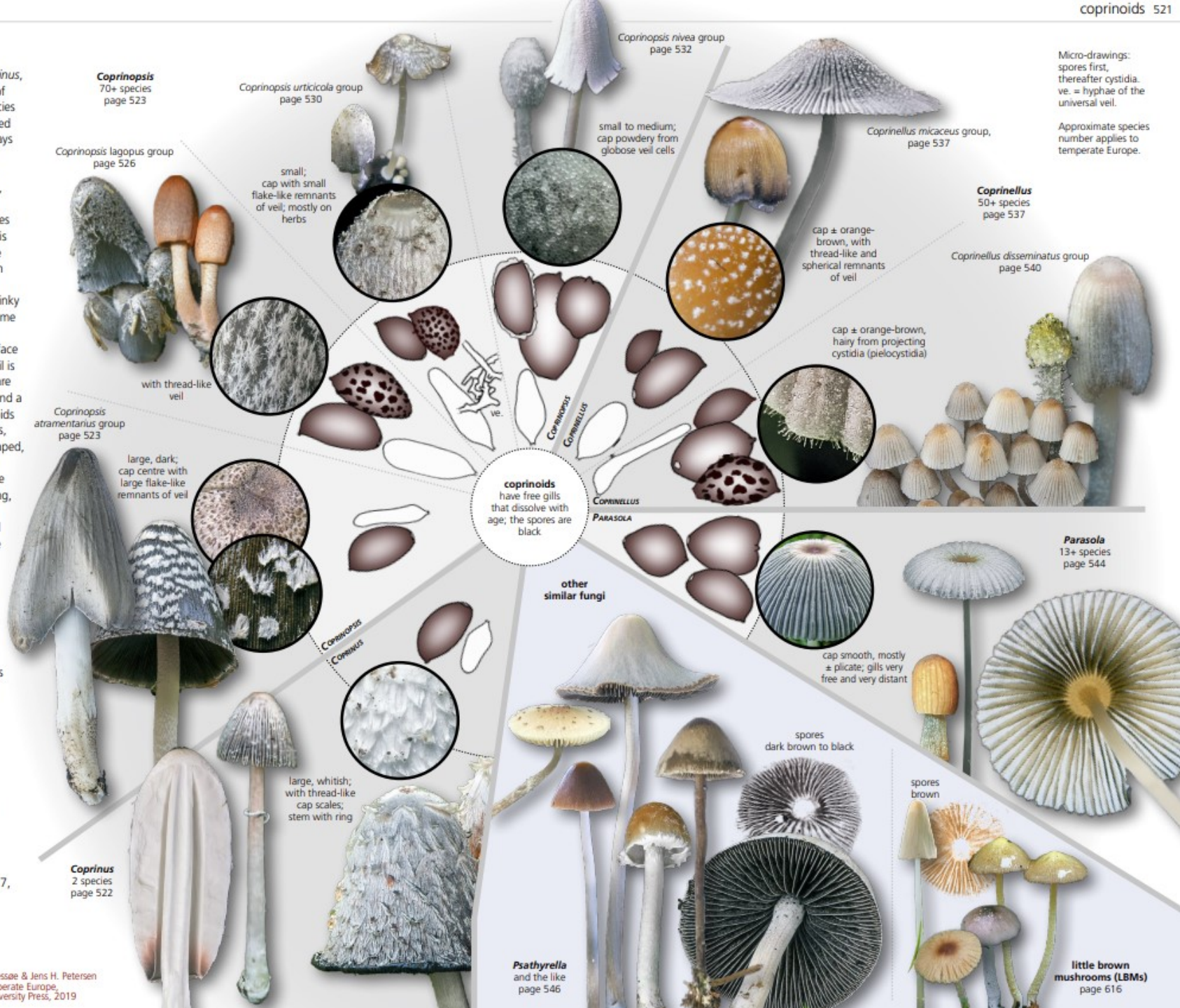
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- *Psathyrella* and the like mostly have adnate gills that never dissolve during maturation (page 546).
- *Bolbitis* are slimy-capped and have brown spore-deposits (page 618).

FURTHER READING: 156, 182, 207, 208, 227, 290, 322.



free gills



Coprinus-achtigen

[Coprinellus](#)

[Coprinopsis](#)

[Coprinus](#)

[Kleine bruine paddenstoelen](#)

[Parasola](#)

[Psathyrella-achtigen](#)

Micro-drawings:
spores first,
thereafter cystidia.
ve. = hyphae of the
universal veil.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.



Psathyrelloids

A group of very fragile agarics, most with black to dark brown, rarely more grey-brown, spore-deposits, mostly dry caps with dull brownish colours, and adnexed, adnate to shortly decurrent gills. A few species have prominent stem rings but most have veil remnants on the cap or, rarely, no veil at all. It includes a number of genera formerly treated in *Psathyrella*: *Cystoagaricus*, *Homophron*, *Kaufmannia*, *Lacrymaria* and *Typhrasa*, as well as the ± classic genera *Panaeolus*, *Psilocybe*, *Deconica* and part of *Parasola*.

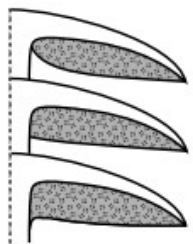
Microscopically, most species have spores with germ pores. In rare cases the spores are ornamented (*Lacrymaria*, *Panaeolus* p.p.). Shape and contents of the cystidia (cheilo- and pleurocystidia) are important for species identification.

Ecologically, vary from lignicolous over soil to dung-inhabiting, and one species is a parasite on *Pluteus*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- coprinoids have ± dissolving gills (page 520).
- other black-spored agarics, e.g. *Stropharia*, *Leratiomyces* and *Hypholoma*, have mostly more vivid colours and often slimy caps (page 580).
- *Inocybe* has grey-brown spore-deposits (page 652).
- *Agrocybe* has somewhat paler, grey-brown spore-deposits and mostly sticky cap surfaces (page 625).

FURTHER READING: 86, 154, 155, 156, 171, 182, 225, 370.



adnexed, adnate and decurrent gills



Psathyrella (& Coprinopsis p.p.)
75+ species
page 562

Cystoagaricus
2 species
page 561

Kaufmannia
1 species
page 560

Typhrasa
2 species
page 560

Lacrymaria
3 species
page 558

Panaeolus
12+ species
page 554

Psilocybe
6+ species
page 552

Deconica
15+ species
page 548

Hypholoma and the like
page 580

coprinoids
page 520

LBMs
page 616

Inocybe
page 652

Parasola
1 psathyrelloid species
page 579

Homophron
2 species
page 578

remaining Psathyrella species
page 574

psathyrelloids with abundant veil
page 566

scaly psathyrelloids
page 562

red-margined psathyrelloids
page 564

with red line above the gill edge

with distinct veil covering

cap dark-scaly; with a ring

cap fibrillose-scaly; cystidia with or without green drops in ammonia

large with smooth cap and sparse veil; spores rather pale, without a germ pore

cap with thread-like veil; cystidia with yellowish, oily inclusions

cap fibrillose; gills marbled, edge with drops

stem rigid; cap smooth; gills marbled, some with drops

stem base mostly bluing; gills ± marbled

stem not bluing; gills ± marbled

mostly with sticky cap or yellowish colours

gills dissolving with age

with ± black spore-deposits

with paler brown spore-deposits

with black to dark brown spores, fragile fruitbodies with non-free gills and brown to greyish colours

in ammonia

cap without scales; gill edge not red; veil sparse

fleshy; veil absent; spores strikingly pale and cystidia crowned and thick-walled

veil absent; cap and stem base with brown, thick-walled hairs (hand lens) required!

hair

psathyrelloids

other similar fungi

Micro-drawings: spores outside, cystidia inside.

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

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Psathyrella-achtigen

- [Coprinosis](#)
- [Coprinus-achtigen](#)
- [Cystoagaricus](#)
- [Deconica](#)
- [Homophron](#)
- [Hypholoma-achtigen](#)
- [Inocybe](#)
- [Kauffmania](#)
- [Kleine bruine paddenstoelen](#)
- [Lacrymaria](#)
- [Panaeolus](#)
- [Parasola](#)
- [Psathyrella](#)
- [Psilocybe](#)
- [Typhrasa](#)



Hypholomatoids

This group includes mostly fairly robust agarics with dark chocolate-brown to black spore-deposits and adnate, emarginate or slightly decurrent gills. The caps are mostly slimy and the colours a rather vivid yellowish, greenish or orange-brown. With the exception of *Hypholoma*, the gills are ± marbled due to uneven maturation.

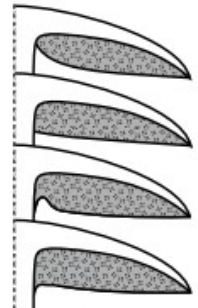
Microscopically, many of the species have dark spores with a germ pore and many have cystidia with yellow contents (chrysocystidia). However, similar cystidia are also common in the brown-spored genus *Pholiota* (page 608).

All species are decomposers. The majority decay wood or wood chips, but a few are decomposers of herbs or *Sphagnum*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

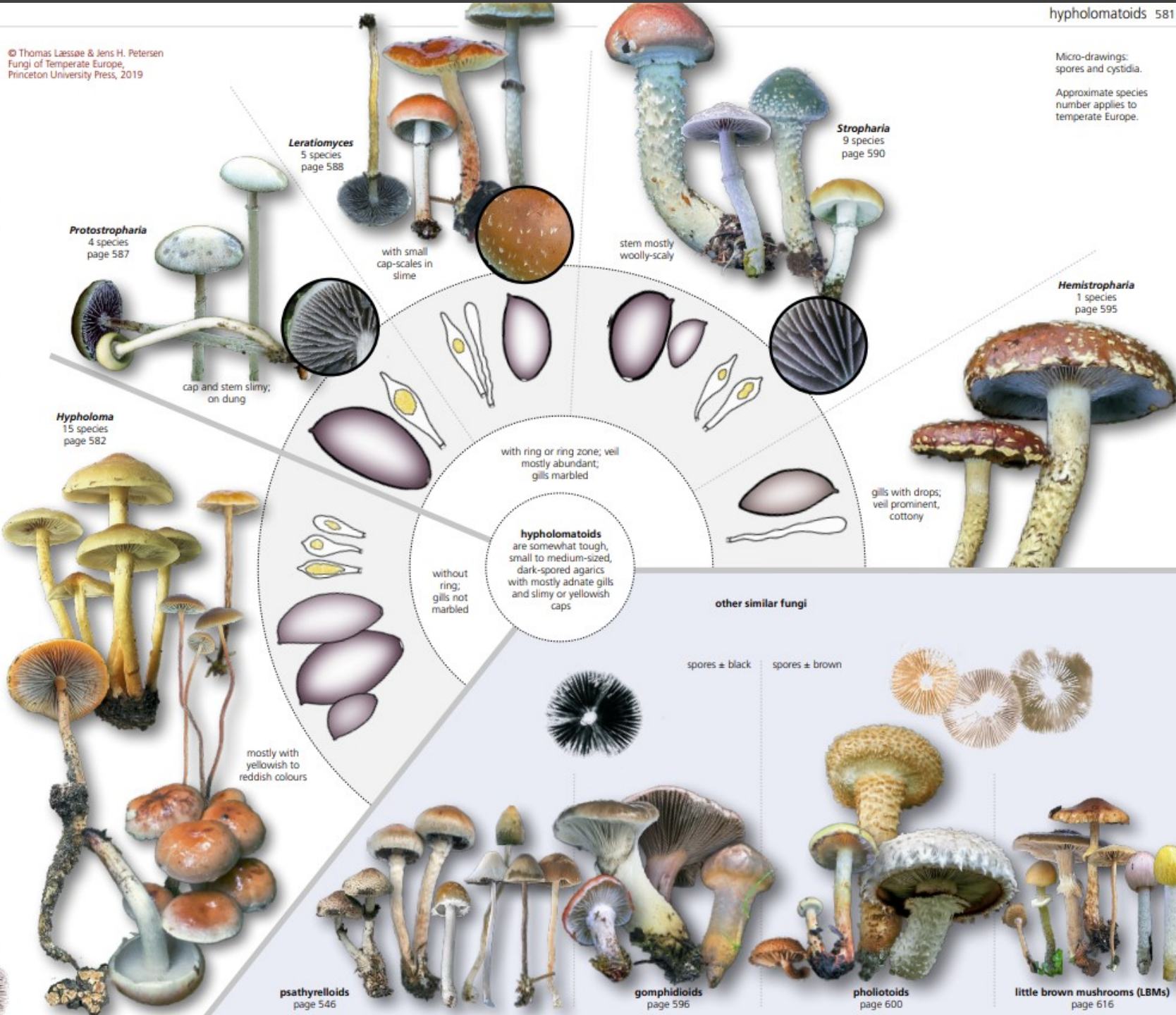
- psathyrelloids also have blackish spores but the fragile fruitbodies are less brightly coloured and the caps are mostly dry (page 546).
- gomphidioids are slimy with black spores and deeply decurrent gills (page 596).
- pholiotoids may be both slimy and yellow but have paler, grey-brown spores (page 600).
- the group of little brown mushrooms (LBMs) is separated by their paler brown spore colours (page 616).

FURTHER READING: 156, 169, 181, 225.



adnexed, adnate, emarginate and shortly decurrent gills

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Micro-drawings:
spores and cystidia.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.

Hypholoma-achtigen

[Gomphidius-achtigen](#)

[Hemistropharia](#)

[Hypholoma](#)

[Kleine bruine paddenstoelen](#)

[Leratiomyces](#)

[Pholiota-achtigen](#)

[Protostropharia](#)

[Psathyrella-achtigen](#)

[Stropharia](#)



Gomphidioids and *Melanomphalia*

This group includes agarics with dark brown to black spore-deposits and deeply decurrent gills. The two genera of gomphidioids, *Chroogomphus* and *Gomphidius*, have a ± slimy universal veil that covers the entire young fruitbody. They are related to the boletes and have long, somewhat

fusiform, typical boletoid spores. The genus *Melanomphalia* has no veils and belongs to the *Agaricales*; it has finely dotted-verrucose spores.

The species of gomphidioids are probably parasites on ectomycorrhizal fungi with conifers (boletes and *Rhizopogon*); the single species in *Melanomphalia* is presumed to be a decomposer.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
 – *Paxillus* and *Phylloporus* are similar but have brown spore-deposits (page 756).

– *Tapinella* has a brown spore-deposit and a ± excentric or missing stem and grows on wood (page 96).

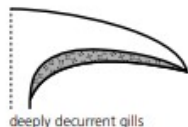
FURTHER READING: 156, 181, 289.



Chroogomphus
 1 species
 page 597



Gomphidius
 3 species
 page 598



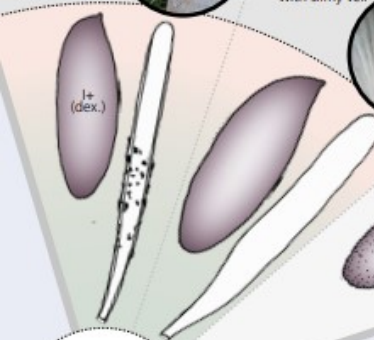
deeply decurrent gills

Micro-drawings: spores to the left, cystidia to the right within each sector.

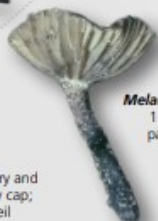
Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

large and fleshy; brownish-rose; with threadlike veil

large and fleshy; rose or greyish; with slimy veil



slender with dry and minutely scaly cap; without veil



Melanomphalia
 1 species
 page 599



with brown spore-deposits and ± central stem



with brown spore-deposits and ± excentric or missing stem

other similar fungi

paxilloids and the like, page 756

Tapinella, page 96

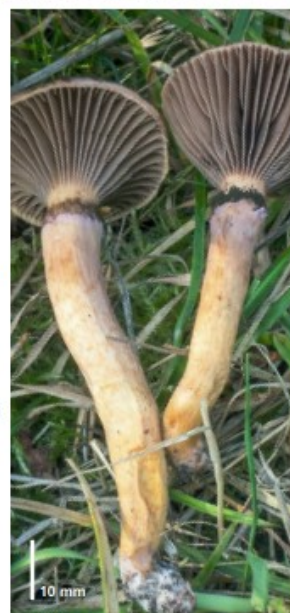
gomphidioids and *Melanomphalia* have deeply decurrent gills and dark brown to black spore-deposits



***Chroogomphus rutilus* s.l.** is a sturdy, fleshy, red-brown, somewhat slimy to dry, almost black-spored agaric with deeply decurrent gills. The stem bears an indistinct ring zone from the ephemeral partial veil, and the flesh has wine-red tinges, but is yellower towards the base. The gills are fimbriate from cystidia. The spores are smooth, ± fusiform, ± dextrinoid and measure 15–22 × 5.5–7 μm. Always found with *Pinus*, but probably parasitic on species of *Suillus* (p. 796) that have *Pinus* as a mycorrhizal partner, e.g. *S. granulatus* (page 800).

Gomphidius glutinosus >> is more slimy and grey. Recent studies indicate that there are eight European species in the *Chroogomphus rutilus* complex. In the strict sense, *C. rutilus* should have rather crowded gills (upper picture); other species have more distant gills.

The distribution of the eight species is, as yet, unclear. As a whole they are widespread, rather common to occasional; June–November.



Gomphidius
 Melanomphalia

- [Chroogomphus](#)
- [Gomphidius](#)
- [Melanomphalia](#)
- [Paxillus-achtigen](#)
- [Tapinella](#)

Pholiotoids

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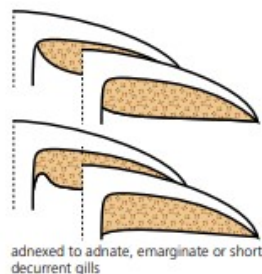
This group includes wood-inhabiting agarics with brown (grey-, ochre-, red- to orange-brown) spore-deposits. The principal genera are *Hemipholiota*, *Kuehneromyces*, *Pholiota* and *Gymnopilus*. Many of the species included are rather fleshy, with either slimy or scaly cap surfaces. A number of similar, but mainly terrestrial, genera are treated under the group 'little brown mushrooms' (LBMs – page 616) and the dividing line between these two groups is not well defined.

All species in the group are decomposers, and almost all degrade wood.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- some 'little brown mushrooms' (LBMs) grow on wood, but at most have only faintly scaly caps (page 616).
- some lignicolous brown-spored agarics are pleurotoid with excentric, lateral or missing stems. See the pleurotoids (page 60).
- lignicolous species with brownish-rose spore-deposits and free gills can be found under the pluteoids (p. 486).
- scaly or slimy species with dark chocolate-brown to black spore-deposits are found under the hypholomatoids (page 580).

FURTHER READING: 112, 156, 181, 225.



adnexed to adnate, emarginate or short decurrent gills



pholiotoids
are lignicolous with brown spores and greasy/slimy or scaly caps; some have chrysozystidia

- Deconica** page 548: with white remnants of veil; gills broadly adnate
- Meottomyces** 1 species page 605: with grey-brown, smooth, sticky-slimy cap with white remnants of veil; on leaf-litter
- Flammulaster** page 748: with brown to orange colours; cap cuticle grainy, without radial structure
- Simocybe** 5+ species page 647: ± olive-brown; cap cuticle pruinose, grainy to hairy, without radial structure
- Phaeomarasmius** 2 species page 604: small, dry, with erect scales; with bitter taste
- Gymnopilus** 15+ species page 602: with broadly adnate gills and a well-defined ring
- Tubaria** page 644
- Kuehneromyces** 2 species page 606: stem with ring and brown scales along length
- Galerina** page 638: stem with ring, silvery fibrillose
- Flammula** 2 species page 605: with greasy, smooth cap; no pleurocystidia
- Hemipholiota** 2 species page 607: very fleshy and large; spore-deposit grey-brown; universal veil thick and cottony
- Pholiota** 22+ species page 608: mostly slimy or pointed-scaly, ± yellowish or ± orange

spores mostly with germ pore

spores without germ pore

spores with germ pore and chrysozystidia (see more genera with chrysozystidia under hypholomatoids, p. 580)

other similar fungi

- spore-deposits ± black**: hypholomatoids page 580
- spore-deposits brownish-rose**: pluteoids page 486
- spore-deposits ± brown**: pleurotoids page 60
- little brown mushrooms (LBMs)** page 616

Micro-drawings: spores outwards followed by cystidia.

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Pholiota-achtigen

- [Deconica](#)
- [Flammula](#)
- [Flammulaster](#)
- [Galerina](#)
- [Gymnopilus](#)
- [Hemipholiota](#)
- [Hypholoma-achtigen](#)
- [Kleine bruine paddenstoelen](#)
- [Kuehneromyces](#)
- [Meottomyces](#)
- [Phaeomarasmius](#)
- [Pholiota](#)
- [Pleurotus-achtigen](#)
- [Pluteus-achtigen](#)
- [Simocybe](#)
- [Tubaria](#)



Inocybe

This genus includes ectomycorrhizal agarics with fibrillose to scaly caps, grey-brown spore-deposits and mostly conspicuous cystidia. Many species have spermatric or, more rarely, flower- or fruit-like, strong odours.

Inocybes may have a thread-like universal veil and a similar partial veil and cystidia above the veil zone. Species without partial veil are typically

downy from cystidia along the entire length of the stem. Young fruitbodies with untouched stems are important when assessing these characters. The genus can be divided into subgenera based on cystidia characters.

Many species are poisonous and contain, among other compounds, muscarin – none of the species should be consumed.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- *Cortinarius* has more rust-brown spore-deposits (page 690).
- LBMs have different odours or more rust-brown spores (page 616)

FURTHER READING: 156, 173, 184, 315.



emarginate gills



†*Inocybe corydalina* is a large, pale *Inocybe* with greenish, appressed fibrous scales mostly towards the umbrate centre. The smell is sweetish, perfume-like, nauseating. The flesh is ± reddening. The stem is pale, but darkens ± towards the base, sometimes greenish. The pleurocystidia are thick-walled (to 2 µm) with crystals

on top. The spores are amygdaliform and measure 7.5–9.5 × 5–6 µm. Occurs on ± calcareous soils or clay, mostly with *Fagus* and other deciduous trees, rarely with conifers.

Other large inocybites with sweetish odours, e.g. *I. fraudans* >> and *I. bongardii* >>, are not green at the cap centre, reddened less obviously, or

have distinct brown scales. *Inocybe erinaceomorpha* ∇, sometimes treated as a variety of *I. corydalina*, differs in having a dark brown cap centre and mostly dark brown fibrous, adpressed scales.

Widespread, occasional, absent from the boreal zone; mainly July–October.

†*Inocybe erinaceomorpha* is a rather fleshy, cinnamon-brown, scaly-fibrous *Inocybe* with a nauseatingly strong smell of cider. The stem is ± cylindrical, at first white, later tinged in the cap colour. The flesh can redden slightly. The pleurocystidia are ± clavate with up to 2 µm wide walls. Spores, smooth, amygdaliform and measure 7.5–9.5 × 5–6 µm. Occurs on clay soils with *Fagus* and *Quercus*.

Inocybe corydalina ∆ has a grey-green cap centre. Other somewhat similar species have flesh that reddens strongly or thin-walled pleurocystidia.

Widespread, occasional to rather rare, absent from the boreal zone; August–October.



Thomas Læssøe

More than 185 species in temperate Europe.

Micro-drawings: spores outwards followed by cystidia.

page 653

page 656

page 659

page 662

page 665

without partial veil; stem with cystidia to the base

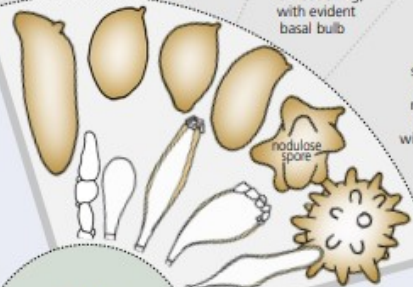
with partial veil; stem with cystidia only on the upper part

smell mostly spermatric; not green or reddening; without evident basal bulb

smell mostly spermatric; flesh not green or reddening; with evident basal bulb

smell mostly neither sweetish nor spermatric; flesh green or reddening

with nauseatingly sweetish smells of marzipan, honey or perfume



nodulose spore

Inocybe has emarginate gills, grey-brown spore-deposits and often spermatric or sweetish smells; all are ectomycorrhizal

other similar fungi

little brown mushrooms (LBMs)
page 616

Cortinarius
page 690

Hebeloma

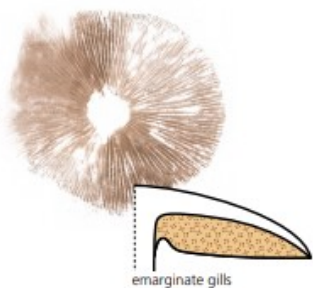
This genus includes mycorrhizal agarics with ± grey-brown spore-deposits, mostly smooth, greasy to slimy caps, emarginate gills and fruity, flower-like, radish-like to earth-like odours. The spores are ± verrucose and may be ± dextrinoid and have a ± loosening outer wall; the gill edge is covered with cystidia which, in some cases, produce a clear liquid that traps the dark spores.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- *Cortinarius* may look similar, but has more rust-brown spores (page 690).
- the remaining group of brown spored mushrooms (LBMs) has different odours and mostly more rust-brown spores (page 616).

FURTHER READING: 29, 156, 184.

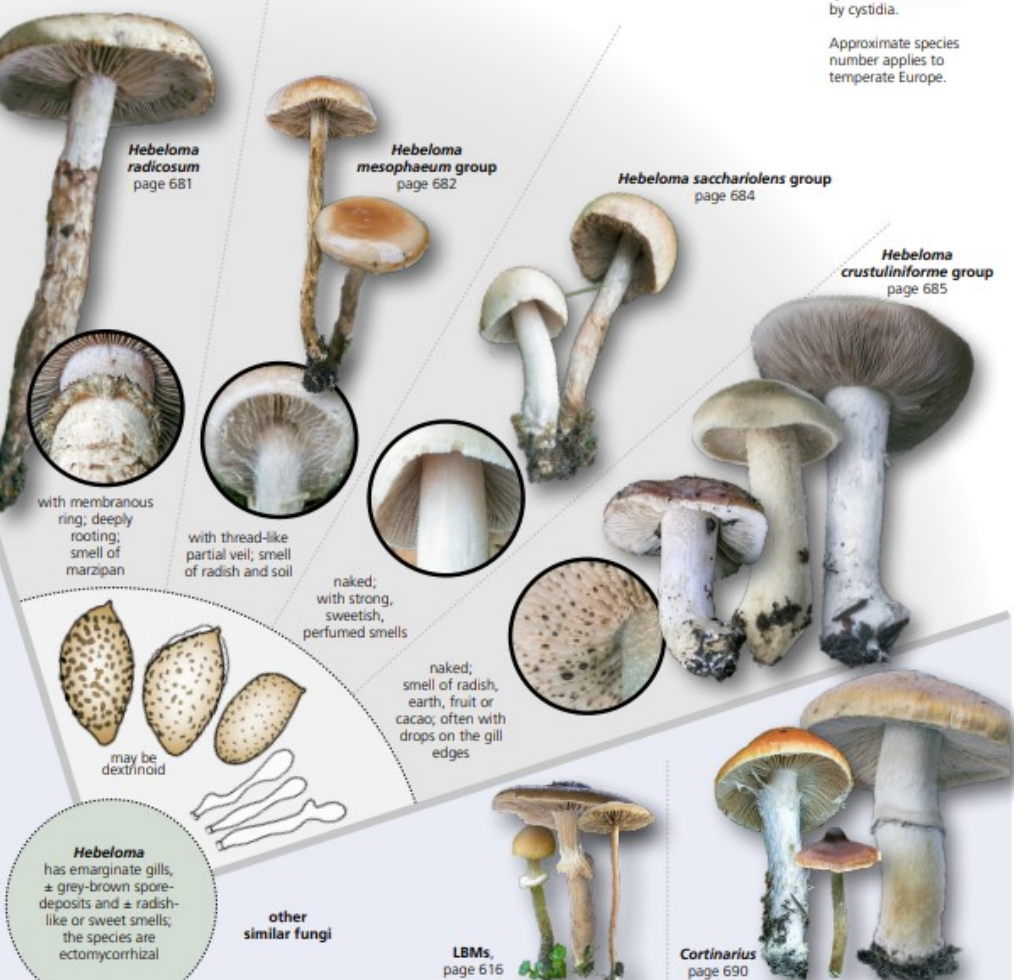
More than 55 species in temperate Europe.



emarginate gills

Micro-drawings: spores first followed by cystidia.

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Hebeloma radicosum
page 681

Hebeloma mesophaeum group
page 682

Hebeloma sacchariolens group
page 684

Hebeloma crustuliniforme group
page 685

with membranous ring; deeply rooting; smell of marzipan

with thread-like partial veil; smell of radish and soil

naked; with strong, sweetish, perfumed smells

naked; smell of radish, earth, fruit or cacao; often with drops on the gill edges

may be dextrinoid

Hebeloma has emarginate gills, ± grey-brown spore-deposits and ± radish-like or sweet smells; the species are ectomycorrhizal

other similar fungi

LBMs,
page 616

Cortinarius
page 690



Hebeloma radicosum is a very distinctive, large *Hebeloma* with a deeply rooting stem, a striking marzipan- or bitter almond-like smell and a floccose ring. The cap is dull yellowish brown to pinkish buff with scaly remnants of veil. The spores measure 8–10 × 4.5–5.5 μm. Occurs in deciduous forests, mostly with *Fagus*, appearing from latrines or middens made by moles or other small forest-dwelling mammals; a so-called 'ammonia fungus'.

May recall some pholiotoids, particularly *Hemipholiota populnea* (page 607), but the smell, its soil-inhabiting nature with a very deeply rooting stem and ornamented spores are good separating characters.

Widespread and fairly common in the nemoral zone but becoming scarcer towards the north and absent from the boreal zone; July–November.



Hebeloma

- [Cortinarius](#)
- [Hebeloma](#)
- [Kleine bruine paddenstoelen](#)

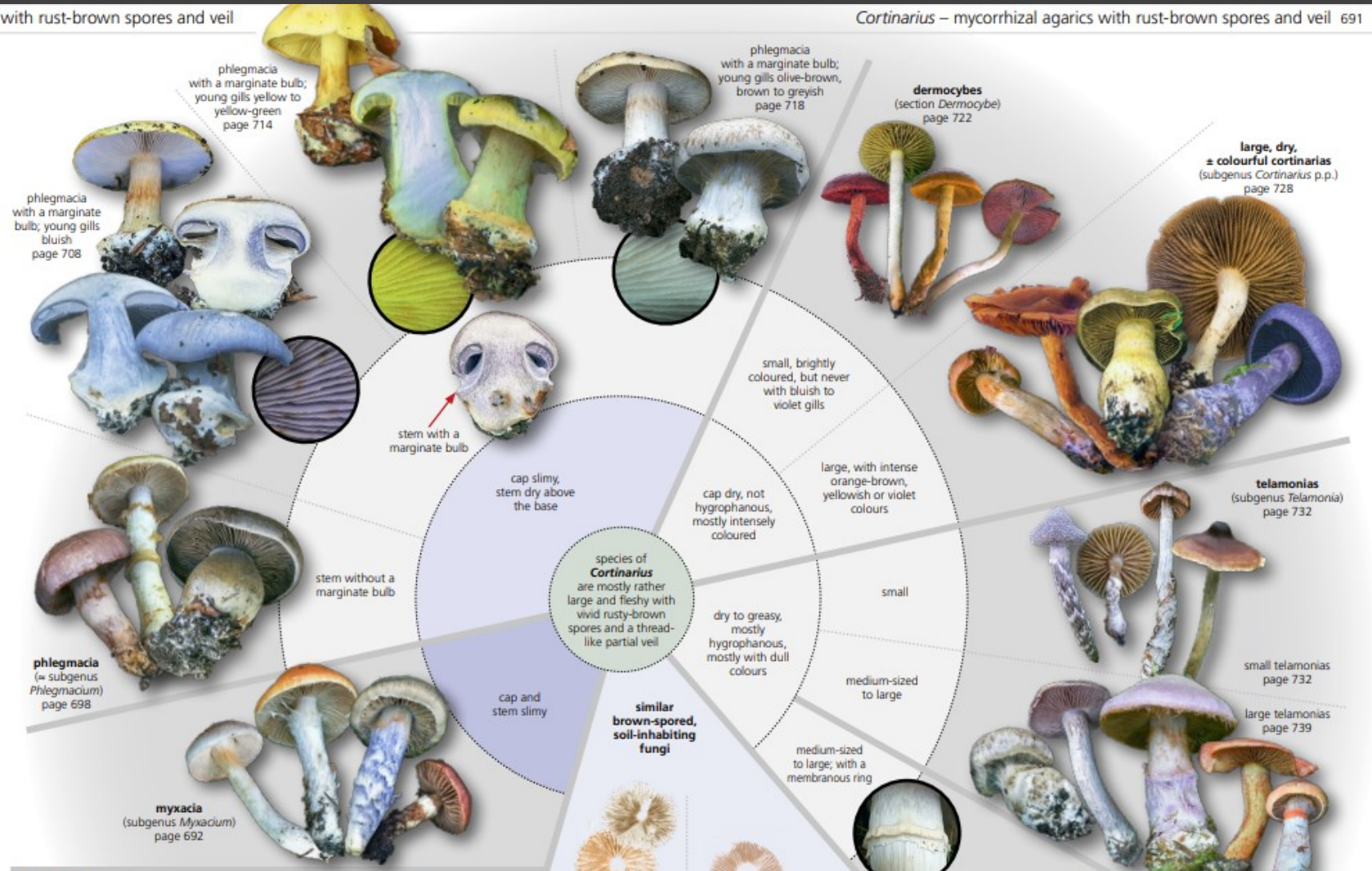
Cortinarius

Cortinarius is a genus of ectomycorrhizal agarics with ± emarginate gills, rusty-brown, verrucose, mostly dextrinoid spores and well-defined veils. The partial veil is mostly thread-like, while the universal veil leaves a woolly, thread-like or slimy covering on the lower stem and on the cap. Only very rarely with cheilocystidia (of a simple type), and never pleurocystidia.

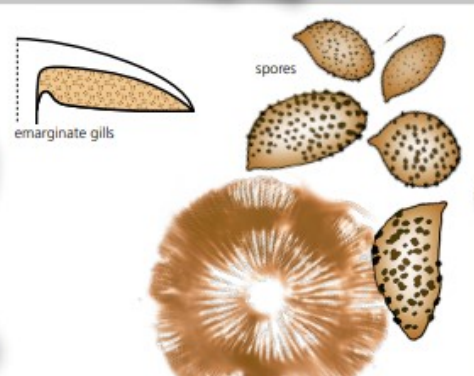
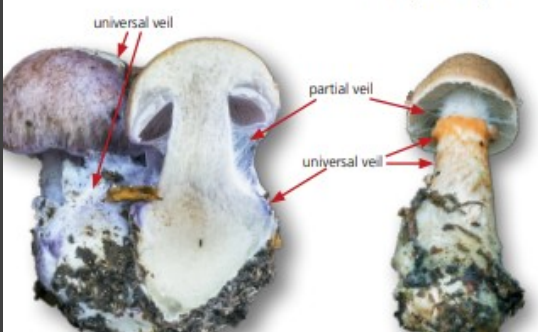
The genus is enormous and difficult to deal with. New species are constantly being described and new synonymies published. Safe identification is in many cases not possible without sequencing. Important macroscopical characters include the type of veil (slimy or thread-like), the gill and flesh colour when young, the overall shape, the smell, and chemical colour reactions with KOH.

- OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
- *Inocybe* has fibrillose to coarsely fibrillose caps and grey-brown spores. The spores are smooth, nodulose or star-shaped, and all species have cystidia (page 652).
 - *Hebeloma* likewise has grey-brown spores and smells mostly earth- or radish-like. The spores are verrucose and all species have prominent cystidia on the gill edge (page 680).
 - little brown mushrooms (LBMs) are typically decomposers, and generally have cystidia (page 616).
 - *Leucocortinarius bulbiger* recalls a white-spored phlegmacia (page 257).

FURTHER READING: 46, 69, 124, 125, 126, 127, 156, 184, 305, 323.



More than 500 species in temperate Europe.



Cortinarius
 Hebeloma
 Inocybe
 Kleine bruine paddenstoelen

Paxillus and the like

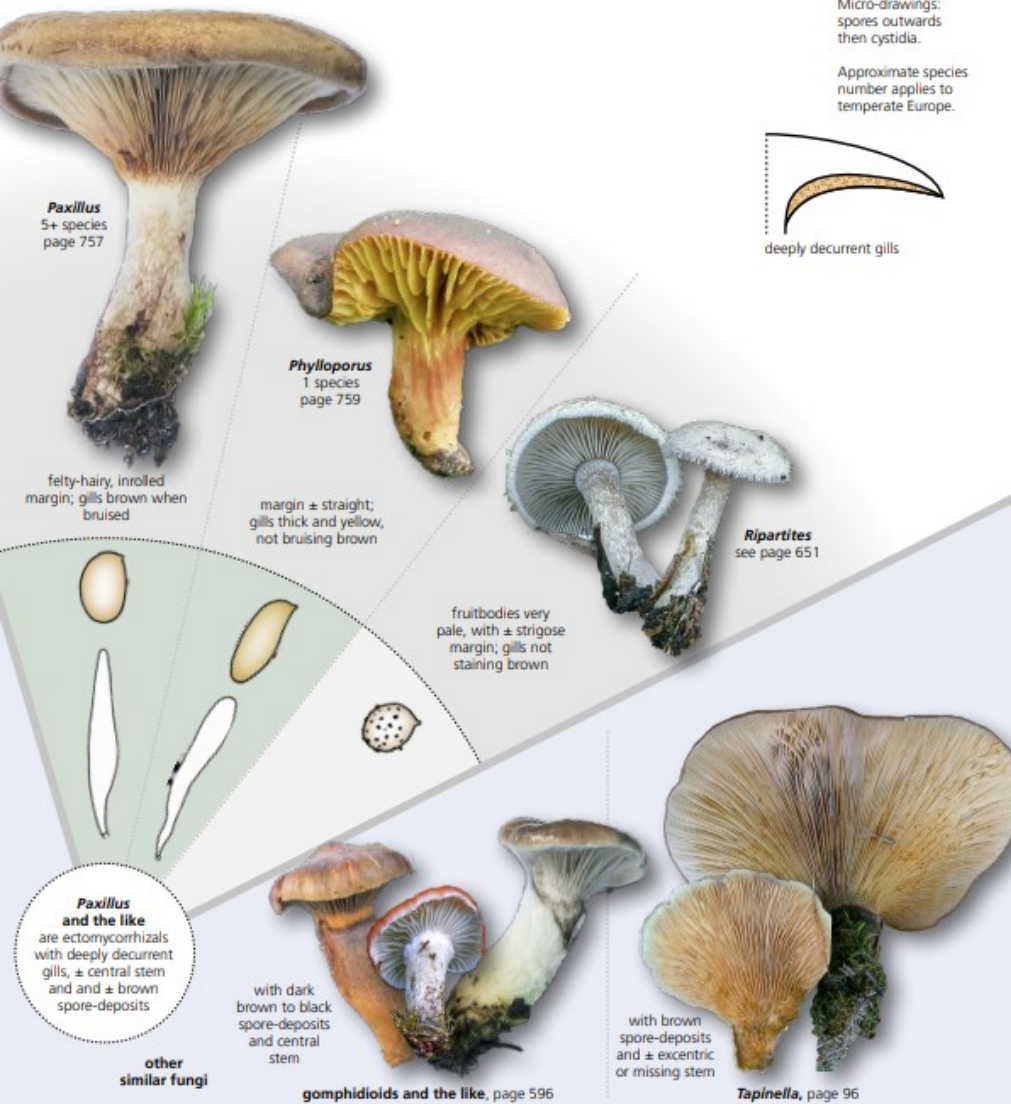
This group includes agarics with a ± brown spore-deposit, deeply decurrent gills and a ± central stem. Both of the genera included, *Paxillus* and *Phylloporus*, are ectomycorrhizal and belong phylogenetically to the Boletales.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– gomphidioids have dark brown to black spore-deposits (page 596).
– the brown-spored genus *Tapinella* has ± excentric, lateral or missing stems (pleurotoids page 96).

– *Lepista* & *Paralepista* are more smooth-capped and have whitish to brownish-rose spore-deposits and verrucose spores (page 112).

FURTHER READING: 97, 133, 333.



Paxillus is a genus of ectomycorrhizal, brown-spored agarics with fairly crowded, decurrent gills that can be loosened from the cap flesh. The colour of a fresh spore-deposit is important for identification (although this can change over time). Repeated consumption of paxilloids may cause a life-threatening autoimmune reaction.

†† *Paxillus involutus* is a relatively slender, rather pale *Paxillus* with a downy, inrolled, wrinkled margin. The stem is ± smooth; lacks conspicuous reddish spots or yellow bands. The gills are pale straw-yellow to yellowish-brown and stain brown when bruised; they can be loosened from the pale cap flesh. The spore-deposit is yellow-brown to grey-olive. The smooth spores measure 7–11 × 5–6.5 µm. Mostly mycorrhizal with *Picea* and *Betula*, and usually on poor acidic soils.

Paxillus filamentosus ≫ is more yellow-fleshed and occurs with *Alnus*. Other species are shorter and thicker-stemmed.

Widespread and very common; June–November.

**Paxillus-achtigen**

[Gomphidius-achtigen](#)

[Paxillus](#)

[Phylloporus](#)

[Ripartites](#)

[Tapinella](#)

Polypores

The polypores is a form group that is characterized by a tubular hymenophore where the spores are formed on a hymenium inside the downwards-pointing tubes. The tubes are normally inseparable from each other and from the cap flesh. The pores (tube mouths) may be spherical, angular, stretched, labyrinthine or gill-like. The number of pores per millimetre is an important character, best measured with a translucent ruler using a lens. The pore edges are sterile. Fruitbodies can be completely appressed to the substrate or have \pm well-developed caps, and rarely also stems; they may be soft and annual or tough to hard, and in some cases perennial. Perennial fruitbodies may be recognized by typically having several tube layers and broad growth zones on the caps.

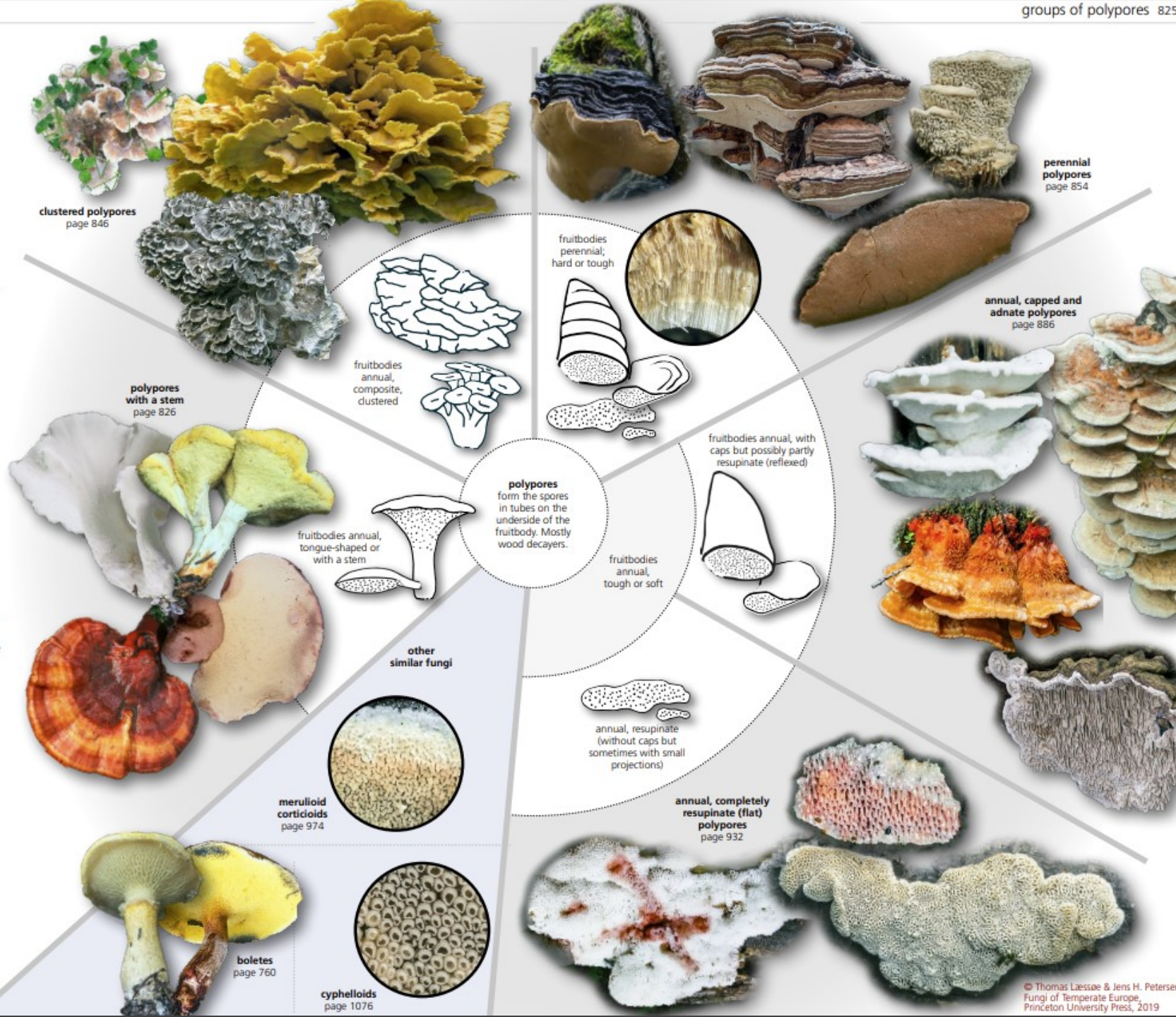
All polypores belong to *Basidiomycota* and have one-celled basidia. The only exception is *Aporium* (page 1186), which belongs to the jelly fungi and has longitudinally divided basidia. Most species with tough or hard fruitbodies have a complicated hyphal structure, which, besides the normal generative hyphae, consists of branched binding hyphae and/or skeletal hyphae (page 35). Fruitbodies with two hyphal types are termed dimitic, and those with three are referred to as trimitic.

Almost all polypores are decomposers and typically occur on wood. They produce a brown rot or a white rot (page 14). A few species are ectomycorrhizal, e.g. *Albatrellus* & *Scutigera* (page 828) and *Coltricia* (page 843).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the boletes are always soft-fleshed, and their tubes are not well-joined and can be loosened from the cap flesh; most are mycorrhizal (page 760).
- merulioid corticioids have a \pm folded hymenophore where also the edges are covered with hymenium (page 974).
- cyphelloids are small, cup-shaped *Basidiomycota*. They may occur in dense groups and mimic a polypore (page 1076).

FURTHER READING: 17, 37, 161, 163, 193, 219, 220, 235, 282, 283, 308, 309, 339, 356, 366, 367.



Polyporen

- [Geclusterde polyporen](#)
- [Meerjarige polyporen](#)
- [Eenjarige, met hoeden of aangehechte polyporen](#)
- [Eenjarige compleet resupinate polyporen](#)
- [Merulloide korsten](#)
- [Cyphella-achtigen](#)
- [Boleten](#)
- [Polyporen met een steel](#)

Annual, capped polypores

This group includes the reflexed and capped polypores that have fruitbodies which rot away after one season. The species form either soft or tough, but never hard, fruitbodies. All capped and stemless species with soft fruitbodies belong here.

Continued on next page spread . . .

Micro-drawings:
spores on the
outside followed by
cystidia.
cl. = clamps.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.

Annual, capped polypores

This group includes the reflexed and capped polypores that have fruitbodies which rot away after one season. The species form either soft or tough, but never hard, fruitbodies. All capped and stemless species with soft fruitbodies belong here.

Continued on next page spread . . .

Micro-drawings:
spores on the
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Approximate species
number applies to
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Annual, capped polypores

This group includes the reflexed and capped polypores that have fruitbodies which rot away after one season. The species form either soft or tough, but never hard, fruitbodies. All capped and stemless species with soft fruitbodies belong here.

Continued on next page spread . . .

Micro-drawings:
spores on the
outside followed by
cystidia.
cl. = clamps.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.

Annual, capped polypores

This group includes the reflexed and capped polypores that have fruitbodies which rot away after one season. The species form either soft or tough, but never hard, fruitbodies. All capped and stemless species with soft fruitbodies belong here.

Continued on next page spread . . .

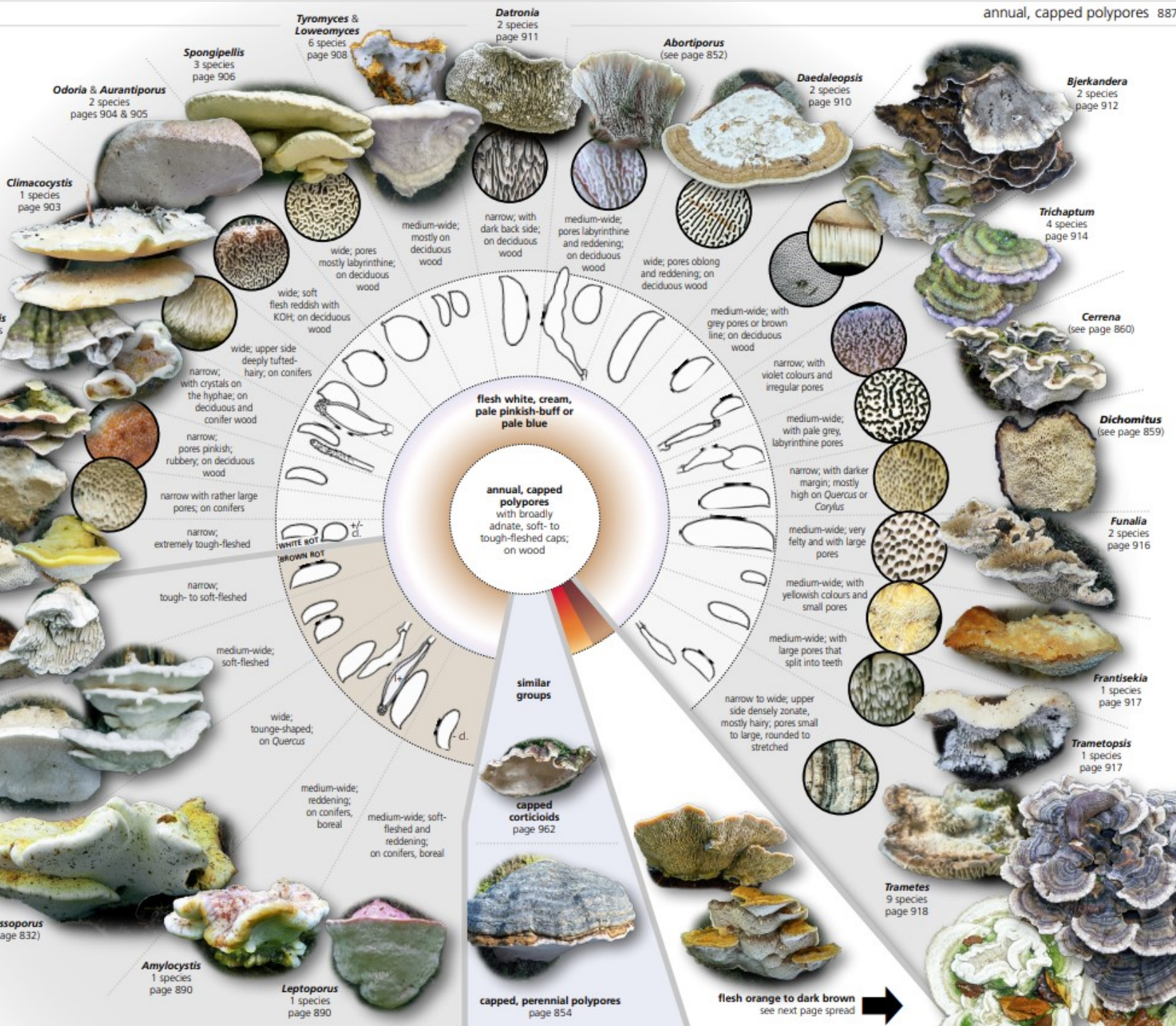
Micro-drawings:
spores on the
outside followed by
cystidia.
cl. = clamps.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.

Annual, capped polypores

This group includes the reflexed and capped polypores that have fruitbodies which rot away after one season. The species form either soft or tough, but never hard, fruitbodies. All capped and stemless species with soft fruitbodies belong here.

Continued on next page spread . . .



Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en bleke context 1

[Abortiporus](#)

[Antrodia](#)

[Antrodiaella](#)

[Amylocystis](#)

[Aurantiporus](#)

[Bjerkandera](#)

[Buglossoporus](#)

[Cartilosoma](#)

[Cerrena](#)

[Climacocystis](#)

[Datronia \(Podofomes\)](#)

[Daedaleopsis](#)

[Dichomitus](#)

[Diplomitoporus](#)

[Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en donkere context](#)

[Frantisekia](#)

[Funalia](#)

[Gloeoporus](#)

[Leptoporus](#)

[Loweomyces](#)

[Meerjarige polyporen met hoeden](#)

[Neorantrodia](#)

[Odoria](#)

[Polyporen met hoeden](#)

[Postia](#)

[Vervolg op volgende dia](#)

Annual, capped polypores

continued from previous page spread . . .

Some annual polypores may consist solely of generative hyphae and are termed monomitic; such fruitbodies are typically soft and easy to break. When either skeletal hyphae or binding hyphae are also present the fruitbodies are termed dimittic; if all three hyphal types are present they are termed trimitic. Dimittic and trimitic annual fruitbodies are typically tough and leathery. (See page 35 for more on hyphal systems)

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– capped, broadly adnate, perennial polypores over time form several layers of tubes. They also often have raised zones on the surface (page 854).

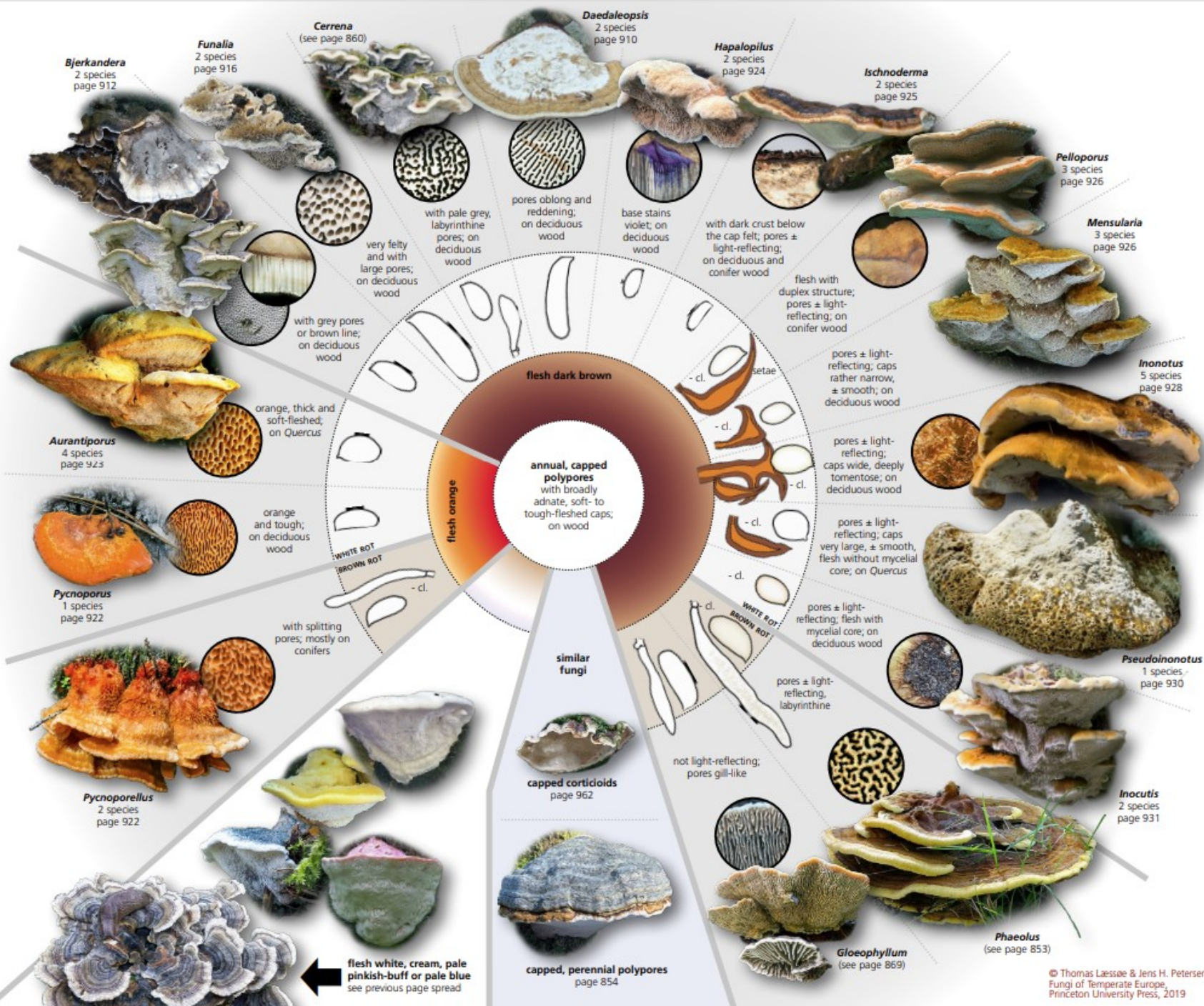
– clustered polypores are annual and form numerous caps from a common stem (page 846).

– capped corticioids do not have pores; a hand lens is required (page 962).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 824.

Micro-drawings:
spores outermost,
followed by cystidia
or setae.
cl. = clamps.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.



Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en donkere context

Aurantiporus

[Bjerkandera](#)

[Cerrena](#)

[Daedaleopsis](#)

[Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en bleke context](#)

Funalia

[Gloeophyllum](#)

[Hapalopilus](#)

[Inocutis](#)

[Inonotus](#)

[Ischnoderma](#)

[Korstzwammen met hoedje](#)

[Meerjarige polyporen met hoed](#)

[Mensularia](#)

[Pelloporus](#)

[Phaeolus](#)

[Pseudoinonotus](#)

[Pycnoporellus](#)

[Pycnoporus](#)

Rosette-fungi and the like

This form group comprises species that, although not closely related, are collectively known as 'stipitate steroids'. All the species in this group produce fan- to rosette-shaped or folded fruitbodies with a \pm smooth hymenium on the under/outer side. The upper/inner side is mostly sterile. The fruitbodies are typically rather tough and range from very large in *Sparassis* to small in *Musciniupta*. Species of *Thelephora* form ectomycorrhiza, while the remaining species are presumed to be decomposers or moss parasites.

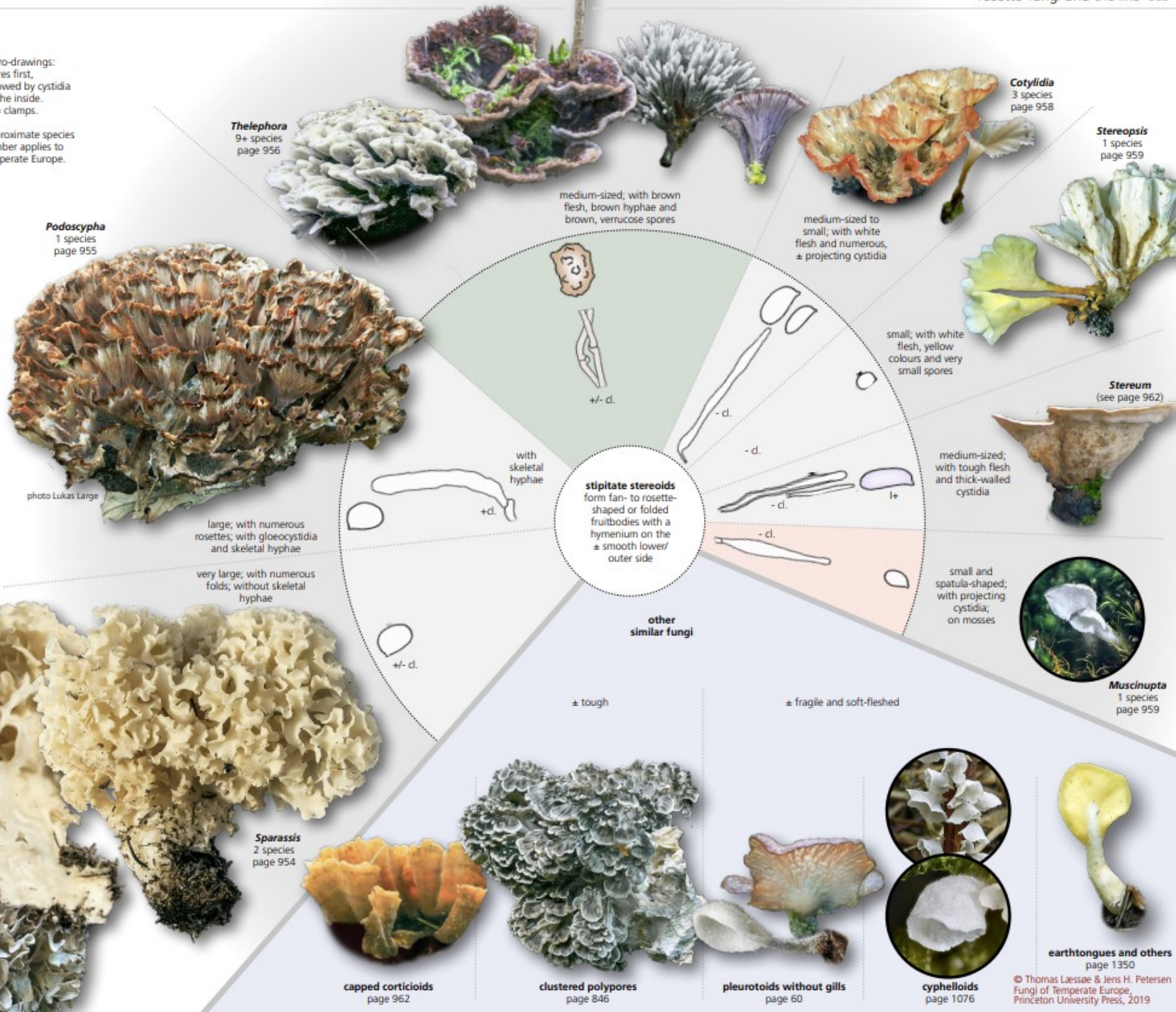
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the clustered polypores may form large, rosette-shaped fruitbodies but they always have pores on the underside (page 846).
- capped steroids are tough, mostly broadly attached to the substrate, and not stipitate (page 962).
- pleurotoids with reduced gills (e.g. *Gliocephala* and *Arrhenia*) form soft-fleshed fruitbodies that usually have a veined hymenophore (page 60).
- cyphelloids do not normally form stems (page 1076).
- flattened, clavate species of *Ascomycota* are soft-fleshed with a hymenium on both sides and the spores are formed within asci (page 1350).

FURTHER READING: 92, 142, 156, 163, 264.

Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by cystidia on the inside. cl. = clamps.

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Rozetachtige fungi

- [Aardtong-achtigen](#)
- [Cotyldia](#)
- [Cyphella-achtigen](#)
- [Korstvormige fungi met hoeden](#)
- [Musciniupta](#)
- [Pleurotus-achtigen](#)
- [Podoscypha](#)
- [Polyporen in clusters](#)
- [Sparassis](#)
- [Stereopsis](#)
- [Stereum](#)
- [Thelephora](#)

Annual, resupinate polypores

This group includes polypores with annual, flat fruitbodies that completely lack caps. Some species may, however, form small protuberances (false caps) without an evident cap surface. Although some species can be recognized in the field, it is a very difficult group to identify, and in most cases correct identification requires microscopy.

Sterile material is easily sampled but cannot be identified. It may be a good idea to check if the specimen is able to deposit spores on a coverslip or microscope slide. Keep the specimen moist in order to enhance the chance of obtaining a good spore-deposit.

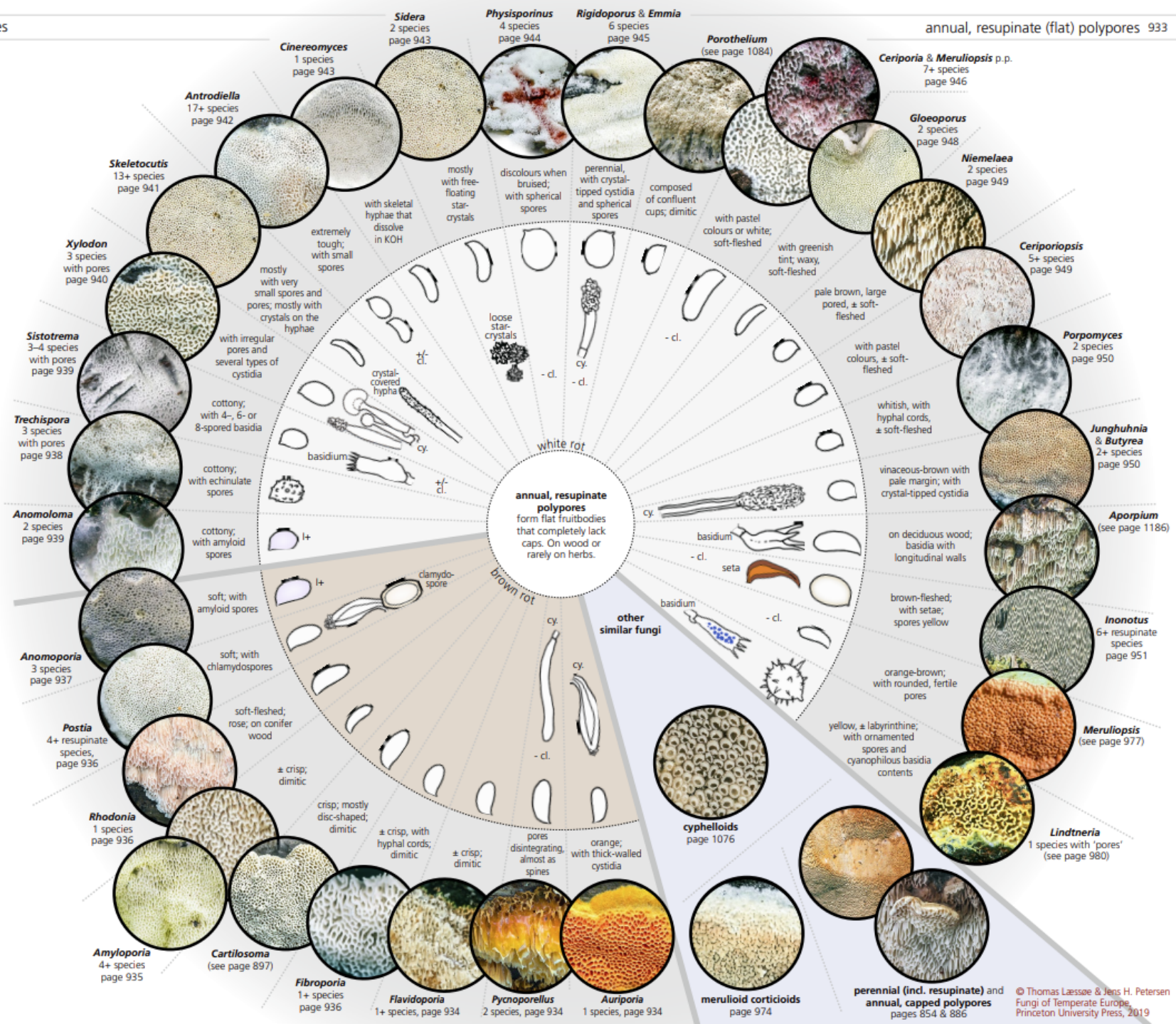
All species are wood-degrading and most produce a white rot.

- OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:**
- annual reflexed (polypores with a resupinate decurrent lower part) and capped polypores (page 886).
 - perennial, resupinate polypores (page 854).
 - merulioid corticioids (corticioids with wrinkled-veined hymenophore) may look similar but the 'pores' are rounded and have fertile pore mouths - in true polypores the pore mouths are sterile (page 974).
 - gregarious cyphelloids may recall resupinate polypores (page 1076).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 824.

Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by cystidia. cl. = clamps. cy. = cystidia.

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Eenjarige resupinate polyporen 1

- Amyloporia
- Anomoloma
- [Anomoporia](#)
- [Antrodiella](#)
- Aporpium
- Autiporia
- Butyrea
- Cartilosoma
- [Ceriporia](#)
- [Ceriporiopsis](#)
- [Cinereomyces](#)
- [Eenjarige polyporen met hoed](#)
- Emmia
- [Fibroporia](#)
- Flavidoporia
- Gloeoporus
- [Inonotus](#)
- [Junghuhnia](#)
- [Lindtneria](#)
- [Meerjarige polyporen \(incl. resupinate\)](#)
- [Meruliopsis](#)
- [Meruloide korstzwammen](#)
- Niemelaea
- [Vervolg op volgende dia](#)

Corticoids

This form group includes species with resupinate (flat) or reflexed (flat with a narrow protruding cap) fruitbodies and with a smooth, warty, spiny, toothed or veined hymenophore. Species with divided basidia or with spores that germinate with a replicate spore are shown on this wheel, but are treated with the resupinate jelly fungi (page 1162).

Some distinctive species can be told by macroscopical means. Colour, shape (mainly of the hymenophore) and ecology are the most important characters. The majority of the species, however, require microscopical study in order to reach an identification.

Phylogenetically the species are distributed among a series of orders that include fungi with completely different morphologies (boletes, agarics, polypores, etc.).

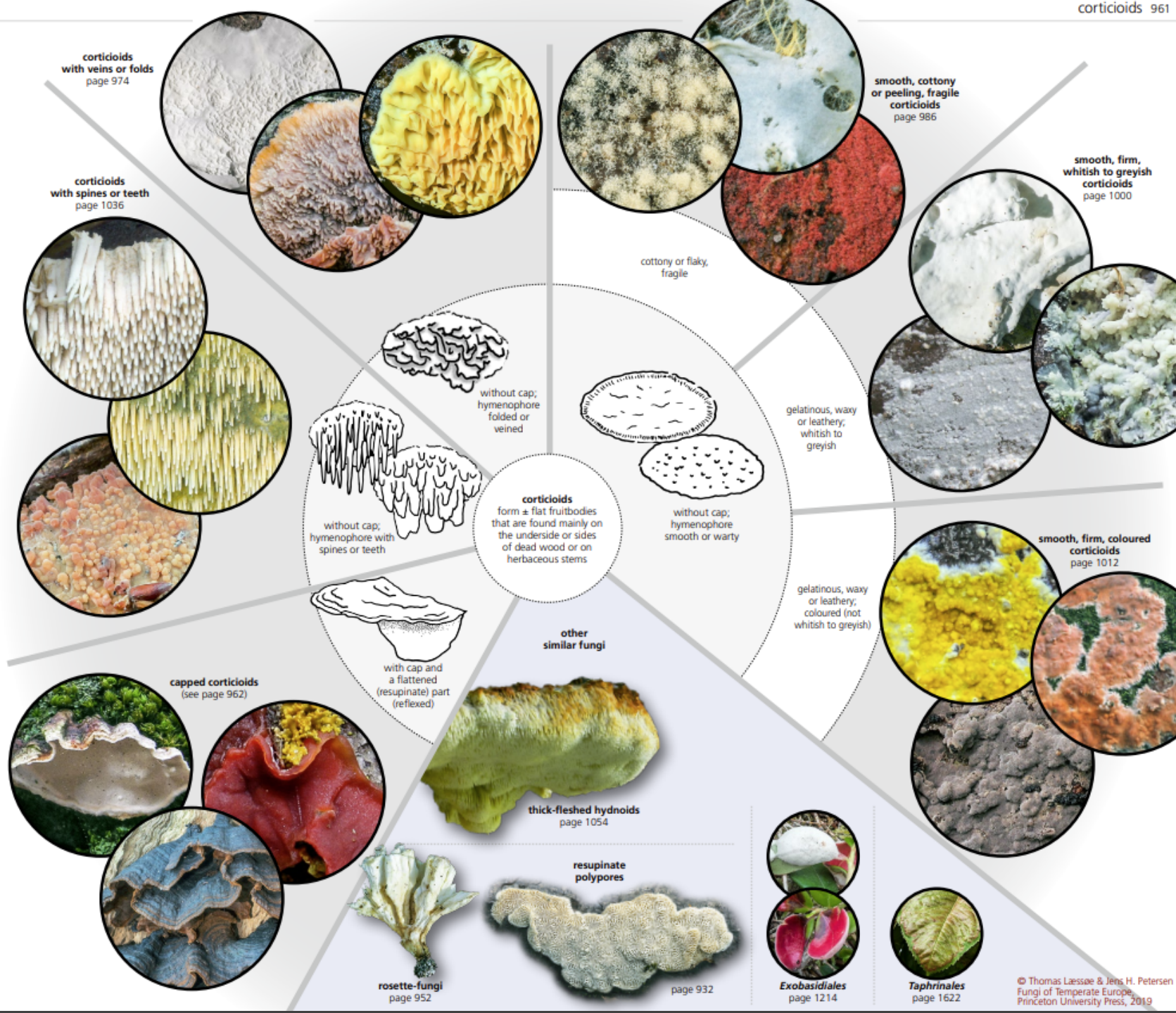
Most corticoids are decomposers, and the majority are white-rotters. Species in the *Boletales* (e.g. *Serpula* (page 984) and *Coniophora* (page 1034) produce a brown rot, and most members of the *Thelephorales*, e.g. *Tomentella* (page 998), are ectomycorrhizal. A handful of genera in other orders are also mycorrhizal.

The corticoid fungi is a large group with about 500 species in temperate Europe. Many rare or inconspicuous species are not included here, but representatives of most of the genera that occur in the area are included.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the rosette fungi have spatulate, cauliflower to rosette-shaped fruitbodies, with or without a ± well developed stem (page 952).
- thick-fleshed, resupinate hydnoids are treated on page 1054.
- resupinate polypores with labyrinthine pores have sterile pore margins (page 932).
- plant parasites on living stems and leaves, see *Exobasidiales* (page 1214) and *Taphrinales* (page 1622).

FURTHER READING: 36, 50, 67, 74, 75, 81, 99, 159, 163, 339.

**Korstvormige fungi**Meruloide korstvormende fungiGladde, katoenachtige of schilferige fragiele korstenGladde, stevige, witachtige tot grijze korstenGladde, stevige gekleurde korstenKorstvormende fungi met hoedenKorsten met pinnen, tanden of stekelsDikvlezige hydnoide fungiExobasidialesTaphrinalesResupinate polyporenRozetvormige fungi

Capped corticioids

This form group includes capped (reflexed/stereoid) corticioids with a smooth hymenophore. Capped genera with a wrinkled or echinulate hymenophore are shown in the blue part of the wheel and are treated under merulioid corticioids (page 974) and echinulate corticioids (page 1036).

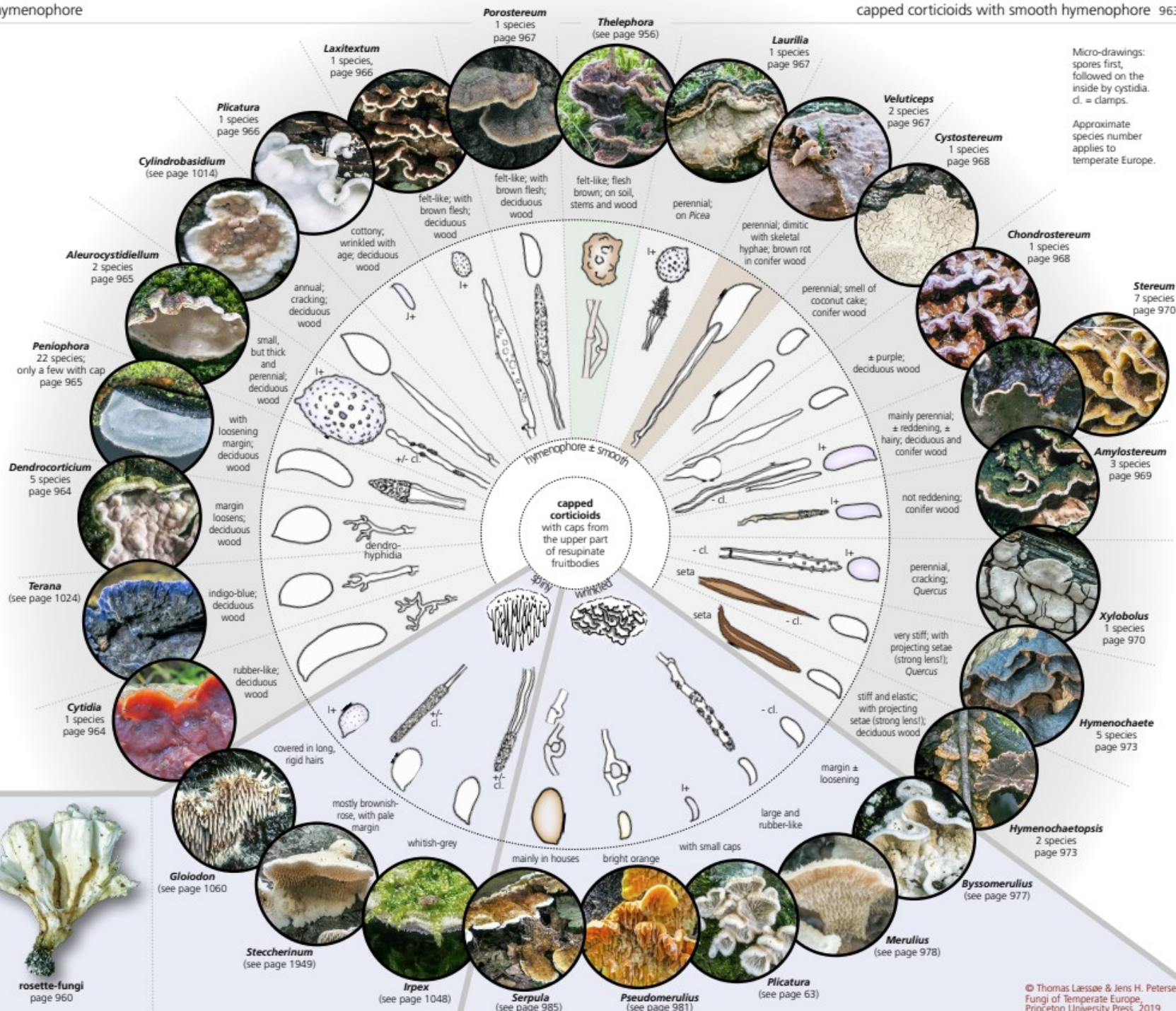
Many species in this group have caps with colours, hairs and other useful characters. With experience quite a few can be recognized without the use of a microscope. All capped corticioids may start out without a cap, so always look for older fruitbodies. Phylogenetically the species are distributed in a number of groups that are not closely related, including orders dominated by corticioid, poroid or lamellate species.

Most capped corticioids are decomposers and form a white rot. *Serpula* (page 985), *Pseudomerulius* (page 981) and *Veluticeps* (page 967) are brown-rotters and species in the genus *Thelephora* (page 956) form ectomycorrhiza.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- annual, capped polypores always have proper pores on the underside of the caps (check with a hand lens) (page 886).
- rosette-fungi either have a stem or narrow towards the base (page 952).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 960.



**Korstvormende
fungi met hoeden**

- [Aleurocystidiellum](#)
- [Amylostereum](#)
- [Byssomerulius](#)
- [Chondrostereum](#)
- [Cylindrobasidium](#)
- Cystidia
- Cystostereum
- Dendrocorticium
- [Eenjarige polyporen met hoeden](#)
- Gloiodon
- [Hymenochaete](#)
- Hymenochaetopsis
- [Irpex](#)
- [Laxitextum](#)
- Laurilia
- Merulius
- [Peniophora](#)
- Plicatura
- [Porostereum](#)
- [Pseudomerulius](#)
- [Rozetvormige fungi](#)
- [Serpula](#)
- [Steccherinum](#)
- [Stereum](#)
- [Terana](#)
- [Thelephora](#)
- [Veluticeps](#)
- [Xylobolus](#)



Fragile corticioids

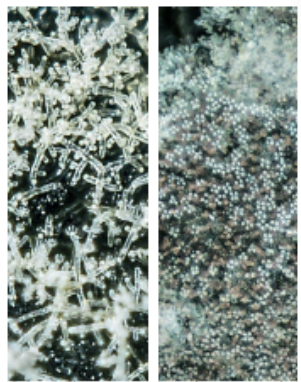
This rather poorly defined form group includes resupinate corticioids where the fruitbody is relatively loosely attached to the substrate. They may be either cobweb-like, cotton-like or flaky and fragile. Species with thin, waxy or gelatinous fruitbodies are not included here, but amongst the firm, white or coloured corticioids with a ± smooth hymenophore.

Species in this group are best identified by using a compound microscope but macro-morphology may provide useful clues. Since all the species included have a loose hyphal structure it is easy to prepare flat preparations for use under the microscope – and as the hyphal structure can be seen clearly, they are much easier to work with than the waxy or gelatinous species.

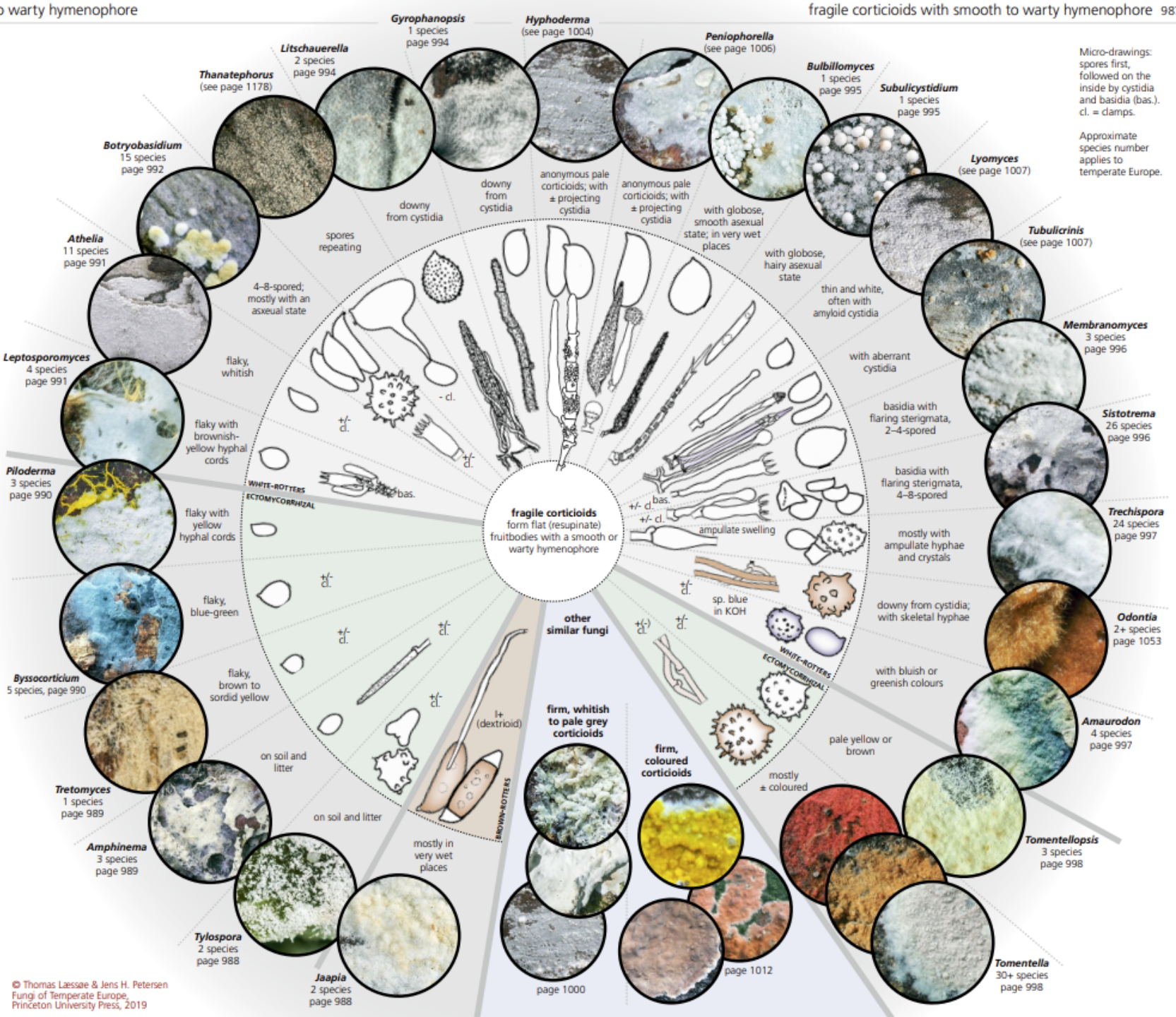
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- whitish to pale grey corticioids with firm, tougher, waxy structures (page 1000).
- coloured corticioids with firm, tougher, waxy structures (page 1012).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 960.



Cobweb-like fruitbodies of *Botryobasidium* with 8-spored basidia in close up. Loosely constructed fruitbodies of *Tomentella* with 4-spored basidia.



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by cystidia and basidia (bas.). cl. = clamps.
Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Fragile gladde, katoenachtige of schilferige korsten 1

- Amaurodon
- [Amphinema](#)
- [Athelia](#)
- [Bulbillomyces](#)
- Byssocorticium
- [Gyrophanopsis](#)
- [Hyphoderma](#)
- [Jaapia](#)
- Leptosporomyces
- Litschauerella
- Lyomyces
- Membranomyces
- Odontia
- [Peniophorella](#)
- Piloderma
- [Vervolg op volgende dia](#)



Fragile corticioids

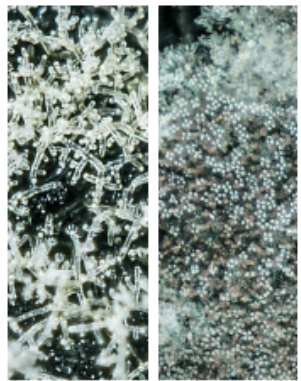
This rather poorly defined form group includes resupinate corticioids where the fruitbody is relatively loosely attached to the substrate. They may be either cobweb-like, cotton-like or flaky and fragile. Species with thin, waxy or gelatinous fruitbodies are not included here, but amongst the firm, white or coloured corticioids with a ± smooth hymenophore.

Species in this group are best identified by using a compound microscope but macro-morphology may provide useful clues. Since all the species included have a loose hyphal structure it is easy to prepare flat preparations for use under the microscope – and as the hyphal structure can be seen clearly, they are much easier to work with than the waxy or gelatinous species.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

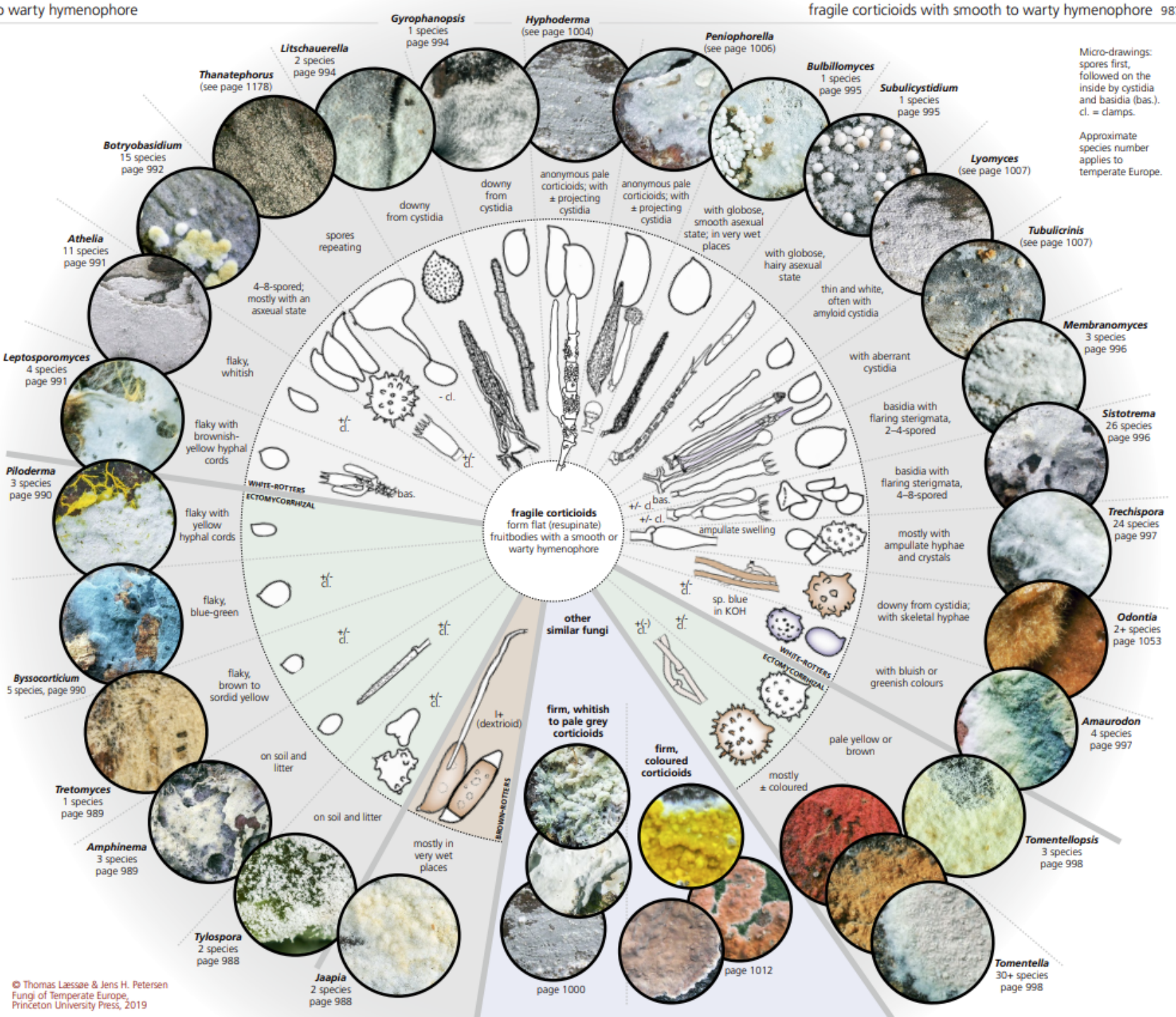
- whitish to pale grey corticioids with firm, tougher, waxy structures (page 1000).
- coloured corticioids with firm, tougher, waxy structures (page 1012).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 960.



Cobweb-like fruitbodies of *Botryobasidium* with 8-spored basidia in close up.

Loosely constructed fruitbodies of *Tomentella* with 4-spored basidia.



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by cystidia and basidia (bas.). cl. = clamps.
Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Fragile gladde, katoenachtige of schilferige korsten 2

- [Sistotrema](#)
- [Stevige gekleurde korstvormende fungi](#)
- [Stevige witte tot bleek grijze korstvormende fungi](#)
- Subulicystidium
- Thanatephorus
- [Tomentella](#)
- Tomentellopsis
- Trechispora
- Tretomyces
- [Tubulicrinis](#)
- Tylospora



Spiny corticioids

This form group includes resupinate and reflexed, thin-fleshed corticioids with a dentate to spiny hymenophore. A few species can be identified in the field, but in general the most important characters are the appearance of the spores and basidia, and in some cases the types of cystidia and hyphal structures, all of which require microscopy.

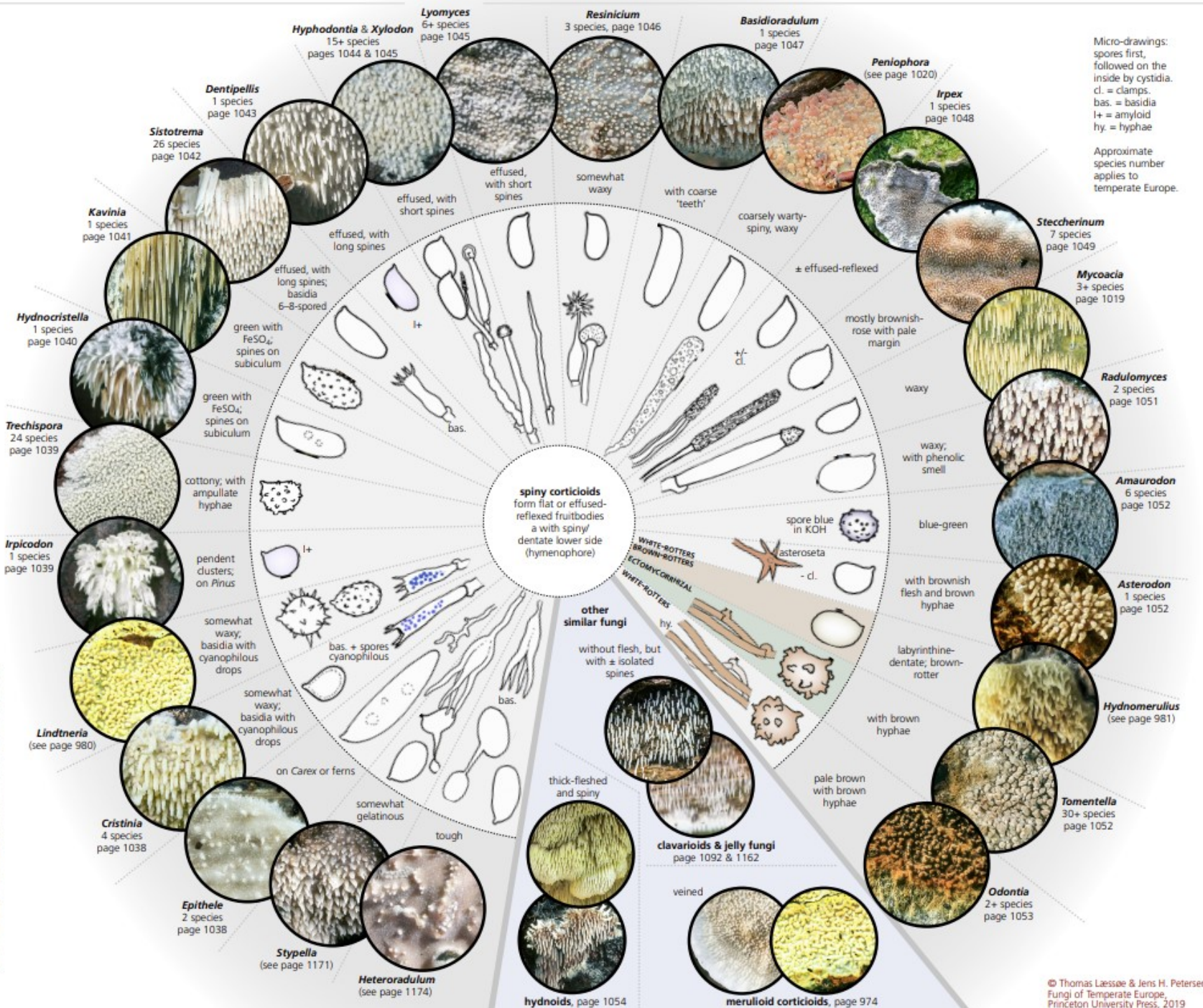
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the hydroids are more thick-fleshed and often have a cap and stem (page 1054).
- pendent clavarioids form 'clubs' directly on the substrate, rather than in connection with a subiculum or the flesh (page 1092).
- the merulioid corticioids have a ± veined hymenophore, which may partially split into rounded 'teeth' (page 974).
- the pores of annual, resupinate polypores may, with age, split into 'teeth' (page 932).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 960.



spines (round in section) "teeth" (flattened)



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by cystidia. cl. = clamps. bas. = basidia I+ = amyloid hy. = hyphae

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Korsten met stekels, pinnen of tanden 1

- Amaurodon
- Asterodon
- Basidioradulum
- [Clavaria-achtigen](#)
- [Cristinia](#)
- Dentipellis
- [Dikvlezige en stekelige hydnum-achtige zwammen](#)
- [Epithele](#)
- [Heteroradulum](#)
- Hydnocristella
- Hydnomerulius
- [Hyphodontia](#)
- [Irpex](#)
- Irpicondon
- Kavinia
- [Lindtneria](#)
- Lyomyces
- [Meruloide korsten](#)
- [Mycoacia](#)
- Odontia
- [Peniophora](#)
- [Radulomyces](#)
- [Resinicium](#)
- [Vervolg op volgende dia](#)

Spiny corticioids

This form group includes resupinate and reflexed, thin-fleshed corticioids with a dentate to spiny hymenophore. A few species can be identified in the field, but in general the most important characters are the appearance of the spores and basidia, and in some cases the types of cystidia and hyphal structures, all of which require microscopy.

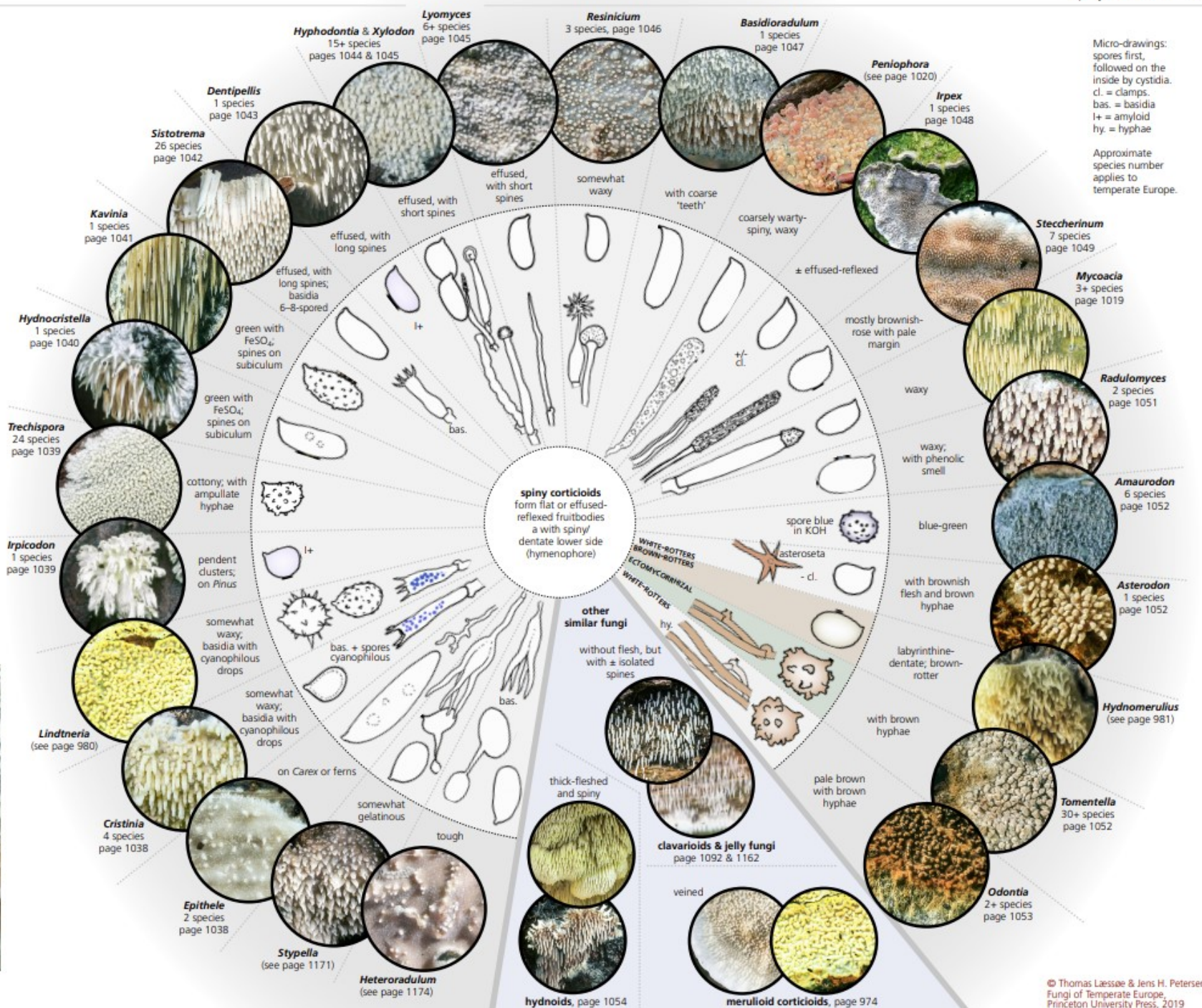
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the hydroids are more thick-fleshed and often have a cap and stem (page 1054).
- pendent clavarioids form 'clubs' directly on the substrate, rather than in connection with a subiculum or the flesh (page 1092).
- the merulioid corticioids have a ± veined hymenophore, which may partially split into rounded 'teeth' (page 974).
- the pores of annual, resupinate polypores may, with age, split into 'teeth' (page 932).

See also the overview and the references to further reading on page 960.



spines (round in section) teeth (flattened)



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by cystidia. cl. = clamps. bas. = basidia I+ = amyloid hy. = hyphae

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Korsten met stekels, pinnen of tanden 2

- [Sistotrema](#)
- [Steccherinum](#)
- [Stypella](#)
- [Tomentella](#)
- [Trechispora](#)
- [Trilzwammen](#)
- [Xylodon](#)

Hydroids

The hydroids are defined here as either stemmed or thick-fleshed fungi with a spiny or dentate hymenophore. Fungi with thin, resupinate, spiny fruitbodies are treated under the form group corticioids (page 960).

The hydroids constitute a form group of species that, for example, belong to the orders *Thelephorales*, *Cantharellales* and *Russulales*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– spiny species with flat (resupinate) fruitbodies and thin flesh are included under the corticioid fungi (page 1036).
 – species with isolated spines that lack a common flesh are treated under the clavarioids (page 1092).

FURTHER READING: 50, 142, 163, 221, 229, 346.

Micro-drawings: spores and cystidia

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Climacodon
1 species
page 1056

huge, tough with small caps

Sarcodontia
1 species
page 1057

thick, yellow and ± resupinate; mainly on *Malus*

Spongipellis
(see page 906)

tough and with ± flat teeth

Hericum
4 species
page 1058

Gloiodon
1 species
page 1060

large and rather crisp; bulb-shaped, with caps or heavily branched

Auriscalpium
1 species
page 1060

tough; on cones

Bankera
2 species
page 1061

crisp; smell of curry

Phellodon
5 species
page 1062

Hydnellum
14+ species
page 1064

Sarcodon
15+ species
page 1068

tough; without smell of curry

± crisp; without smell of curry

crisp; cap smooth and pale or apricot-orange

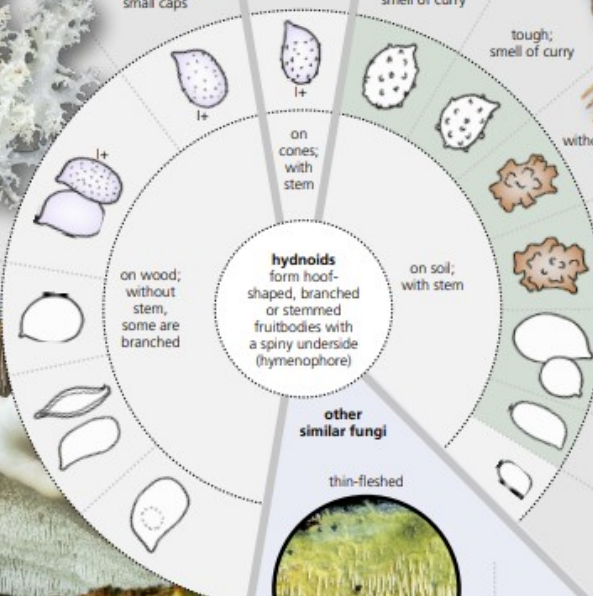
Hydnum
11 species
page 1072

small; with very small, crowded spines

Sistotrema
1 species with stem
page 1075

isolated, hanging spines

Mycorrhaphium
1 species
page 1075



other similar fungi

thin-fleshed



spiny corticioids
page 1036

clavarioids
page 1092

Dikvlezige hydnum-achtige fungi

[Auriscalpium](#)

[Bankera](#)

[Clavaria-achtigen](#)

[Climacodon](#)

[Gloiodon](#)

[Hericum](#)

[Hydnellum](#)

[Hydnum](#)

[Korsten met stekels, pinnen, tanden](#)

[Phellodon](#)

[Sarcodon](#)

[Sarcodontia](#)

[Sistotrema](#)

[Spongipellis](#)



Cyphelloids

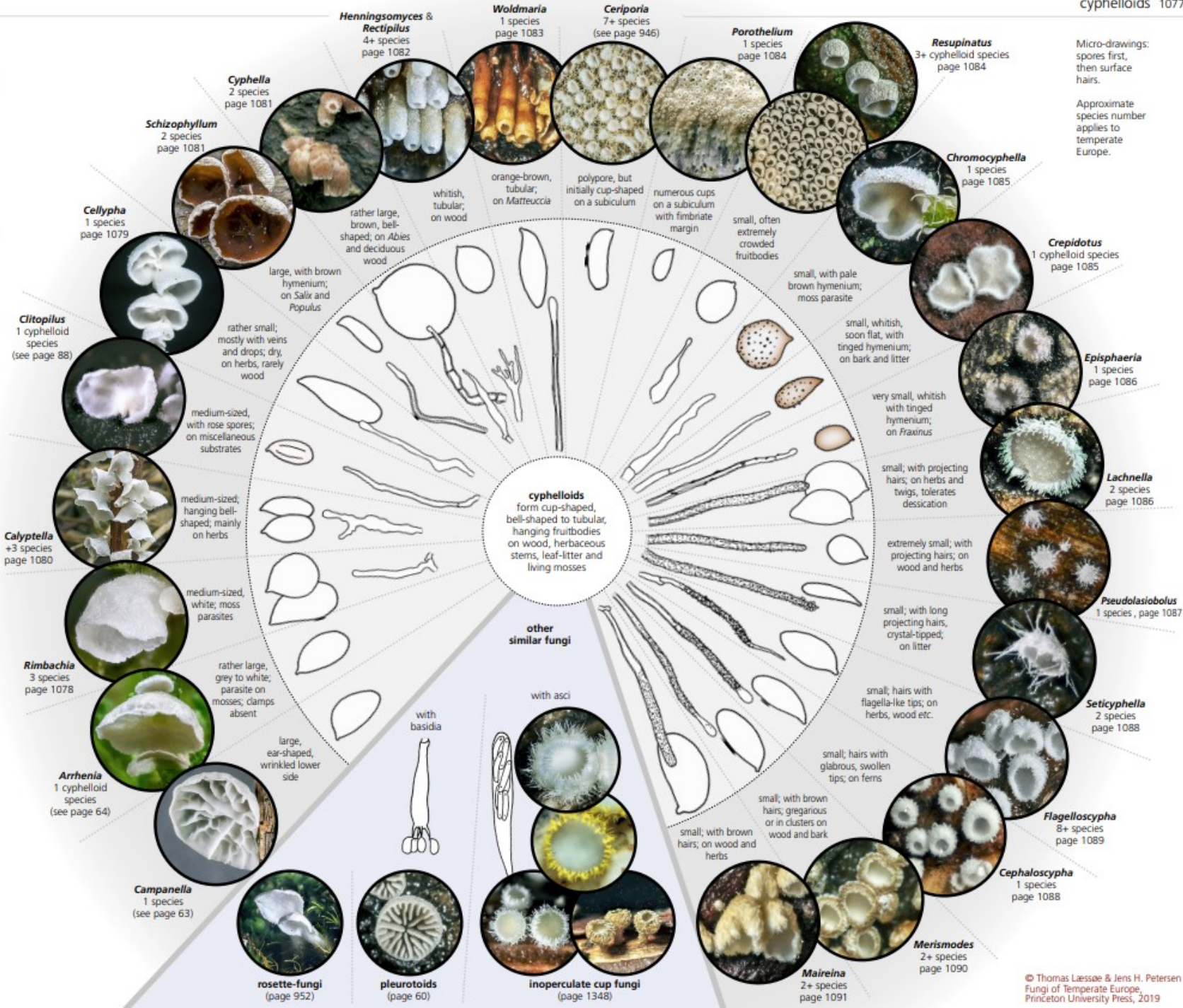
This form group includes basidiomycetes with small cup-shaped, bell-shaped or tubular fruitbodies on various substrates. The largest fruitbodies are up to 10 mm wide (*Schizophyllum ampulum*), while the smallest are only around 0.2 mm wide (*Pseudolasiobolus minutissimus*). The fruitbodies are generally positioned with the hymenium pointing downwards, allowing the spores to fall freely when released.

Most cyphelloids are reduced agarics, *i.e.* members of *Agaricales* that have become gill-less during the process of evolution. Some polypores, *e.g.* species of *Ceriporia* (page 946), may initially recall cyphelloids but, with age, the cups join to form 'normal' polypore fruitbodies. The numerous separated tubes in *Fistulina hepatica* (page 845) and the unusual 'gills' of *Schizophyllum commune* (page 62) can be interpreted as many cyphelloid fruitbodies joined on a common fleshy meta-structure. These species are also nested within the *Agaricales*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- many species of *e.g.* *Hyaloscypha*-aceae may look similar, but the apothecia can point in all directions and they tend to look neater and less irregularly hairy. They form spores in asci (page 1372).
- some rosette-fungi recall large cyphelloids, but cyphelloids are never long-stemmed (page 952).
- pleurotoids are typically larger, with more well-developed gills (page 60).

FURTHER READING: 5, 6, 40, 156, 186.



Cyphella-achtigen

[Arrhenia](#)

[Calyptella](#)

[Campanella](#)

[Cellypha](#)

[Cephalocypha](#)

[Chromocyphella](#)

[Clitopilus](#)

[Creoporia](#)

[Crepidotus](#)

[Cyphella](#)

[Episphaeria](#)

[Flagelloscypha](#)

[Henningsomyces](#)

[Inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)

[Lachnella](#)

[Maireina](#)

[Merismodes](#)

[Pleurotus-achtigen](#)

[Porotheium](#)

[Pseudolasiobolus](#)

[Rectipilus](#)

[Resupinatus](#)

[Rimbachia](#)

[Rozetvormige fungi](#)

[Schizophyllum](#)

[Seticyphella](#)

[Woldmaria](#)

Clavarioids

Clavarioids includes *Basidiomycota* with normal, one-celled basidia and thread-like, awl-shaped, clavate or branched fruitbodies. Most clavate fruitbodies are negatively geotropic (they grow/point upwards), but some species with very small fruitbodies are ageotropic (the orientation is random) and species in the genus *Mucronella* >> are positively geotropic (they point downwards).

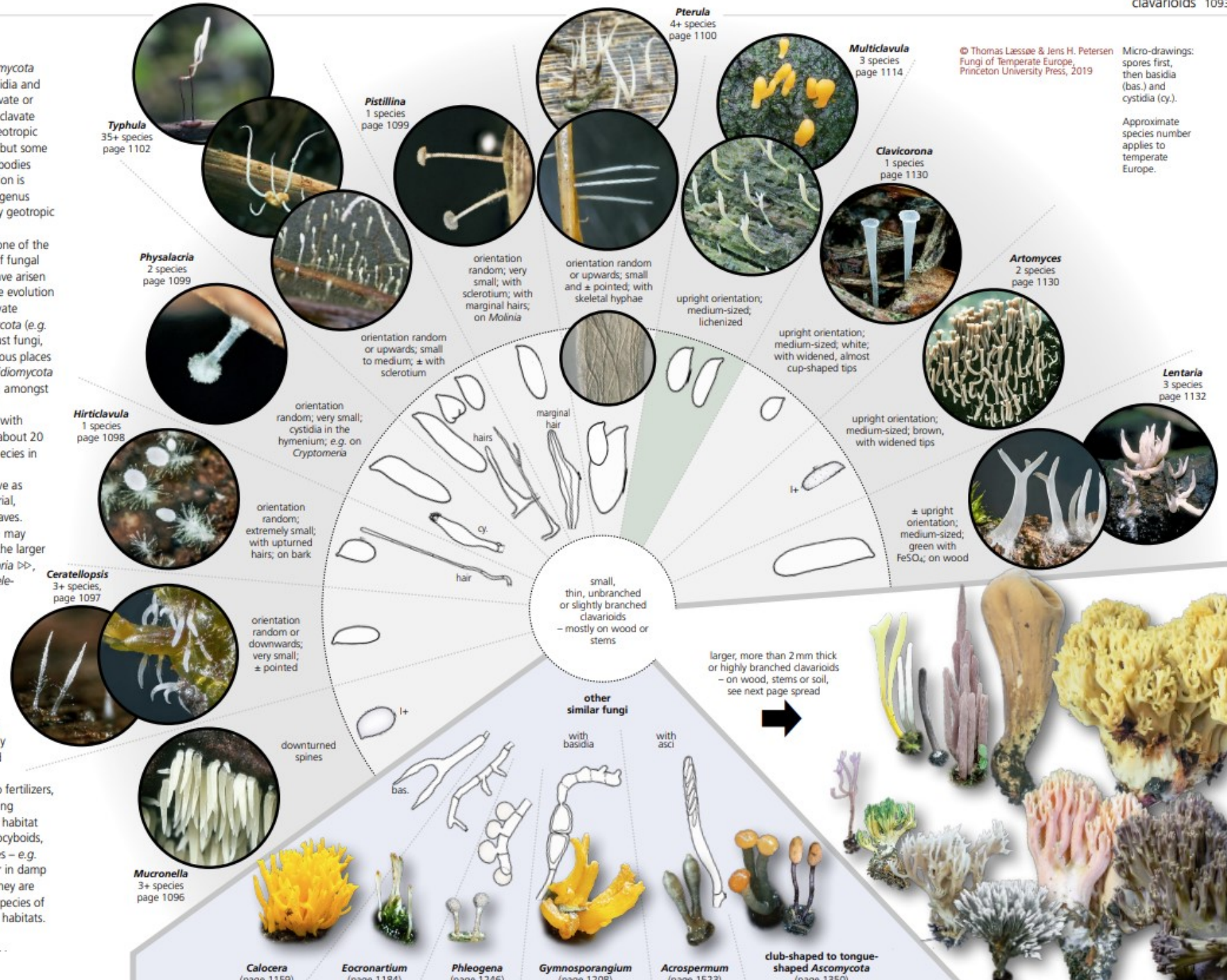
The clavate fruitbody is one of the simplest, most basic types of fungal fruitbody, and clavarioids have arisen numerous times through the evolution of the fungal kingdom. Clavate fruitbodies occur in *Ascomycota* (e.g. earthtongues), within the rust fungi, the jelly fungi and in numerous places amongst the remaining *Basidiomycota* with one-celled basidia, e.g. amongst the *Agaricales*.

The group of clavarioids with one-celled basidia includes about 20 genera, with around 200 species in temperate Europe.

Many small clavarioids live as decomposers of plant material, e.g. on stems of herbs or leaves. Some species of *Typhula* >> may parasitize plants. Amongst the larger clavarioids the genera *Ramaria* >>, *Clavariadelphus* >> and *Thelephora* >> are ectomycorrhizals.

Like the hygrocyboid fungi (page 142), some or all species of *Clavaria*, *Clavulinopsis* and *Ramariopsis* >> may live in a not yet understood symbiosis with herbs (page 18). These species are mostly very demanding with regard to habitat, and, among other things, are sensitive to fertilizers, preferring habitats with a long continuity. They often share habitat with a number of rare hygrocyboids, entolomatoids, earthtongues – e.g. in unimproved grasslands or in damp forests on mull soils – and they are particularly good indicator species of especially biodiverse fungus habitats.

Continued on next page spread ...



Clavaria-achtigen Kleine dunne onvertakte

- [Artomyces](#)
- AscospERMum
- Calocera
- Ceratellopsis
- Clavicornora
- Eocronartium
- Grotere, < 2 mm brede of sterk vertakte clavaria-achtigen
- Gymnosporangium
- Hirticlavula
- Knuppelvormige toe tongvormige ascomyceten
- Lentaria
- Mucronella
- Multiclavula
- Phleogena
- Physalacria
- Pistillina
- Pterula
- Typhulla



Dacrymycetales

The *Dacrymycetales* is a natural group characterized by tuning fork-shaped basidia, mostly septate spores that bud off microconidia, and by the predominantly orange-yellow, gelatinous to rubbery fruitbodies. Mature spores are best studied from deposits on slides. Some species form simple asexual spores (arthrospores) from structures that are similar to the fruitbodies, but softer.

The individual genera are poorly delimited in relation to each other, and the largest genus, *Dacrymyces*, is not monophyletic.

All species are wood-decayers and form a brown rot. Some species, e.g. *Dacrymyces stillatus*, can cause serious damage to timber, including wooden window frames.

FURTHER READING: 50, 142, 163, 265.



Development of basidia (left); types of basidia (right).

Micro-drawings: spores (outer part of wheel) and spores budding off microconidia (inner part).

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Dacrymyces

13 species

page 1155

**Ditola**

2 species

page 1157

**Femsjonia**

1 species

page 1157

**Guepiniopsis**

4 species

page 1158

**Calocera**

5 species

page 1159



Dacrymyces form small, cushion-shaped to turbinate fruitbodies that may aggregate in resupinate structures. The spores have up to nine septa. All are wood-degraders and brown-rotters.

Dacrymyces stillatus often occurs in both a sexual and an asexual state on the substrate. The asexual state is reddish-orange and soft, and can easily be squashed (lower image), while the sexual state is adnexed, translucently yellow and firmer, more rubbery-gelatinous. The hyphae lack clamps. The basidia are tuning fork-shaped. The thick-walled spores are flattened on one side, at maturity have three thick septa and measure $12-14 \times 3.5-4 \mu\text{m}$; they bud off small, globose conidia from each cell. Occurs on moist, rotten wood of coniferous and deciduous trees.

May be difficult to separate from *D. lacrymalis* ∇ but that species lacks the prominent asexual state and has somewhat thinner-walled spores.

Widespread and very common; all year.

Dacrymyces lacrymalis is bright yellow, translucent, wrinkled, narrowly attached, medium-sized, *Dacrymyces* that does not have a proper stem. The spores have three somewhat thickened septa and measure $12-14 \times 3.5-4 \mu\text{m}$. Occurs mostly on decomposed wood of deciduous trees, more rarely on conifer wood.

The similar *Dacrymyces stillatus* Δ is usually accompanied by a reddish asexual state.

Widespread and common; all year.

**Dacrymyces-achtigen**

Calocera

[Clavaria-achtigen](#)

Dacrymyces

Ditola

Femsjonia

Guepiniopsis

Orbillia

[Trilzwammen](#)



overmature spore with microconidia

Dacrymycetales have tuning fork-shaped basidia, spores that bud off microconidia and gelatinous-rubbery, \pm yellowish fruitbodies

with asci
other similar fungi



Orbillia
page 1464

with basidia



clavarioids
page 1092



jelly fungi
page 1162

Jelly fungi

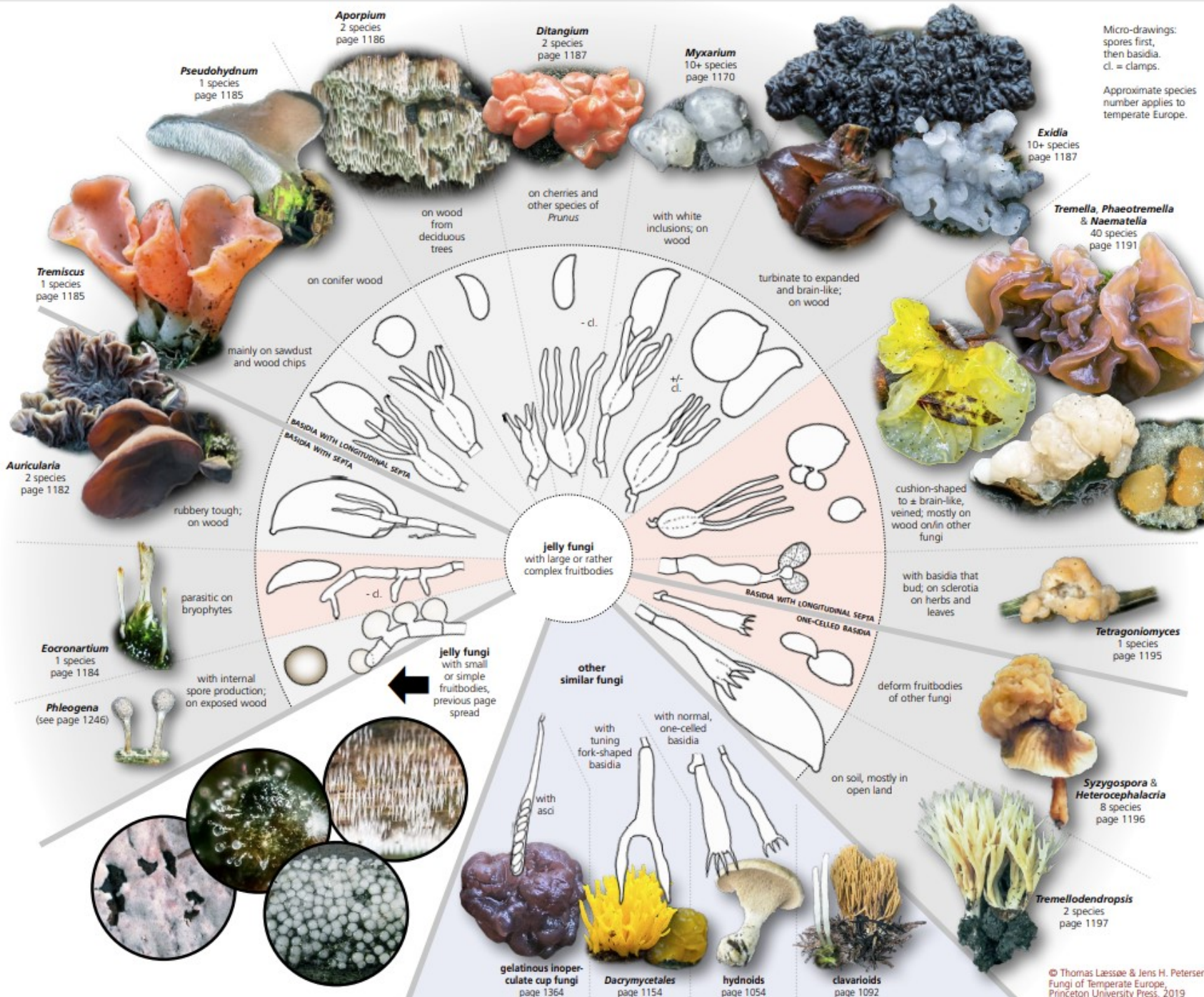
continued from previous page spread ...

or are parasites within other fungi or plants, e.g. the genera *Bourdottigloea*, *Endoperplexa*, *Hauerslevia*, *Herpobasidium*, *Heteroacanthella*, *Insolibasidium*, *Kriegeria*, *Naohidea*, *Occultifur*, *Oliveonia*, *Phragmoxenidium*, *Pseudostypella*, *Renatobasidium*, *Serendipita*, *Spiculogloea* and *Trimorphomyces*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- species of *Dacrymycetales* are also gelatinous but are mostly yellow and have characteristic, tuning fork-shaped basidia. The spores are mostly septate and do not repeat. However, conidia are often produced directly from the spores (page 1154).
- resupinate jelly fungi can be very difficult to tell apart from corticioid fungi; those, however, have one-celled basidia and spores that do not repeat (page 960).
- *Aporpium* may be confused with resupinate polypores (page 932).
- *Pseudohydnum* may be confused with hydroids, but hydroids are not gelatinous (page 1054).
- *Tremellodendropsis* and *Eccronartium* may be confused with clavarioids (page 1092).
- some *Ascomycota*, e.g. *Ascotremella*, *Ombrophila* and *Bulgaria*, superficially recall jelly fungi, but they form spores in asci (page 1364).

FURTHER READING: 50, 70, 100, 142, 163, 176, 189, 190, 192, 222, 268, 269, 270, 271, 306, 307.



Trilzwamachtigen met grotere of meer complexe vruchtlichamen

Aporpium

[Auricularia](#)[Clavaria-achtigen](#)[Dacrymyces-achtigen](#)

Ditangium

Eccronartium

[Exidia](#)[Gelatineuze inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)[Heterocephalacia](#)[Hydnum-achtigen](#)[Myxarium](#)[Naematelia](#)

Phaeotremella

[Phleogena](#)[Pseudohydnum](#)[Syzygospora](#)

Tetragoniomyces

[Tremella](#)[Tremellodendropsis](#)

Tremiscus

[Trilzwammen met kleine eenvoudige vruchtlichamen](#)

Rusts and smuts

This group includes a number of biotrophic plant parasites that do not form proper fruitbodies; all belong to the *Basidiomycota*. There are about 30 genera of rusts and 20 of smuts in temperate Europe; the aim here is only to provide an overview of this group.

Rusts have a particularly complicated life-cycle that may involve up to five types of spore, and in many cases a change (shift) in host. The spore types can be summarized as follows. **Type 0** (spermatia with spermatia): a basidiospore (Type IV) germinates on a suitable host and an internal mycelium develops from which tiny, flask-shaped spermatogonia (n) are formed in spots on the host's surface. The spermatia may then transfer nuclei to suitable compatible hyphae on other spermatogonia. **Type I** (aecidia with aecidiospores): the dikaryotic hyphae that result from fertilization with spermatia may then produce ± discoid aecidia in which dikaryotic (n+n) aecidiospores are formed. **Type II** (uredia with uredospores): in host-shifting species the aecidiospores infect a second host and a new dikaryotic mycelium develops from which uredia and uredospores are formed (n+n). **Type III** (telia with teliospores): a Type II mycelium finally forms telia with thick-walled teliospores (n+n) that typically overwinter. The following spring the teliospores germinate with 4-celled basidia after fusion of the two nuclei and a subsequent meiosis. **Type IV**: basidiospores (n) are then produced and can reinfest the first host.

Smuts and *Microbotryales* have much simpler life-cycles, infecting just one host and finally producing spores externally or internally. They can, for example, transform the inner parts of a flower to spores or may break out through stems, roots, seeds or leaves.

Both rusts and smuts are serious pathogens on crop plants.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

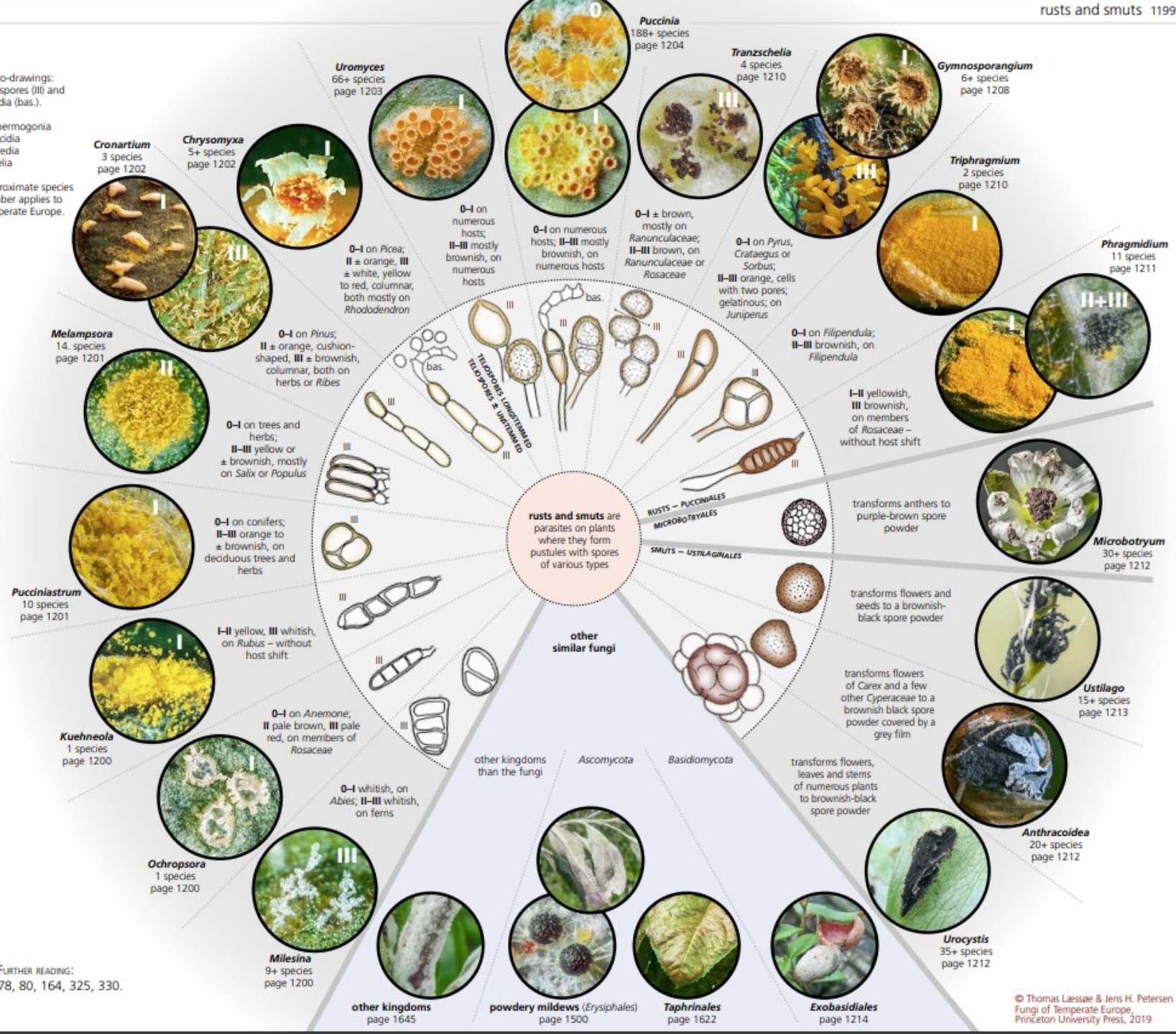
– numerous fungi and fungoid organisms live as parasites on plants, some of which may form structures that resemble those from rusts and smuts, see images in the blue section.

Micro-drawings:
I: aecidia
II: uredia
III: telia

O: spermatogonia
I: aecidia
II: uredia
III: telia

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

FURTHER READING:
78, 80, 164, 325, 330.



Roesten & Branden

[Andere rijken zoals myxomyceten](#)

Anthracoidea

Chrysomyxa

Cronartium

[Exobasidiales](#)

Kuehneola

Melampsora

Microbotryum

Milesina

Ochropsora

Phragmidium

[Poederige meeldauwen](#)

Puccinia

Pucciniastrum

[Taphrinales](#)

Tranzschella

Triphragmium

Urocystis

Uromyces

Ustilago

Exobasidiales

The order Exobasidiales has just one genus of biotrophic parasites in temperate Europe. It partly deforms shoots and leaves of the host, which is also stained red, and forms a whitish covering of hymenia that have long, one-celled basidia on some surfaces. Some species form infections only in a few leaves, while others produce systemic infections. The species in

temperate Europe occur on shrubs and dwarf shrubs of the Ericaceae.

Farther south the related parasite *Laurobasidium lauri* κ produces horn-like protuberances on *Laurus* trunks.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the ascomycote *Taphrina* occurs predominantly on trees and may form witch's brooms (page 1622).
- the powdery mildews (*Erysiphales*)

are more mealy and, with age, form small, spherical fruitbodies with asci (page 1500).

– some organisms that resemble fungi, e.g. *Albugo*, have neither basidia nor asci (page 1645).

FURTHER READINGS: 80, 100, 164, 209.



other similar fungi

Exobasidiales is parasitic on species of Ericaceae that become deformed (galled) and red-stained

Exobasidium 25+ species; page 1214



Exobasidium oxycocci occurs within *Vaccinium oxycoccos* and *V. microcarpum*. The annual shoot of the host stretches and becomes pale, and finally is completely covered by erumpent basidia. The curved, 1–3-septate spores measure 12–15 \times 3–3.5 μ m.

Exobasidium rostrupii κ occurs on the same host but only causes symptoms on the leaves, which acquire bright red spots on the upper side and have spore production underneath.

Widespread and probably rather common; summer–autumn.



Exobasidium vaccinii occurs on leaves of *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*. The leaves discolour red and become thick, and spores are formed on basidia on the mealy white lower sides. May also attack flower buds and young shoots, which become misshapen. The curved, 1–3(–7)-septate spores measure 11–19 \times 2–4 μ m; germinates with microconidia.

Exobasidium splendidum κ and **E. juelianum** ∇ occur on the same host but form larger, systemic infections that include both leaves and stems.

Widespread and very common where the host occurs; summer–autumn.



Thomas Læssøe

Exobasidium juelianum is systemic and discolours the shoots of *Vaccinium vitis-idaea* bright red; it also causes dwarf growth. The spore-producing pale tissue is seen mostly under the leaves. The spores are either one-celled, or have one septum, and measure 9–14 \times 2–4 μ m.

Exobasidium splendidum κ , on the same host, is an even redder, more northern, 2-spored species with curved, 0–1-septate spores that measure 20–27 \times 6–11.5 μ m; **E. vaccinii** Δ causes localized infections of single leaves, but not of whole shoots.

Widespread, common in the hemiboreal–boreal zones, rarer farther south; summer–autumn.



5 mm

Exobasidium uvae-ursi infects plants of *Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*. The parasitized plants typically produce dense, annual shoots with numerous dark red leaves and stems. The hymenium is formed on the underside of the leaves. The curved, 1–3-septate spores measure 15–22 \times 5–6 μ m; germinates with microconidia.

Exobasidium sydowianum κ occurs on the same host but the infection is limited to just tiny areas on the leaves.

Widespread in the hemiboreal–boreal zones, occasional, rare in the nemoral zones; summer–autumn.



Julia Kruse

Exobasidiales

[Andere rijken zoals myxomyceten](#)
[Poederige meeldauwen](#)
[Taphrina](#)

[Exobasidium japonicum](#)
[Exobasidium juelianum](#)
[Exobasidium karstenii](#)
[Exobasidium myrtilli](#)
[Exobasidium oxycocci](#)
[Exobasidium pachysporum](#)
[Exobasidium rostrupii](#)
[Exobasidium uvae-ursi](#)
[Exobasidium vaccinii](#)

Bird's nest fungi

Bird's nest fungi belong to the *Basidiomycota*, and produce basidia and spores within special egg-like structures called peridioles. In *Sphaerobolus* the single peridiole is shot actively away from the fruitbody. In other genera the small peridioles are held within cup-shaped structures, and are 'splashed out' by heavy raindrops. Traditionally, bird's nest fungi are included in the gasteroid form group.

All species in the group are decomposers and occur typically on large herbaceous stems, wood or dung.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

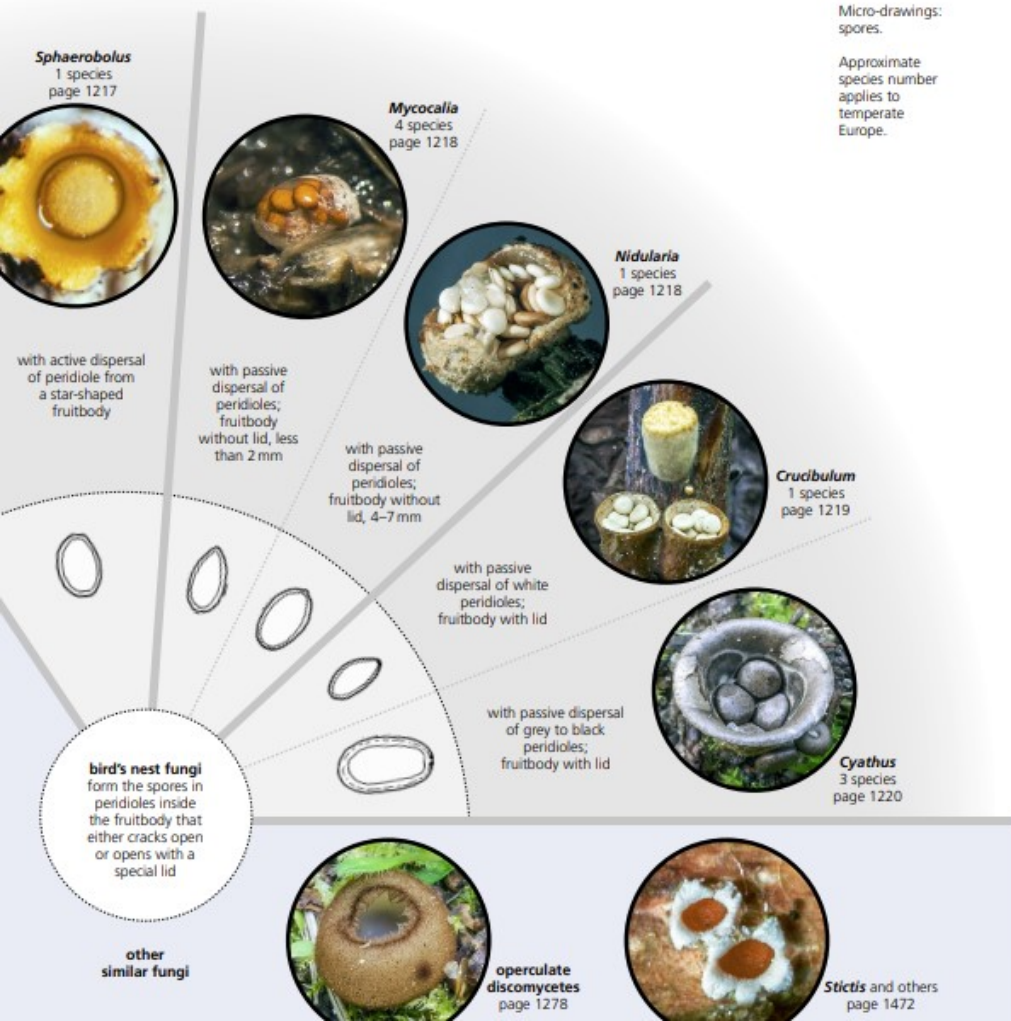
– some operculate discomycetes may superficially resemble bird's nest fungi, but they do not have peridioles and the spores are borne in asci in a hymenium inside the cup (page 1278).

– *Stictis* may superficially recall *Sphaerobolus* but lacks peridioles and forms the spores in asci in a gelatinous hymenium (page 1472).

FURTHER READING: 50, 92, 156, 241.

Micro-drawings:
spores.

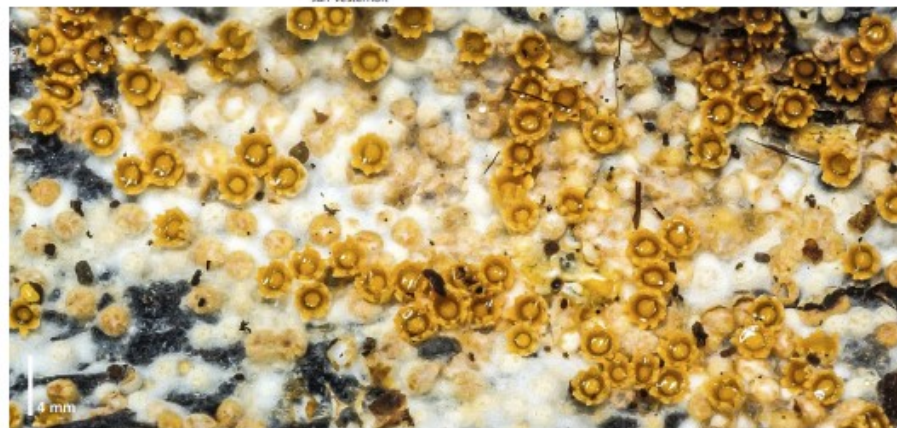
Approximate
species number
applies to
temperate
Europe.



Sphaerobolus stellatus is a unique, approximately 2 mm wide gasteroid fungus that opens in a star-like fashion, after which a ± orange-brown ball (a peridiole) is shot several metres away. During the opening an orange colour is seen (upper image), and after shooting a pale projecting 'balloon' is seen (middle image). Spores and basidia are held within the peridiole. The hyaline, thick-walled spores measure 6–10 × 5.5–6.5 µm. Occurs on litter, very decomposed wood, and old dung, mainly in open habitats.

Distinctive and unlikely to be misidentified. Only one other European genus, *Pilobolus* (page 1642), has the ability to propel a spore ball several metres, but the mechanism used by the two genera is quite different. In *Sphaerobolus* the propelling force is created by tensions between six different wall layers. At maturity, one of the layers under the peridiole swells, and the resulting tension results in an inversion of the upper layer and the peridiole is shot away. The inverted layer is the pale 'balloon'. *Pilobolus* propel the spore ball by creating an internal pressure within the head that eventually 'explodes' and delivers the necessary force.

Widespread and common; mainly June–December.



Jan Vesterholt

Nestzwammetjes

[Crucibulum](#)

[Cyathus](#)

[Mycocalia](#)

[Nidularia](#)

[Operculate bekerzwammen](#)

[Sphaerobolus](#)

[Stictis](#)



Stinkhorns

The stinkhorns and their allies (*Phallales*) is a monophyletic group of fungi that form spores internally in a bulb-shaped 'witch's egg'. At maturity, the egg opens to reveal a slimy, dark spore mass. At the same time the fruitbodies emit a nauseating smell of carrion or faeces that attracts flies and other insects, which then disperse the spores. The

spore mass also contains sugars as a reward for the insects. All species live as decomposers and are traditionally included in the gasteroid form group.

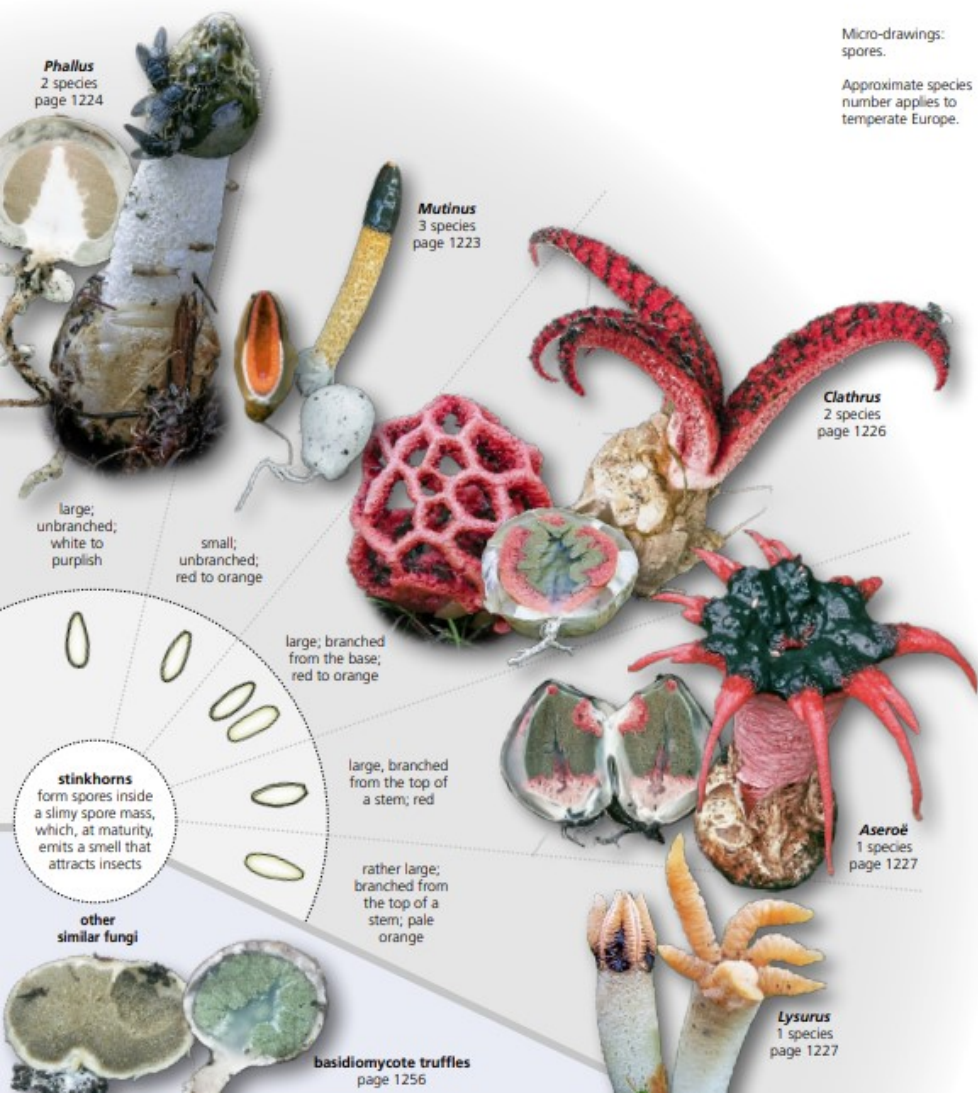
The insect-aided dispersal limits the potential distance that spores can travel compared to normal wind-disseminated spores. A consequence, it has been possible to follow the relatively slow spread of some of the

introduced species in this order, e.g. *Clathrus archeri*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– some basidiomycote truffles form structures similar to witch's eggs, but these stay underground (page 1256).

FURTHER READING: 50, 92, 156, 241.



Micro-drawings:
spores.

Approximate species
number applies to
temperate Europe.

Species of *Mutinus* are small stinkhorns with a not very clearly delimited fertile area on top of the stem. Has red and orange colours.

Mutinus caninus is a very slender stinkhorn with orange colours under an olive-black spore mass, as well as part way down the stem. The white witch's egg is elongated and has orange colours when sectioned. It is not as foul-smelling as *Phallus impudicus* ▷▷. The smooth, dark spores measure $4.5\text{--}6.5 \times 1.8\text{--}3 \mu\text{m}$. Occurs on wood chips, on and around old stumps, and in similar places, in parks, deciduous forests and with conifers.

Mutinus ravenelii ▽ has red colours under the spore mass and normally also down the stem; it mainly occurs in gardens. *Mutinus elegans* × is very pointed, has vivid orange colours on the stem and the spore mass is even less well delimited.

Widespread and common; mainly June–January.



Mutinus ravenelii is a slender stinkhorn that tapers towards the top, does not have a well-delimited 'head', and has red colours under the olive-black spore mass; it also usually has red tinges down the stem. The witch's egg is slender and white, and has red colours when sectioned. Not as foul-smelling as *Phallus impudicus* ▷▷. The dark, sooty spores measure $5\text{--}7 \times 1.8\text{--}2.5 \mu\text{m}$. Sometimes occurs in large troops, typically on compost and disturbed soil in gardens and parks.

Mutinus caninus △ is ± orange under the spore mass.

Rare and meteoric in its occurrence – probably introduced from North America; June–October.



Jacques Landry

Stinkzwammen

Aseroë

[Basidiomycote truffels](#)

[Clathrus](#)

[Lysurus](#)

[Mutinus](#)

[Phallus](#)

Puffballs and similar gasteroid fungi

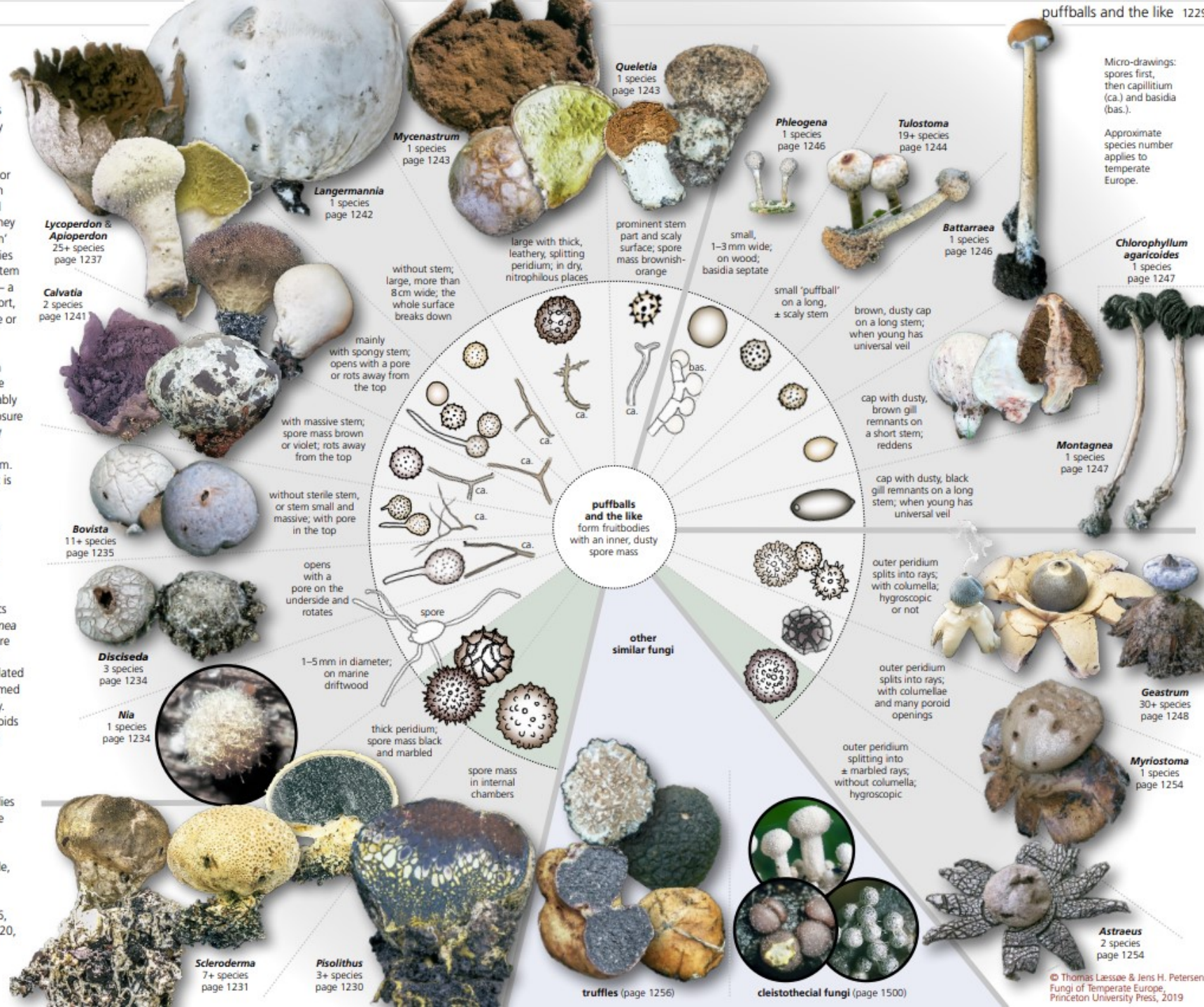
This form group includes basidiomycetes where the spores are produced inside the fruitbody and form a powder at maturity. The species may either be ball-shaped, with or without a stem, or have a star-like appearance when mature. The latter may open and close depending on moisture – they are hygroscopic. The surface 'skin' is termed a peridium. Some species have a sterile elongation of the stem within the spore-containing ball – a columella. Others may have a short, wide stem, which can be massive or have spongy flesh.

The spores are hydrophobic and dispersed by the splash from raindrops. Almost all species have dark, thick-walled spores – probably an adaptation to prolonged exposure to sun and wind. The spores may be mixed with elastic, branched, thick-walled hyphae – a capillitium. A spore mass with all elements it is termed a gleba.

Traditionally, all the species included here were placed in the artificial class *Gasteromycetes*, along with the bird's nest fungi, stinkhorns and basidiomycote truffles. Phylogenetically the majority belong within the agarics (*Agaricales*). *Battarraea*, *Montagnea* and *Chlorophyllum agaricoides* are intermediate types that in some respects look similar to closely related agarics, but the gills are transformed to a dusty spore mass at maturity.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
– truffles have tuber-like fruitbodies that develop below ground (page 1256).
– cleistothelial fungi are ascomycetes with tiny, 0.2–3 mm wide, closed fruitbodies (page 1500).

FURTHER READING: 92, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 142, 156, 162, 241, 320, 365.



Stuivende zwammen

[Apioperdon](#)

[Astraeus](#)

[Battareea](#)

[Bovista](#)

[Lycoperdon excipuliformis](#)

Chlorophyllum agaricoides

[Disciseda](#)

[Geastrum](#)

[Calvatia gigantea](#)

[Lycoperdon](#)

[Meeldauw-achtigen](#)

Montagnea

[Myriostoma](#)

Nia

[Phleogena](#)

[Pisolithus](#)

Queletia

[Scleroderma](#)

[Truffel-achtigen](#)

[Tulostoma](#)

Micro-drawings:
spores first,
then capillitium
(ca.) and basidia
(bas.).

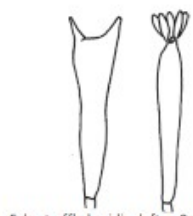
Approximate
species number
applies to
temperate
Europe.

Truffles

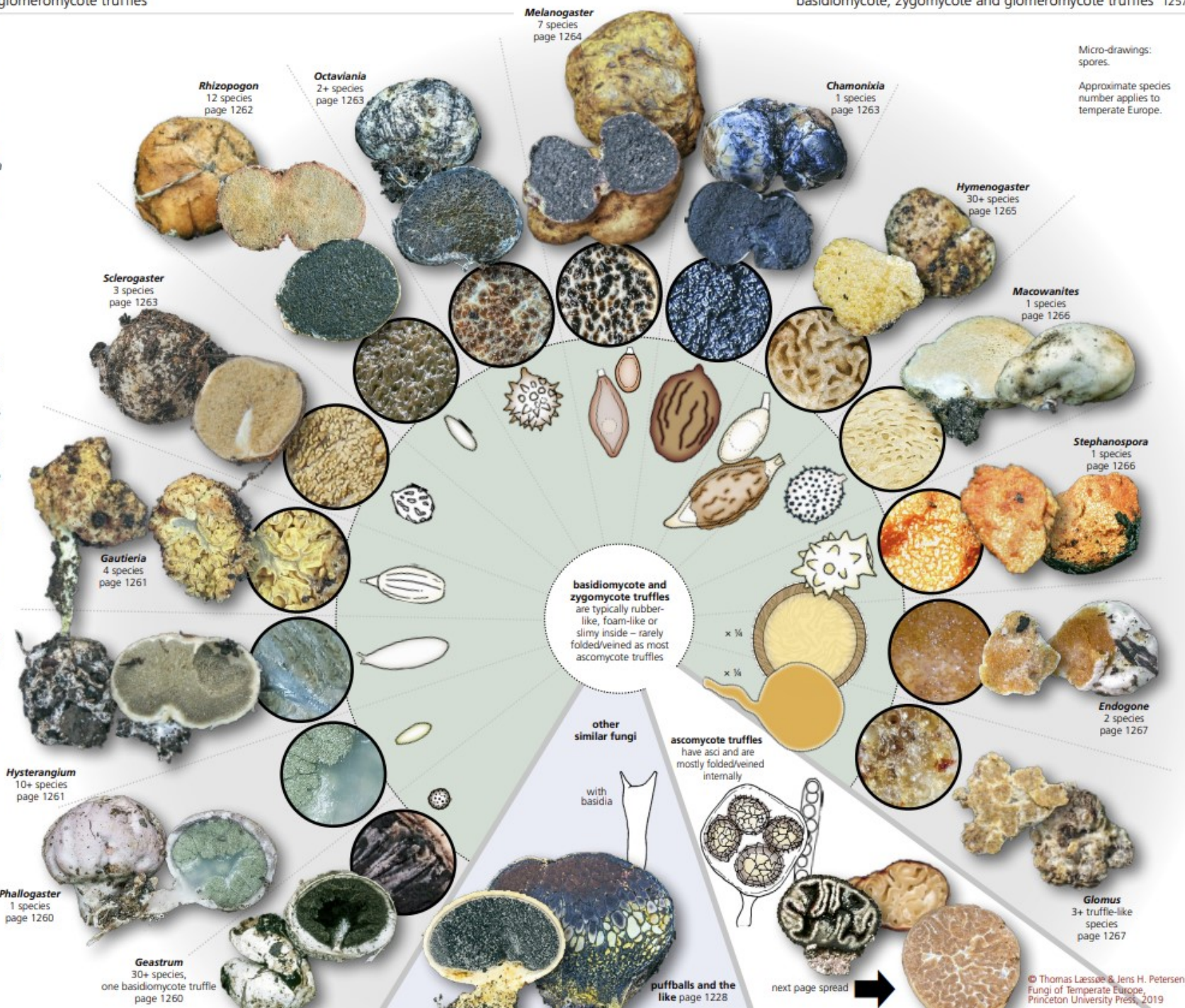
Truffles constitute a form group where the tuber-like fruitbodies are formed \pm underground (hypogaeus) and spore dispersal is passive. This strategy has arisen multiple times during the evolution of the fungal kingdom, both amongst the Ascomycota, Basidiomycota and Zygomycota and within the Glomales (A-mycorrhiza-forming fungi), where truffle-like asexual structures can be found. The fungal wheels shown here have the basidiomycote and other non-ascomycote truffles on the first page spread and the ascomycotes (the 'true truffles') on the second.

Almost all truffles are ectomycorrhizal. They are dispersed by animals, and various mammals are attracted by the pungent odours. Boar, deer, rodents, etc. dig the fruitbodies out of the soil and eat them. Some rodents hoard truffles. Spores from some of the species tolerate passage through the gut. The odours vary from species to species, and some may resemble pheromones. It is probably compounds of the latter nature that make true truffles an exclusive ingredient in fine cuisine.

The spores are formed internally and the mechanism for active release has been lost. Within the basidiomycote truffles this means that the sterigmata on the basidia and the apiculus on the spores are absent or have changed, and that the spores are typically more symmetrical than in basidiomycotes with active dispersal. Within the ascomycotes the cylindrical ascus has typically evolved into a \pm balloon-like shape without special structures, but in some species the cylindrical shape has been maintained. The ascospores tend to be extremely large (20–50 μ m).



False truffle basidia: left, a 2-spored basidium from *Hymenogaster*, right, a 6-spored basidium without sterigmata from *Hysterangium*.



Truffels basidiomycote

[Ascomycote truffels](#)

Chamonixia
Endogone
Gaetleria
[Gastrum](#)
Glomus
Hymenogaster
Macowanites
[Melanogaster](#)
[Octaviania](#)
Phallogaster
[Rhizopogon](#)
Sclerogaster
Stephanospora
[Stuivende fungi](#)

How to find truffles (truffling)

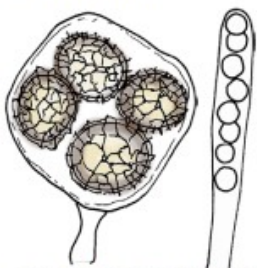
Some truffles may form fruitbodies at soil level with the top clearly visible; this is often the case with, for example, species of *Rhizopogon* and *Choiromyces*. However, as the majority form completely immersed fruitbodies in litter or rotten wood, or in soil down to 10–15 cm, sometimes deeper, they have to be dug out (e.g. with a small hand rake). Successful truffling requires a certain 'feel' for the ecology of the species. One simple prerequisite is the presence of suitable mycorrhizal partners, mainly trees and shrubs, e.g. *Corylus*, *Tilia*, *Fagus*, *Quercus* or ectomycorrhizal conifers. Relatively light, mull soils can often be rewarding to rake through, mainly in places with a warm microclimate. Rake the surface and keep an eye out for any tuberous object (alas, many will be fungal primordia, pebbles, old nuts, etc.). Some truffles form potato-sized fruitbodies, but many are small, down to the size of a pea. If you think you have found a truffle, cut it through with a sharp blade and check the internal structure with a hand lens; if veined or spongy you are in luck.

A shortcut can be taken by looking out for animal scrapes, e.g. from deer or squirrels – or, even better, train a dog!

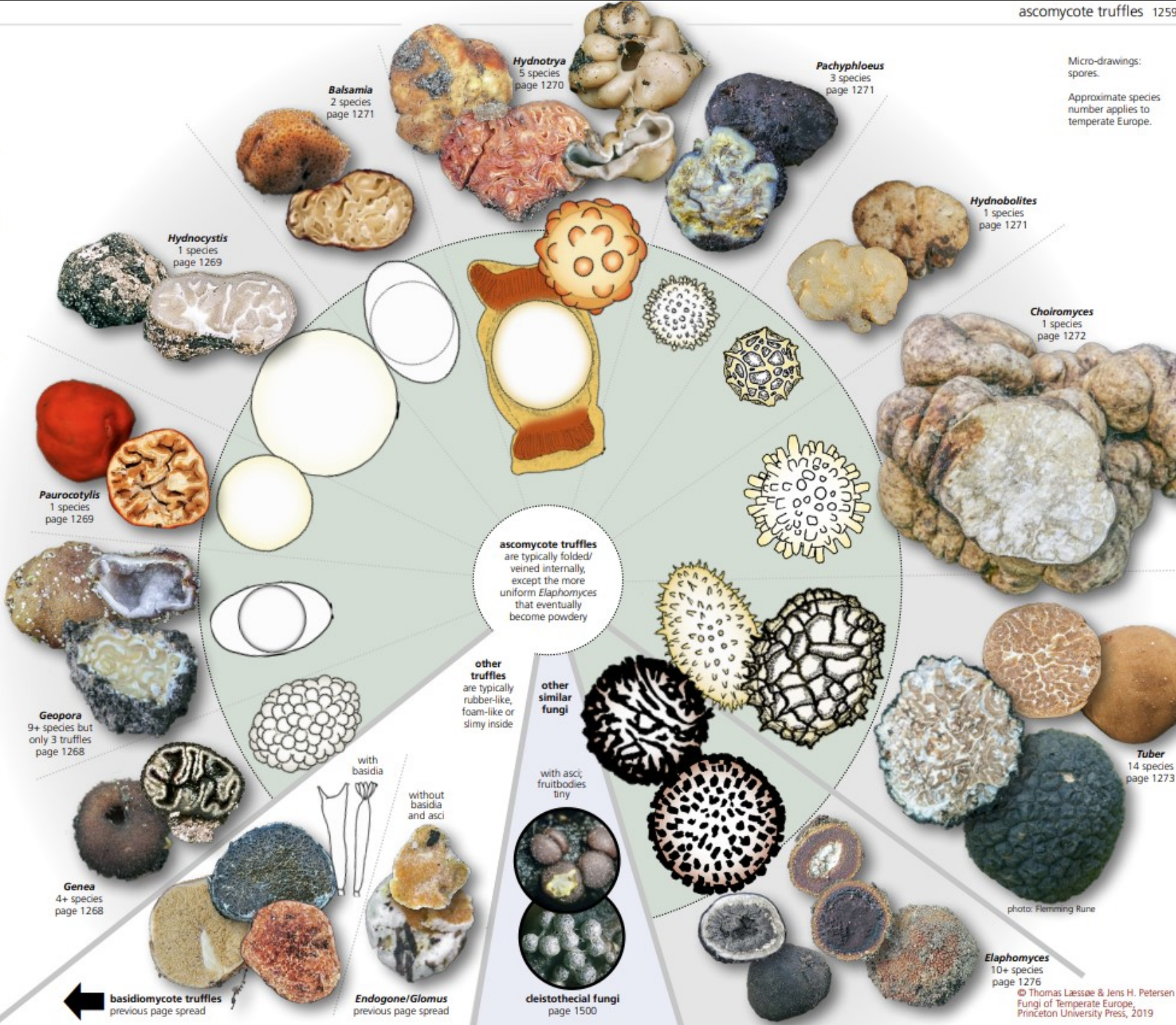
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- witch's eggs may look similar but do not grow underground (page 1222).
- puffballs and the like typically become dusty at maturity and are normally not immersed in soil (page 1228).
- cleistothecial fungi produce tiny fruitbodies with tiny asci (page 1500).

FURTHER READING: 7, 98, 163, 197, 238, 239, 240, 303, 317, 318.



Types of truffle asci: left, a balloon-shaped type from *Tuber aestivum*; right, a cylindrical ascus from *Hydnocystis*.



Micro-drawings: spores.

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Truffels ascomycote

- Balsamia
- Basidiomycote truffels
- Choiromyces
- Elaphomyces
- Endogone
- Genea
- Geopora
- Glomus
- Hydnobolites
- Hydnocystis
- Hydnotrya
- Meeldauwen
- Pachyphloeus
- Paurocotylis
- Tuber

← **basidiomycote truffels**
previous page spread

Endogone/Glomus
previous page spread

cleistothecial fungi
page 1500

Elaphomyces
10+ species
page 1276
© Thomas Laessøe & Jens H. Petersen
Fungi of Temperate Europe,
Princeton University Press, 2019



Operculate cup fungi

The operculate cup fungi are characterized by a small lid (an operculum) at the top of the asci, and all operculate species are classified in the order Pezizales. The open fruitbodies (apothecia, see page 30) have the hymenium on the surface/inner side of the cap or cup. They are often rather large and may be \pm cup-shaped, either have or lack a stem or, as in the morels, be more folded or pitted.

The hymenium is a mixture of asci and paraphyses. The spores are mostly large and may be ornamented with e.g. a raised reticulum or with warts or spines. The ends of the spores may have appendages.

Some species are ectomycorrhizal, while others are decomposers of dead organic material, e.g. dung, wood or debris. A third group is parasitic, mainly on bryophytes and hepatics.

The dung-inhabiting (coprophilous) species often produce very small fruitbodies compared to the ectomycorrhizal species. The smallest fruitbodies are found in the genera *Ascozonus*, *Coprotus* and *Thelebolus* and can be less than 0.5 mm in diameter. The species in these three genera also have aberrant asci, where the top cracks instead of opening with a lid, and are classified in an order of their own, the *Thelebolales*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– inoperculate cup fungi have asci with an internal plug-like structure or no structure at all. They are mostly smaller, typically 0.5–5 mm in diameter, and mainly occur on dead herbaceous stems, fallen leaves or dead wood. Club-shaped inoperculate cup fungi (page 1348) may resemble small morels (page 1280) and often occur on soil.

Amyloid asci with lid in a Peziza before and after spore discharge.



Bekerzwammen operculate

[Operculate bekerzwammen met wit, grijsig, violet, bruin tot zwart hymenium](#)

[Operculate bekerzwammen met geel, oranje, rood tot roze hymenium](#)

[Operculate bekerzwammen met een gevouwen, gerimpelde of puttige beker op een steel \(morieljes en gelijken\)](#)

[Inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)



Morels and the like

All species belong to the operculate cup fungi, *i.e.* Ascomycota, and have an exposed hymenium and asci that open with a lid (an operculum). All have inamyloid asci. They produce the largest fruitbodies (apothecia) within the ascomycetes – species of *Morchella* ▷ and *Gyromitra* ▷▷ can reach more than 20cm in height. The

hymenophore is often highly folded, resulting in the hymenium having a large surface area.

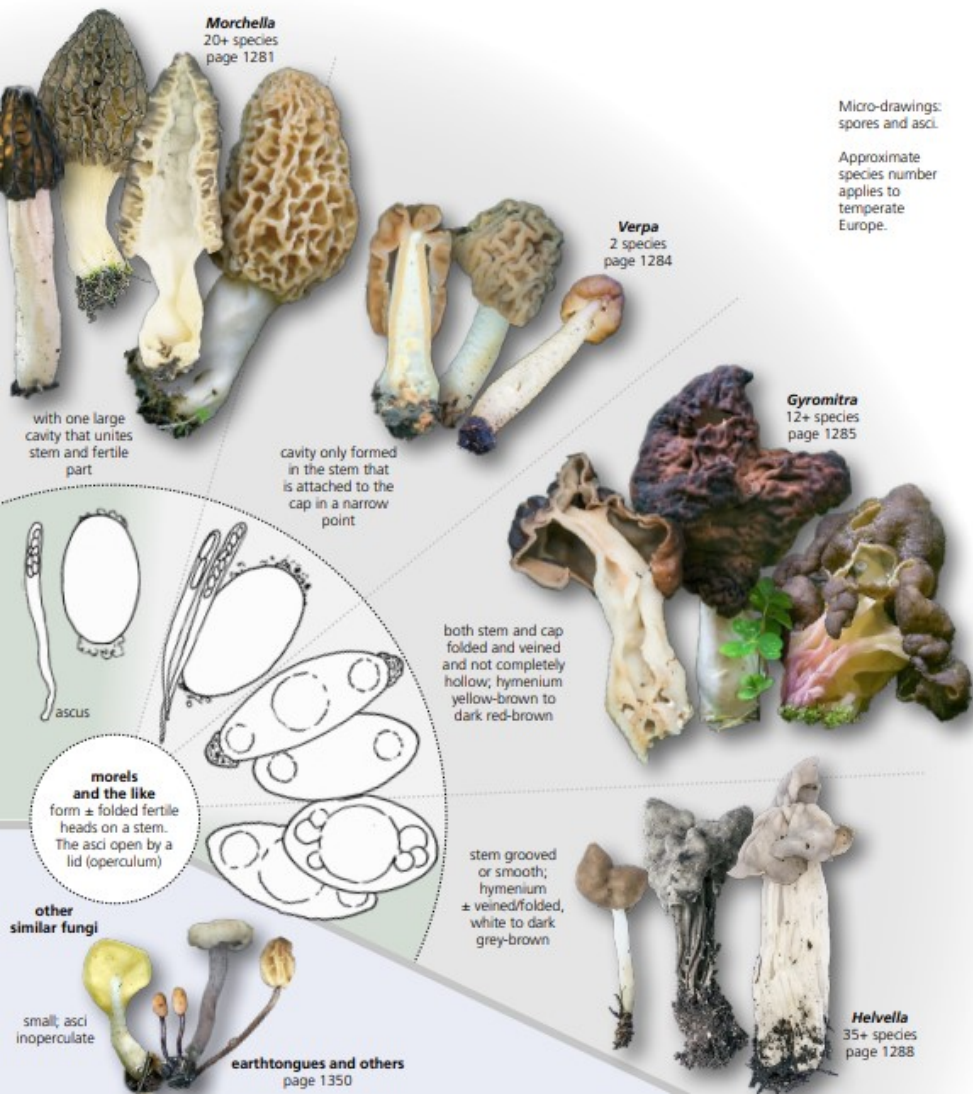
Morchella may form mycorrhizal associations with plants, *e.g.* with Rosaceae, *Ulmus* or herbs. *Gyromitra* is saprotrophic, while *Helvella* is ectomycorrhizal.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– some species in the group 'earthtongues and the like' may look similar to tiny morels. These, however, have inoperculate asci (page 1350).

See also the main wheel, page 1278.

FURTHER READING: 101, 180, 266, 301 328.



Morchella is a genus of large, operculate cup fungi with a pitted and hollow head on a hollow stem. The spores are large and smooth. The genus probably includes both mycorrhizals and saprotrophs.

•• *Morchella esculenta* is a large, at maturity ± buff *Morchella* with a hymenophore of large, rather regular honeycomb-like cells. The hollow top may be conical or almost globose, and the stem length and thickness is very variable. It has a pleasant, spicy odour. The smooth spores measure 18–22 (–27) × 12.5–14 μm, and they have numerous external drops at the poles but none internally. Occurs on rich, ± calcareous soils – often with *Ulmus*, but also found with *e.g.* *Fraxinus* and *Populus*; mycorrhizal.

Morchella esculenta is part of difficult species complex. *Morchella vulgaris* ▽ is darker with more irregular hymenophoral cells. *Morchella americana* ×, found in central Europe, was probably recently introduced from North America. *Morchella steppicola* × occurs in the steppes of Eastern Europe.

Widespread, occasional; April–June.

•• *Morchella vulgaris* is a relatively large to large, rather dark *Morchella* with a hymenophore that has a rather irregular honeycomb-like pattern of cells with thick walls. The smooth spores measure 18–22(–27) × 12.5–14 μm and have numerous external drops at the poles, but none inside. Occurs on ± calcareous soil in deciduous forests, parks, gardens and dunes, may occur with a range of partner trees, *e.g.* *Crataegus*, *Malus*, *Fraxinus* and *Sorbus*; mycorrhizal.

Morchella americana ×, which was apparently introduced to Europe from North America, is very similar and probably requires sequencing in order to confirm identification. *Morchella esculenta* Δ is typically paler and the cells in the hymenophore are more regular.

Widespread, occasional; mainly April–June.



Morieljes en gelijkenden

[Aardtong-achtigen](#)
[Gyromitra](#)
[Helvella](#)
[Morchella](#)
[Verpa](#)

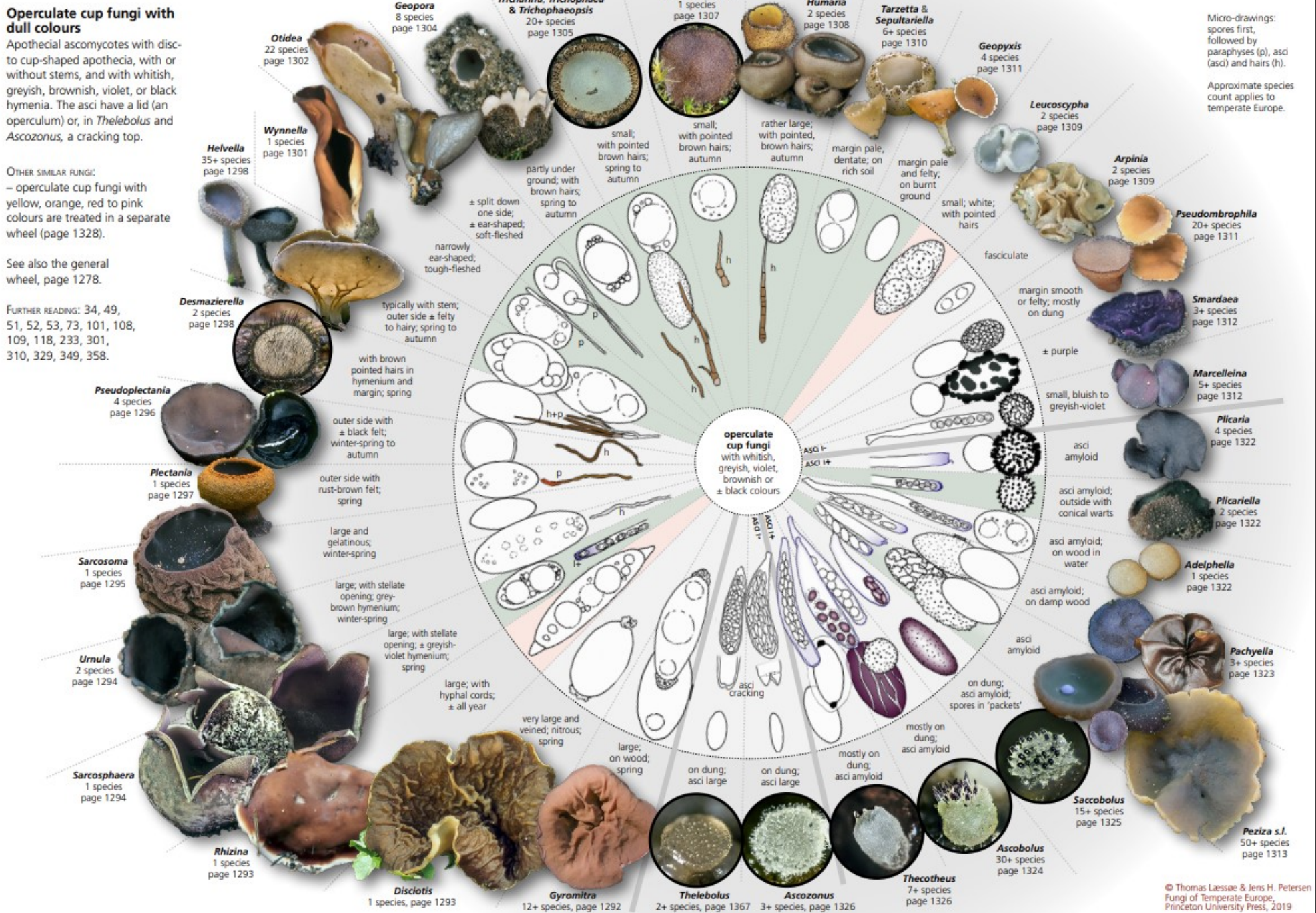
Operculate cup fungi with dull colours

Apothecial ascomycetes with disc-to cup-shaped apothecia, with or without stems, and with whitish, greyish, brownish, violet, or black hymenia. The asci have a lid (an operculum) or, in *Thelebolus* and *Ascozonus*, a cracking top.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
– operculate cup fungi with yellow, orange, red to pink colours are treated in a separate wheel (page 1328).

See also the general wheel, page 1278.

FURTHER READING: 34, 49, 51, 52, 53, 73, 101, 108, 109, 118, 233, 301, 310, 329, 349, 358.



Operculate bekerzwammen met doffe kleuren 1

- Adelphella
- Arpinia
- Ascobolus
- Ascozonus
- Desmazierella
- Disciotis
- Geopora
- Geopyxis
- Gyromitra
- Helvella
- Humaria
- Leucoscypa
- Marcelleina
- Otidea
- Pachyella
- Peziza
- Plectania
- Plicaria
- Plicariella
- Pseudombrophila
- Pseudoplectania
- Vervolg op volgende dia

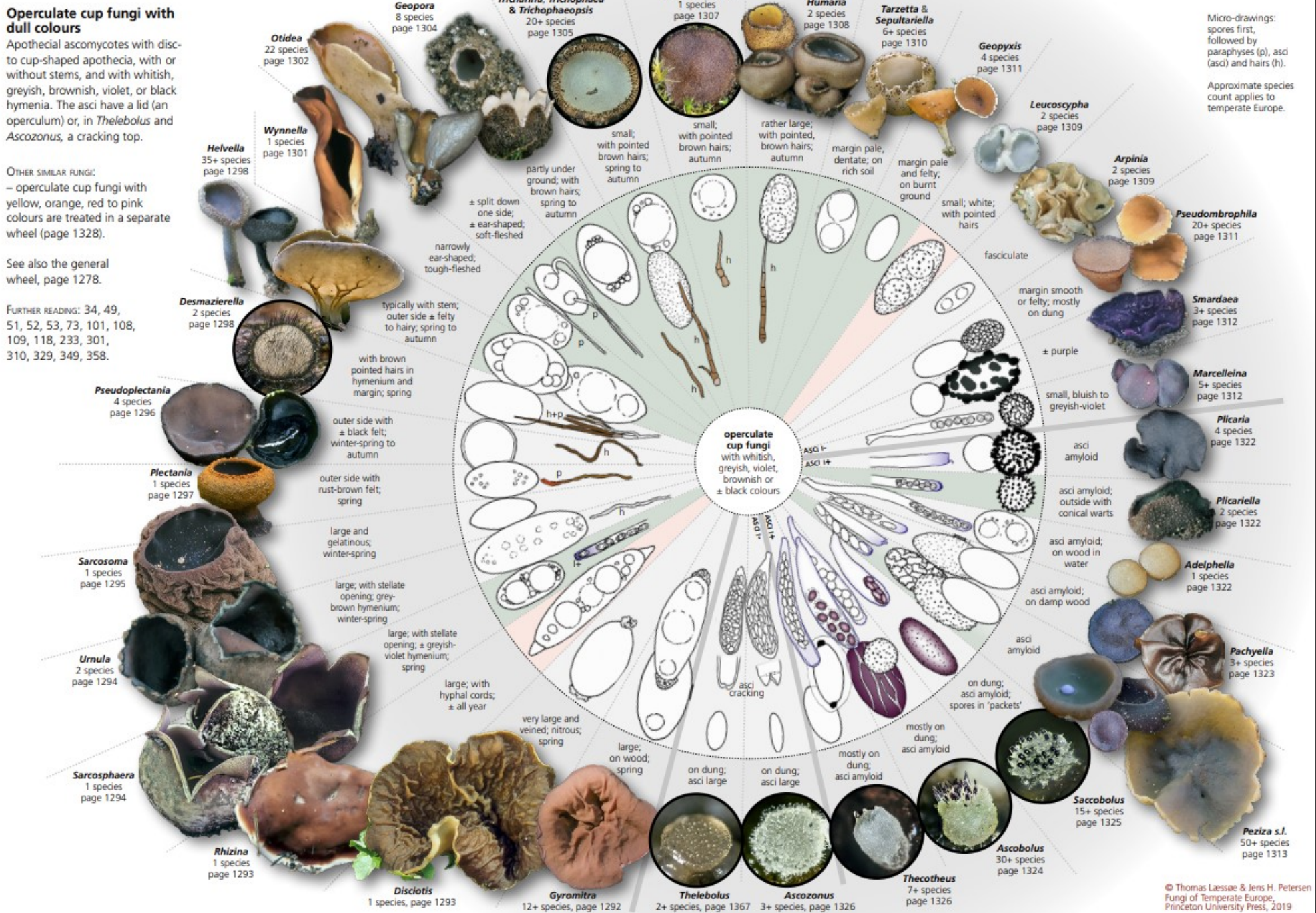
Operculate cup fungi with dull colours

Apothecial ascomycetes with disc-to cup-shaped apothecia, with or without stems, and with whitish, greyish, brownish, violet, or black hymenia. The asci have a lid (an operculum) or, in *Thelebolus* and *Ascozonus*, a cracking top.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
– operculate cup fungi with yellow, orange, red to pink colours are treated in a separate wheel (page 1328).

See also the general wheel, page 1278.

FURTHER READING: 34, 49, 51, 52, 53, 73, 101, 108, 109, 118, 233, 301, 310, 329, 349, 358.



Bekerzwammen operculate met doffe kleuren 2

- Rhizina
- Saccobolus
- Sarcosoma
- Sarcosphaera
- Sepultariella
- Smardea
- Sphaerosporella
- Tarzetia
- Thecotheus
- Thelebolus
- Tricharina
- Trichophaea
- Trichophaeopsis
- Urnula
- Wynnella

Yellow, orange, red to pink operculate cup fungi

Fungi with cup- to goblet-shaped or flattened apothecia, yellow, orange, red or pinkish hymenium, and asci with a lid (an operculum) or, in the genus *Coprotus*, with a slit-like opening mechanism. All genera, apart from *Iodophanus* and *Peziza*, have inamyloid asci.

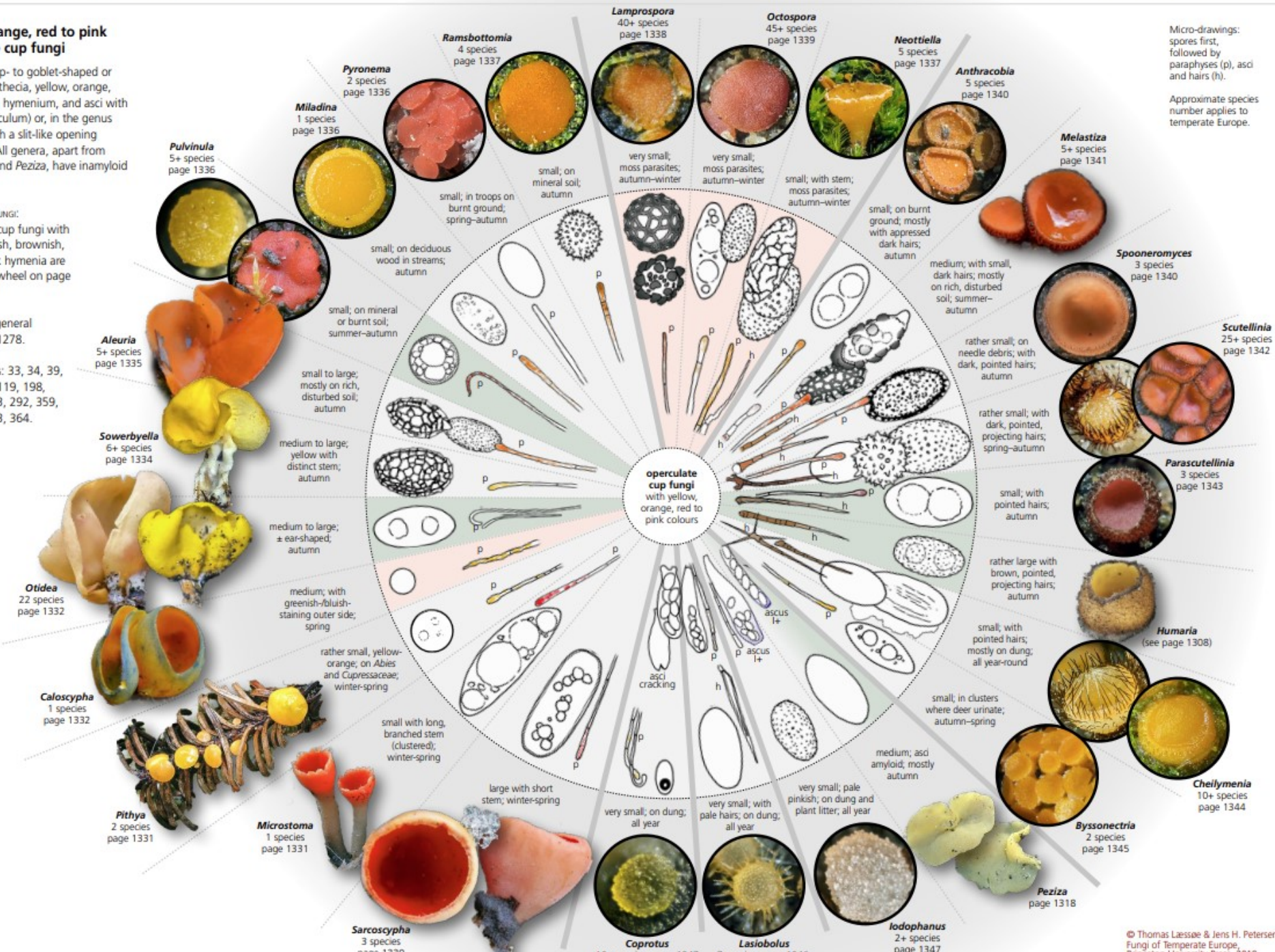
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– operculate cup fungi with whitish, greyish, brownish, violet or black hymenia are found in the wheel on page 1290.

See also the general wheel, page 1278.

FURTHER READING: 33, 34, 39, 49, 73, 101, 119, 198, 199, 200, 233, 292, 359, 360, 361, 363, 364.

Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by paraphyses (p), asci and hairs (h).
Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Bekerzwammen operculate gele, oranje tot roze

- Aleuria
- Anthracobia
- Byssonectria
- Caloscypha
- Chylomenia
- Coprotus
- Humaria
- Iodophanus
- Lamprospora
- Lasiobolus
- Melastiza
- Microstoma
- Miladina
- Neottiella
- Octospora
- Otidea
- Parascutellinia
- Peziza
- Pithya
- Pulvinula
- Pyronema
- Ramsbottomia
- Sarcoscypha
- Scutellinia
- Sowerbyella
- Spooneromyces

Inoperculate cup fungi

The inoperculate cup fungi is a form group of ascomycetes with open fruitbodies (apothecia) where spore release is mostly controlled by an inner, cork-like structure at the ascus tip. The name refers to the lack of an operculum (a lid on the top).

The apothecia are mostly small (less than 2 mm wide) and cushion- or disc-shaped to cupulate, and numerous species occur on wood or herbaceous stems. A few genera produce larger or ± club-shaped apothecia. Species in the *Sclerotiniaceae* produce apothecia from overwintered sclerotia; many of these are plant parasites.

The hymenium is in most cases made of asci and paraphyses. The spores are typically hyaline, small and smooth.

This form group is very large with nearly 300 genera and perhaps around 1,000 species in temperate Europe. The generic delimitation will undoubtedly undergo many changes in the coming years, and many more species will be described. Here we have included 139 genera with 256 species.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the operculate cup fungi have asci that open with a lid (an operculum). The fruitbodies are mostly larger and many species occur on soil or wood.
- A group of species on dung have very small apothecia (page 1278).
- the apothecial lichens may have fruitbodies that can look very similar to species in this form group, but most have obvious thalli with algae or cyanobacteria (page 1484).
- cyphelloids are small basidiomycetes with mainly downturned, cupulate or ear-shaped fruitbodies (page 1076).

asci with a: simple top; b: cylindrical apical apparatus and simple base; c: cylindrical apical apparatus and crozier at the base; d: thick-walled top.



Inoperculate bekerzwammen

[Hoge of langstelige, niet gelatineuze gladde of viltige inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)

[Lage gladde tot viltige inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)

[Inoperculate bekerzwammen verschijnend na de bast te hebben doorbroken](#)

[Grote gelatineuze inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)

[Donzige tot harige inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)

[Aardtong-achtigen Operculate bekerzwammen](#)
[Lichenen met apotheciën](#)
[Cyphella-achtigen](#)
[Asexuële fungi](#)

Earthtongues and the like

This form group includes the species of inoperculate cup fungi that have clavate, tongue-shaped, spatulate or morel-like fruitbodies.

Almost all species in the group have asci with an internal apparatus near the tip that is blown out and inverted during spore ejection. This apparatus often stains blue in iodine. The genus *Neolecta* (page 1363) deviates by having asci that split open (no apparatus) and by the lack of paraphyses among the asci.

Many species are decomposers but earthtongues, for example, possibly form biotrophic associations with plants in the same way as the hygrocyboid fungi (*Hygrocybe* and others) are thought to do (page 18).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– clavarioids may have very similar fruitbodies but are basidiomycetes, i.e. the spores form on basidia (page 1092).

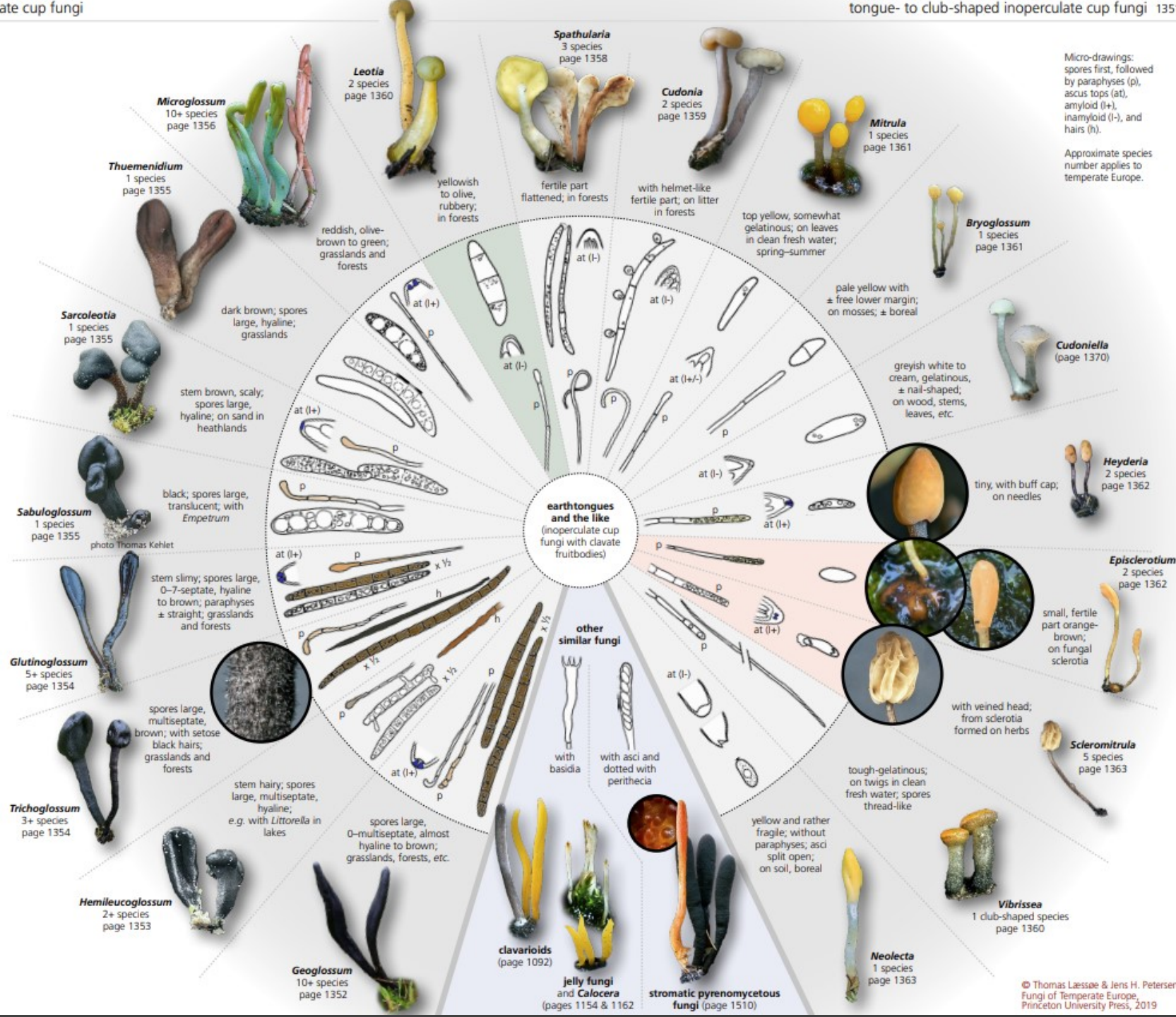
– jelly fungi and *Calocera* may be clavate in shape but are tougher and have septate or tuning fork-shaped basidia (page 1154 & 1162).

– stromatic pyrenomycetous fungi such as, for example, *Cordyceps*, *Trichoderma* and *Xylaria*, have the flesh filled with perithecia (see page 30) and the openings can be seen as small dots on the surface (page 1510).

– long-stemmed inoperculate cup fungi have a rather well-defined disc with hymenium (page 1404).

See also the general wheel, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 14, 21, 49, 101, 166, 167, 168, 277.



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by paraphyses (p), ascus tops (at), amyloid (+), inamyloid (-), and hairs (h).

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Aardtongen en gelijkenden

- Bryoglossum
- Camocera
- [Clavaria-achtigen](#)
- Cudonia
- Cudoniella
- Episclerotium
- [Geoglossum](#)
- [Hemileucoglossum](#)
- Heyderia
- Leotia
- [Microglossum](#)
- Mitrula
- Neolecta
- [Sabuloglossum](#)
- [Sarcoleotia](#)
- Scleromitrla
- Spathularia
- [Stromatische pyrenomyceten](#)
- Thuemenidium
- [Trichoglossum](#)
- [Trilzwammen](#)
- Vibrissea

Downy to hairy inoperculate cup fungi

This form group of small inoperculate cup fungi has the outer side, and especially the margin, covered by projecting hairs. They are mainly decomposers and occur predominantly on herbaceous stems, fallen leaves, cones and wood.

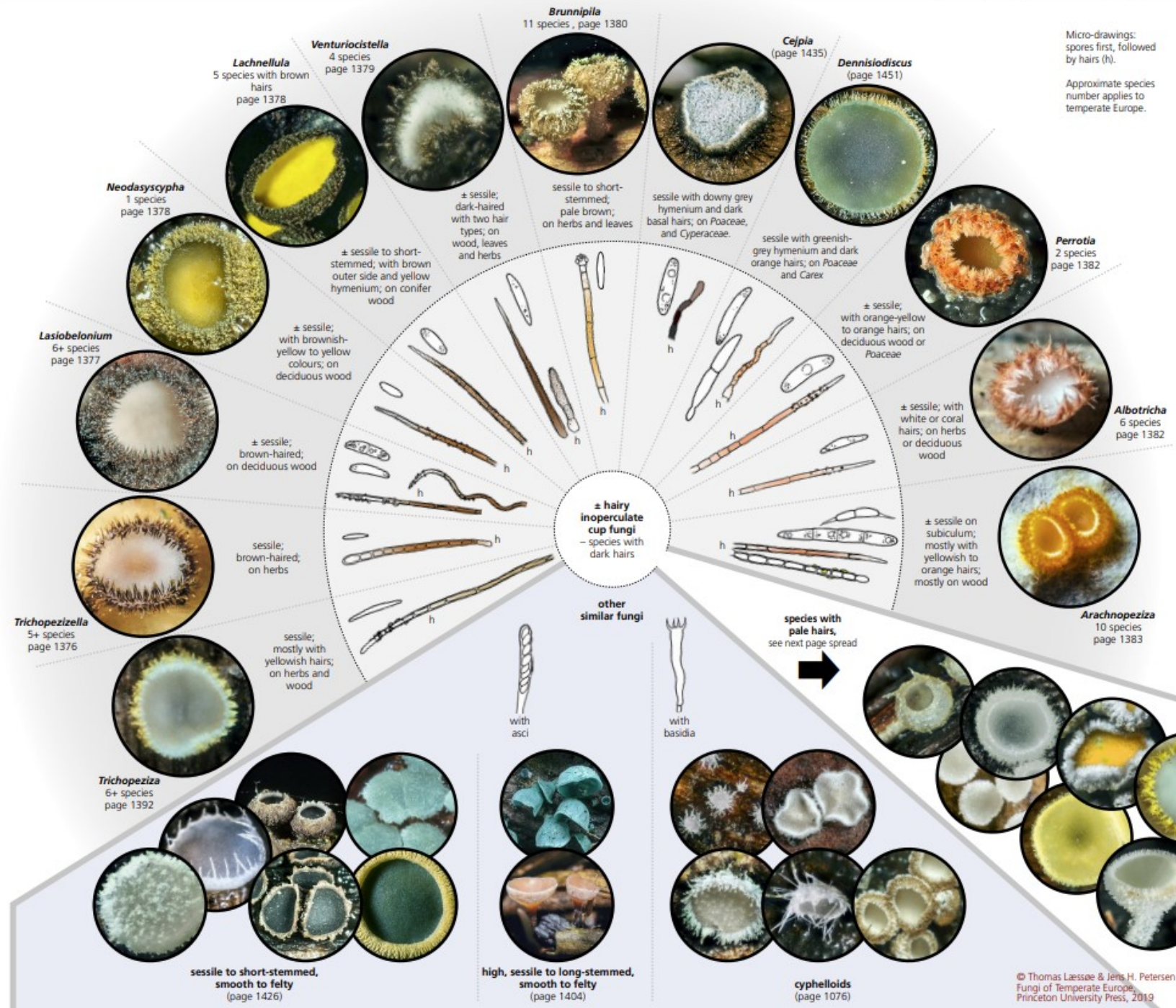
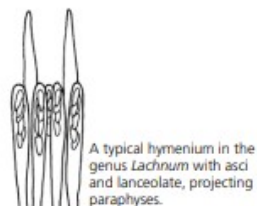
The group contains many genera, and the appearance of the hairs (the shape, size, colour, crystal-covering, guttulation, etc.) is a very important distinguishing character. Some of the more distinctive species can be recognized in the field, but identification mostly requires the use of a microscope.

The majority of the species are classified within the *Hyaloscypha*aceae, and many have long paraphyses with lanceolate or tapering tips that project above the asci (see figure below).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

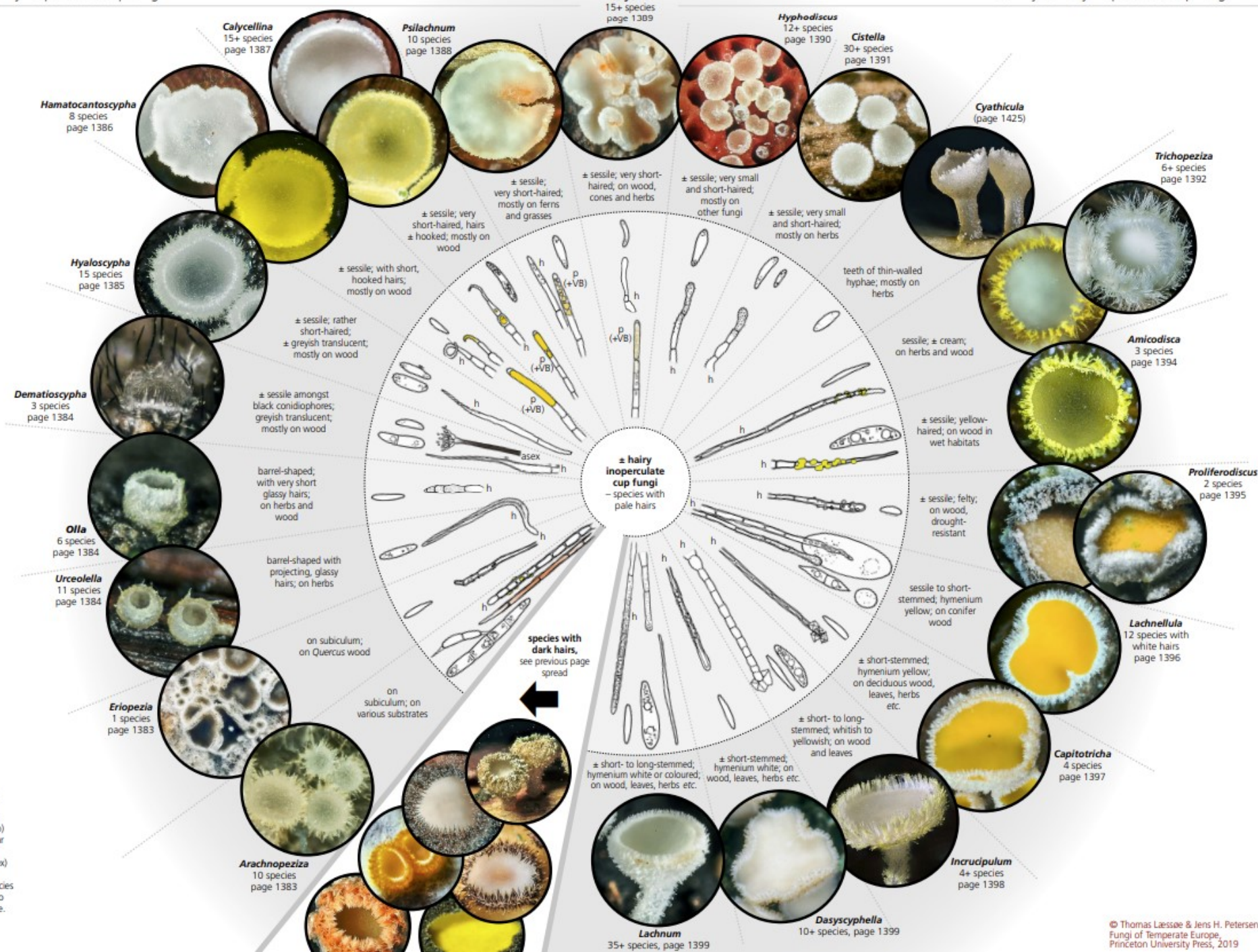
– cyphelloid fungi (page 1076) have small, hanging fruitbodies. They are *basidiomycetes* and can be recognized by their basidia and spore morphology – the spores having a small appendage (apiculus) where they were attached to the sterigmata. They are often not as elegant as the hairy inoperculate cup fungi and the hairs are more disorderly. – some other inoperculate cup fungi have hairs but they are short and adpressed, making the apothecia look feltly rather than hairy (a hand lens or dissecting microscope is required) – see the general wheel to the inoperculate cup fungi, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 21, 22, 23, 49, 78, 101, 115, 116, 160, 253, 319.



Bekerzwammen inoperculate donzige tot harige met donkere haren

Albotricha
Arachnopeziza
Brunnipila
[Cyphella-achtigen](#)
Cejpia
Denisiodiscus
[Hoge, zittende tot langstelige
gladde tot viltige bekerzwammen](#)
Lachnellula
Lasiobelonium
Neodasyscypha
Perrotia
[Soorten met bleke haren](#)
Trichopeziza
Trichopezizella
Venturiocistella
[Zittende tot kortstelige gladde
tot viltige bekerzwammen](#)



Bekerzwammen inoperculate donzige tot harige met bleke haren

- Amicodisca
- Arachnopeziza
- Calycellina
- Calycina
- Capitotricha
- Cistella
- Cyathicula
- Dascycyphella
- Dematiocypha
- Eriopezia
- Hamatocanthocypha
- Hyalocypha
- Hyphodiscus
- Incrucipulum
- Lachnellula
- Lachnum
- Olla
- Proliferodiscus
- Psilachnum
- [Soorten met donkere haren](#)
- Trichopeziza
- Urceolella

High or long-stemmed, smooth to felty inoperculate cup fungi

A form group of non-gelatinous to slightly gelatinous, distinctly long-stemmed inoperculate cup fungi or, if short-stemmed, growing to 2 mm or more above the substrate. The outer side is smooth to felty but does not have projecting hyphal hairs. A few species have teeth at the margin of the apothecia made up of aggregations of hyphae. Some species form apothecia from sclerotia.

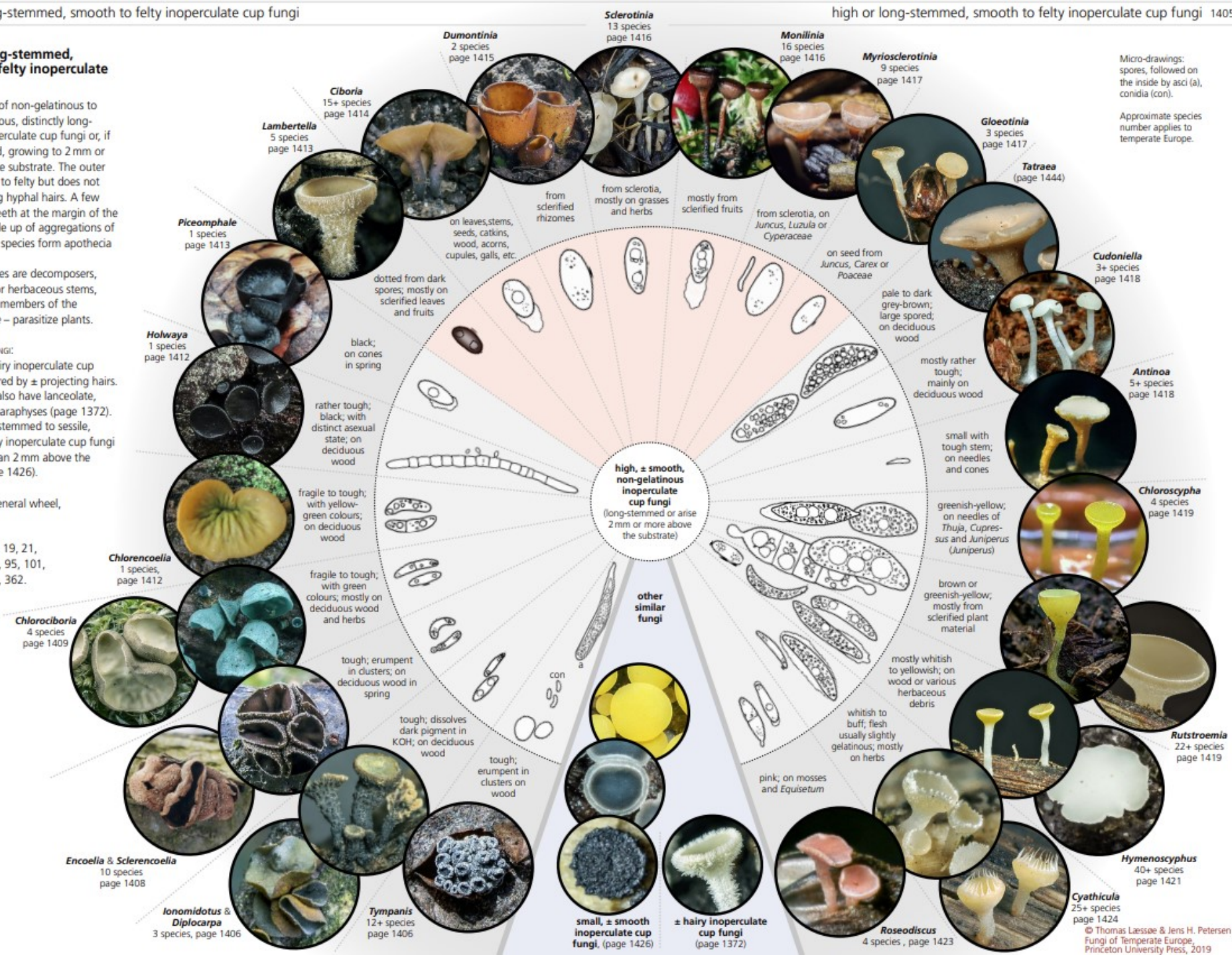
Some species are decomposers, e.g. of wood or herbaceous stems, while others – members of the *Sclerotiniaceae* – parasitize plants.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– downy to hairy inoperculate cup fungi are covered by ± projecting hairs. Many species also have lanceolate, ± projecting paraphyses (page 1372).
 – small, short-stemmed to sessile, smooth to felty inoperculate cup fungi arise to less than 2 mm above the substrate (page 1426).

See also the general wheel, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 19, 21, 49, 59, 72, 78, 95, 101, 252, 267, 354, 362.



Micro-drawings: spores, followed on the inside by asci (a), conidia (con).
 Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Bekerzwammen inoperculate hoge of langstelige, gladde tot viltige

- Antinoa
- Chlorencoelia
- Chloroscypha
- Chlorociboria
- Ciboria
- Cudoniella
- Cyathicula
- Diplocarpa
- Dumontinia
- Encoelia
- Gloeotinia
- [Harige inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
- Holwaya
- Hymenoscyphus
- [Kleine gladde inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
- Ionomidotus
- Lambertella
- Monillinea
- Myriosclerotinia
- Piceomphale
- Roseodiscus
- Rutstroemia
- Sclerencoelia
- Sclerotinia
- Tatraea
- Tympanis



Low, smooth to felty inoperculate cup fungi

This group includes sessile to very short-stemmed, less than 2 mm high, inoperculate cup fungi with an outer side and margin that is smooth to felty or rarely toothed, but which never has projecting, hyphal hairs. Large genera in the group include *Mollisia* and *Orbilia*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- long-stemmed or high (growing to 2 mm or more above the substrate), ± smooth inoperculate cup fungi (page 1404).
- downy to hairy inoperculate cup fungi may be sessile to long-stemmed but have ± projecting hairs. Many species also have lanceolate, ± projecting paraphyses (page 1372).
- erumpent inoperculate cup fungi are typically ± immersed in the substrate from where the apothecia emerge by splitting the substrate or by pushing a lid aside. The fruitbodies can often close again during dry spells and reopen when wetted (page 1468).

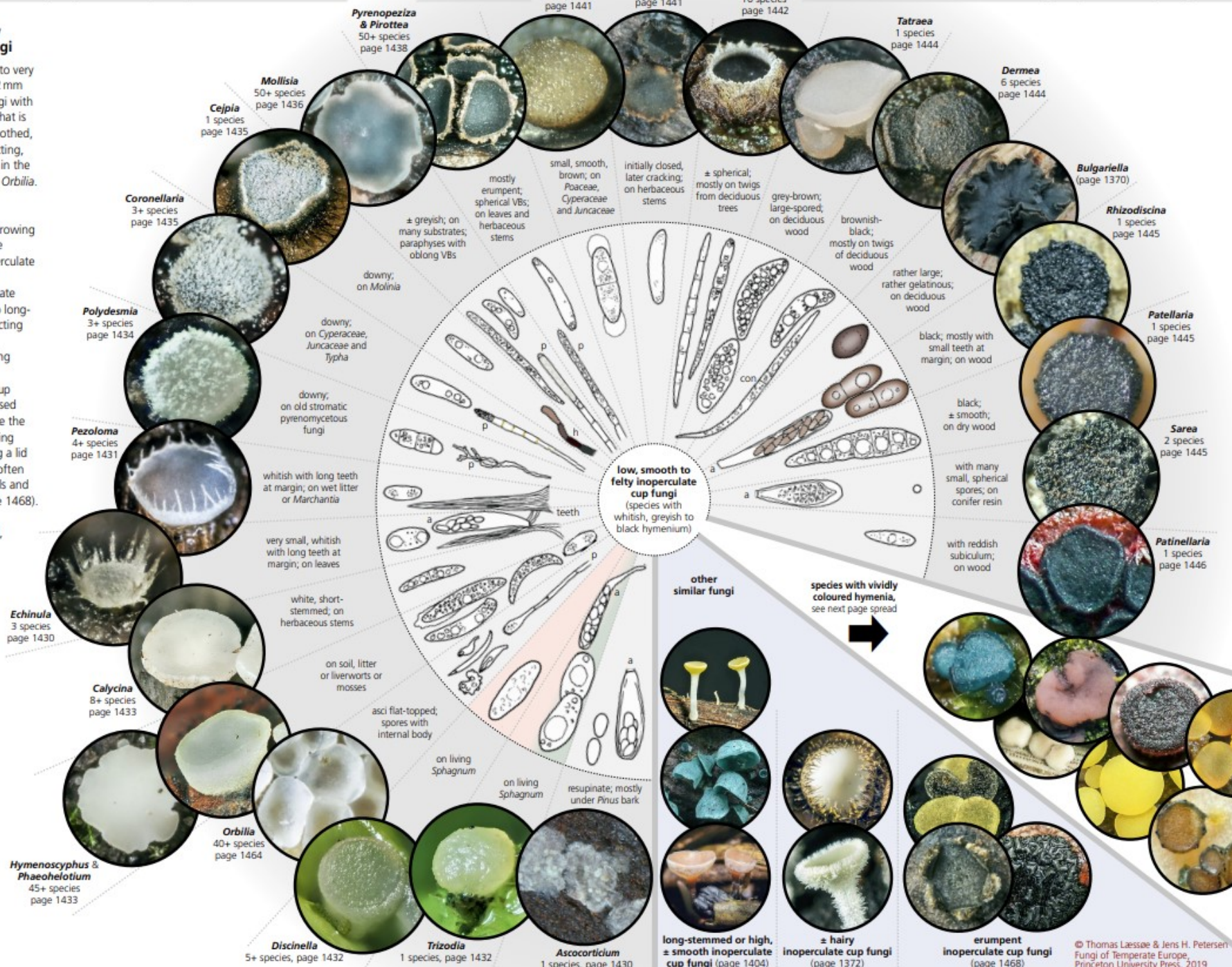
See also the general wheel, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 20, 21, 49, 78, 79, 153, 177, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 216, 286, 291, 334.

Continued on next page spread . . .

Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by paraphyses (p) possibly with refractive vacuolar bodies (VBs), conidia (con) and asci (a).

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Bekerzwammen
inoperculate lage
gladde tot viltige met
wit, grijs of zwart
hymenium 1

- Ascocorticium
- Bulgariella
- Calycina
- Cejpia
- Coronellaria
- Dermea
- Discinella
- Echinula
- Godronia
- [Harige inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
- Heterosphaeria
- Hymenoscyphus
- [Langstelige of hoge gladde inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
- Mollisia
- Niptera
- Orbilia
- [Vervolg op volgende dia](#)

Low, smooth to felty inoperculate cup fungi

This group includes sessile to very short-stemmed, less than 2 mm high, inoperculate cup fungi with an outer side and margin that is smooth to felty or rarely toothed, but which never has projecting, hyphal hairs. Large genera in the group include *Mollisia* and *Orbilia*.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- long-stemmed or high (growing to 2 mm or more above the substrate), ± smooth inoperculate cup fungi (page 1404).
- downy to hairy inoperculate cup fungi may be sessile to long-stemmed but have ± projecting hairs. Many species also have lanceolate, ± projecting paraphyses (page 1372).
- erumpent inoperculate cup fungi are typically ± immersed in the substrate from where the apothecia emerge by splitting the substrate or by pushing a lid aside. The fruitbodies can often close again during dry spells and reopen when wetted (page 1468).

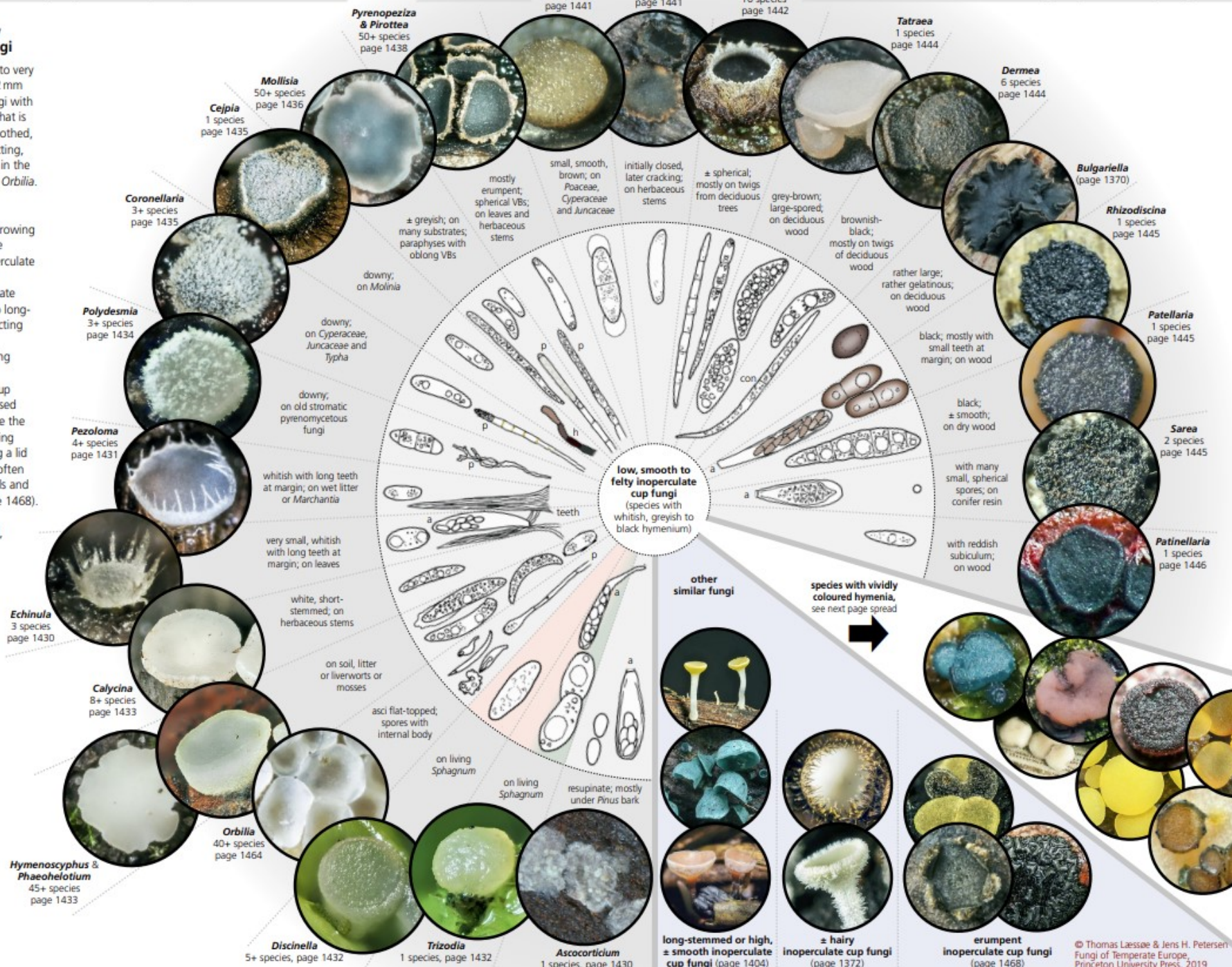
See also the general wheel, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 20, 21, 49, 78, 79, 153, 177, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 216, 286, 291, 334.

Continued on next page spread . . .

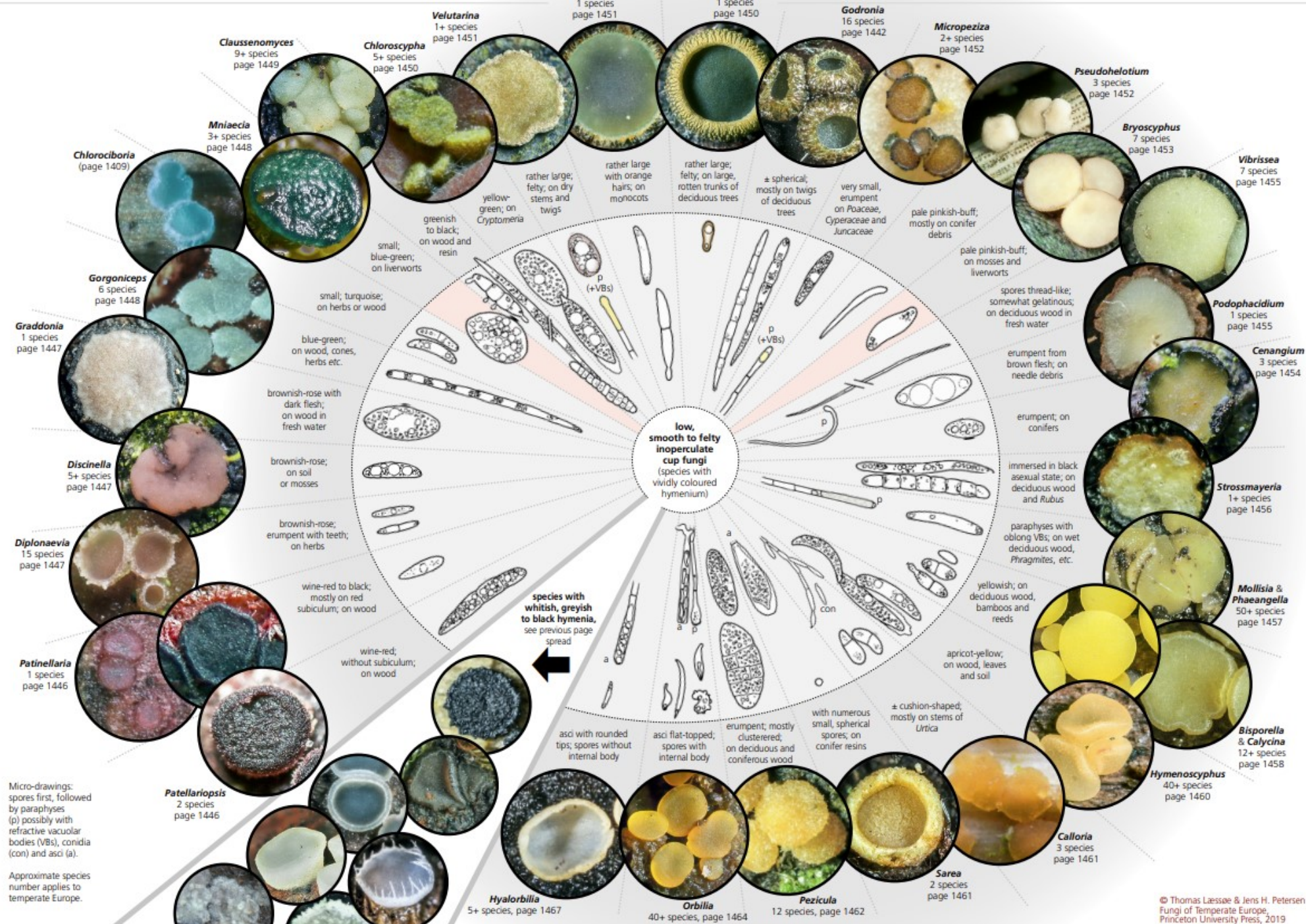
Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by paraphyses (p) possibly with refractive vacuolar bodies (VBs), conidia (con) and asci (a).

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Lage gladde tot viltige inoperculate bekerzwammen met wit, grijs of zwart hymenium 2

- Patellaria
- Patinellaria
- Pezoloma
- Phaeohelotium
- Pirottea
- Polydesmia
- Pyrenopeziza
- Rhizodiscina
- Sarea
- [Schorsdoorbrekende inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
- [Soorten met levendig gekleurd hymenium](#)
- Tatraea
- Trizodia



Bekerzwammen inoperculate lage gladde tot viltige met levendig gekleurd hymenium 1

- Bisporella
- Bryoscyphus
- Calycina
- Calloria
- Catinella
- Cenangium
- Chlorociboria
- Chlorocypha
- Claussenomyces
- Dennisiodiscus
- Diplonaevia
- Discinella
- Godronia
- Gorgoniceps
- Graddonia
- Hyalorbilia
- Hymenoscyphus
- Micropeziza
- Mniaecia
- Mollisia
- Orbilia

Vervolg op volgende dia

Erumpent inoperculate cup fungi

A form group of inoperculate cup fungi that develop fruitbodies (apothecia) within the substrate (typically in stems, leaves or wood). At maturity the apothecia breaks through the surface (erumpent). They may be disc-shaped or elongated and are often surrounded by torn parts of host tissue, which is sometimes evident as distinct teeth or 'lips'. The teeth may involve both host and fungus tissue. Many species have a black, almost carbonous outer side.

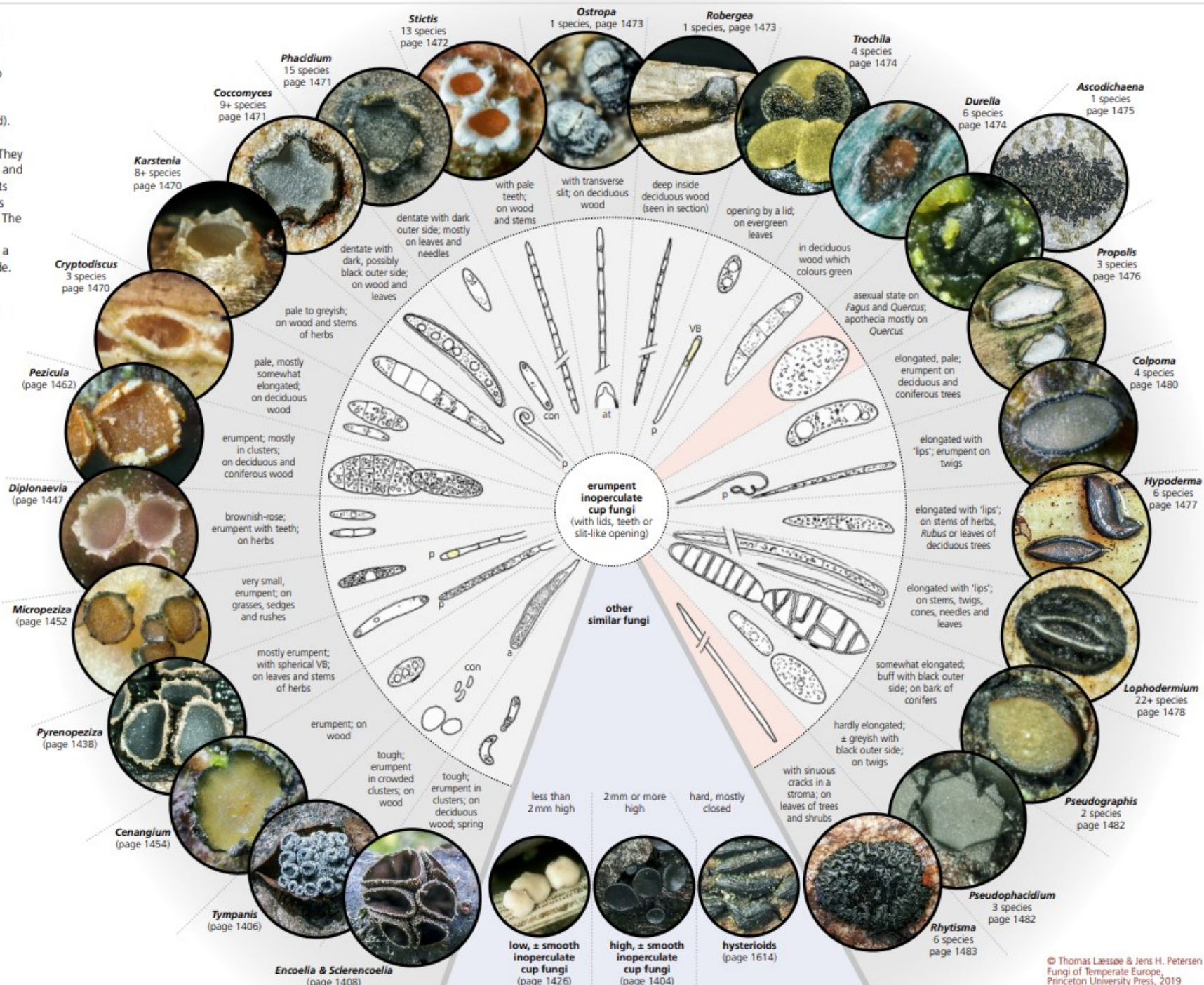
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
 – grades into the sessile, smooth inoperculate cup fungi (page 1426).
 – some large, inoperculate cup fungi are also erumpent, but form higher fruitbodies (page 1404).
 – hysteroids have a slit-like opening but are hard and the hymenium is rarely exposed (page 1614).

See also the general wheel, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 18, 21, 49, 78, 139, 215, 297, 298.

Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by conidia (con), paraphyses (p), refractive vacuolar bodies (VB), asci (a) and ascus tops (at)

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Bekerzwammen inoperculate bastdoorbrekende 1

Ascodichaena
 Ascodichaena
 Cenangium
 Coccomyces
 Colpoma
 Cryptodiscus
 Diplonaevia
 Durella
 Encoelia
[Hoge ± gladde inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
 Hypoderma
[Hysterioide pyrenomyceten](#)
 Karstenia
[Lage ± gladde inoperculate bekerzwammen](#)
 Lophodermium
 Micropeziza
 Ostropa
[Vervolg op volgende dia](#)

Erumpent inoperculate cup fungi

A form group of inoperculate cup fungi that develop fruitbodies (apothecia) within the substrate (typically in stems, leaves or wood). At maturity the apothecia breaks through the surface (erumpent). They may be disc-shaped or elongated and are often surrounded by torn parts of host tissue, which is sometimes evident as distinct teeth or 'lips'. The teeth may involve both host and fungus tissue. Many species have a black, almost carbonous outer side.

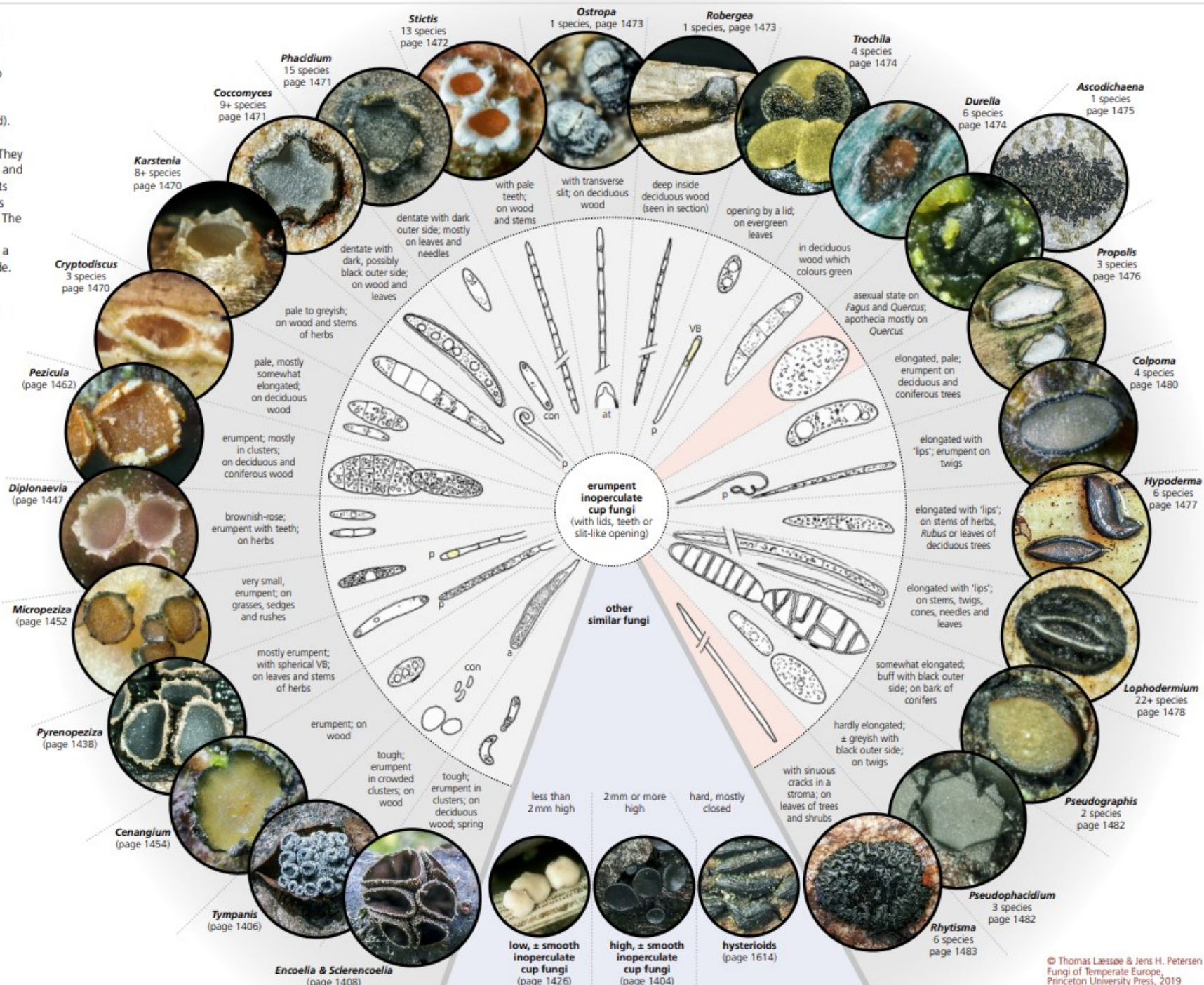
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
 - grades into the sessile, smooth inoperculate cup fungi (page 1426).
 - some large, inoperculate cup fungi are also erumpent, but form higher fruitbodies (page 1404).
 - hysterioids have a slit-like opening but are hard and the hymenium is rarely exposed (page 1614).

See also the general wheel, page 1348.

FURTHER READING: 18, 21, 49, 78, 139, 215, 297, 298.

Micro-drawings: spores first, followed by conidia (con), paraphyses (p), refractive vacuolar bodies (VB), asci (a) and ascus tops (at)

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Bastdoorbrekende inoperculate bekerzwammen 2

- Pezizula
- Phacidium
- Stictis
- Robergea
- Trochila
- Propolis
- Pseudographis
- Pseudophacidium
- Rhytisma
- Sclerencoelia
- Tympanis
- Pyrenopeziza

Lichens

Lichenized fungi live in a mutualistic symbiosis with green algae and/or cyanobacteria that are able to perform photosynthesis. The algae/cyanobacteria (called the photobiont) provide the fungus with sugars and the fungus affords shelter for the photobiont in the form of a \pm well-developed thallus (see page 19). Most species are perennial and slow growing.

Lecanoralean lichens are by far the largest group of lichens, with more than 1,500 species in temperate Europe. They are traditionally studied by lichenologists and are only briefly introduced on the following pages. When sexual, the lecanoralean lichens produce apothecia on a flattened, clavate or branched thallus. They have thick-walled asci with amyloid walls.

The **calicioid lichens** constitute an aberrant group that form tiny fruitbodies with a dusty spore mass on the top of a small stem (page 1494).

Pyrenolichens form perithecioid fruitbodies and belong to the bitunicate, pyrenomycetous fungi, pages 1615 and 1545.

Basidiolichens are lichenized basidiomycetes. They may be agarics, clavarioids or (in warmer climates) corticioids (pages 130 & 1114).

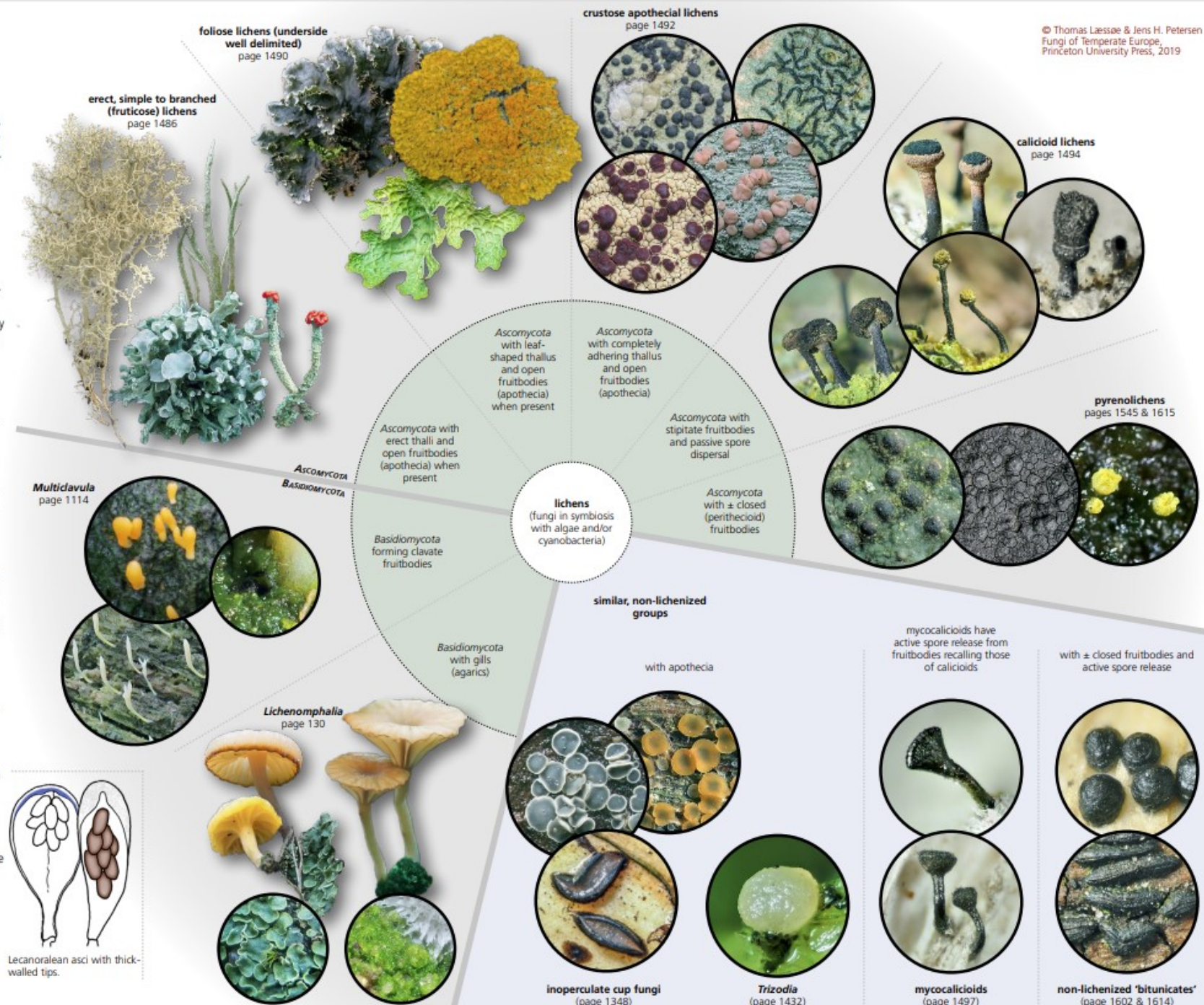
The most frequent photobiont is the green alga *Trebouxia*, more rarely e.g. the yellowish-green alga *Trentepohlia*. *Nostoc*, a genus of cyanobacteria, can also act or co-act as the photobiont, and can benefit the symbiosis by fixing nitrogen from the atmosphere.

Identification of lichens normally involves the use of a series of chemical characters but these are not covered here.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- the inoperculate cup fungi have similar, small, discoid fruitbodies but usually much simpler asci (page 1348).
- *Trizodia* has a not fully understood symbiosis with *Sphagnum* and cyanobacteria (page 1432).
- mycocalicioids recall the calicioids but are not lichenized (page 1497)
- 'bitunicates' and hysterioids may recall crustose (crust-like) lichens (page 1602 & 1614).

FURTHER READING: 302, 316, 355.



Lichenen

Lichenomphalia



Calicioids and mycocalicioids

Calicioids and mycocalicioid fungi are two groups of distantly related ascomycetes with very similar, tiny, pin-shaped fruitbodies. In some species the spores are deposited in a powdery column on the top and passively dispersed. The calicioids live in a mutualistic symbiosis with green

algae such as *Trebouxia*, *Stichococcus*, *Dictyochloropsis* and *Trentepolia*; the mycocalicioid fungi are decomposers.

Many species can be found on old, sun-exposed wood, but the small fruitbodies are easily overlooked; they are best found by using the sky as a background when inspecting potential substrates.

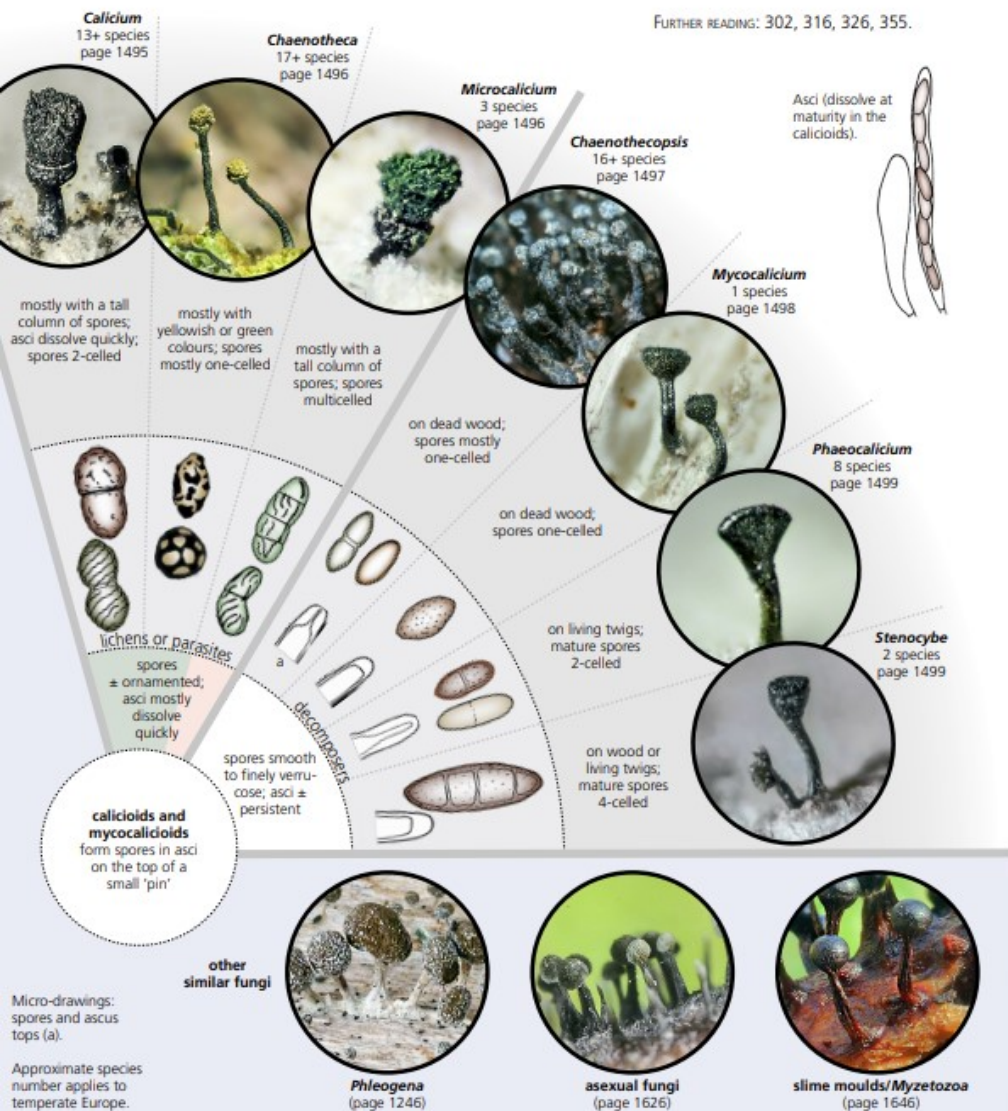
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI

– *Phleogena* has larger fruitbodies; it is a basidiomycote with transversely divided basidia (page 1246).

– asexual fungi may form very similar structures (page 1626).

– many slime moulds may look similar but they are often larger and may have spores in a thread-like capillitium (page 1646).

FURTHER READING: 302, 316, 326, 355.



Calicium form very small, stipitate fruitbodies with a widened head, the top of which is powdery from a thick, dark spore mass. Thalli are either superficial or partly immersed in the substrate. Asci dissolve quickly; spores 2-celled, thick-walled and usually ornamented. Lichenized with green algae belonging to the genus *Trebouxia*. Typically on sun-exposed bark and wood.

Calicium viride is a calicioid with a finely grainy, yellow-green thallus. The fruitbodies have rather long, black stems and a convex, black spore mass on the top. The lower side of the head may be ± brown and finely powdery. Asci clavate. Spores dark brown, 2-celled, have a ± regular to irregularly spiralling pattern, and measure 12–14 × 6–7 μm. The algal partner (photobiont) is a *Trebouxia*. Occurs mostly on dry bark and wood, both deciduous and coniferous; mostly in a sterile version. It is rather pollution tolerant.

Calicium salicinum ∇ usually has an immersed thallus, browner fruitbodies, cylindrical asci and smaller spores; *C. glaucellum* ▷▷ has small, dark and very open fruitbodies. Widespread, common to occasional; all year.

Calicium salicinum is a calicioid with an almost invisible, ± immersed thallus, fruitbodies with a brown, almost globose head topped with a black spore mass, and stems that are black towards the base. Asci cylindrical. The spores are 2-celled, black, have a spiralling or irregularly cracking pattern and measure 8–11 × 3.5–4.5 μm. The photobiont is a *Trebouxia*. Occurs on dry bark and wood.

Calicium viride Δ has a superficial, yellow-green thallus, clavate asci, larger spores and less brown powder on the outside of the head.

Widespread, common to occasional; all year.



Calicioide & Mycocalicioide fungi

Asexuele fungi

Calicium
Chaenotheca
Chaenothecopsis
Microcalicium
Mycocalicium
Phaeocalicium
Stenocybe
Myxomyceten
Phleogena

Mildews and cleistothelial fungi

Two form groups of ascomycotes with spherical fruitbodies are included here: the mildews (*Erysiphales*), which crack open at maturity and disperse spores actively; and the cleistothelial fungi, which do not open at maturity but decay and disperse the spores passively. In both groups the fruitbodies are very small and may act as dispersal units. To this end, many have a surface with branched or hooked appendages that may attach to passing animals, etc.

The mildews are biotrophic plant parasites that form whitish coverings of mycelia on stems, leaves and twigs, from which haustoria can penetrate the living plant tissues (see page 16). The mealy hyphal covering also produces asexual, wind-disseminated conidia. As leaves get older (typically in the autumn), mildews often switch to producing tiny fruitbodies (chasmothecia) that overwinter and crack open when new leaves are available for infection.

The cleistothelial fungi are decomposers of organic material. The genera *Aphanoascus*, *Arthroderma*, *Gymnoascus* and *Onygena* (*Eurotiomycetidae*) are specialists in degrading keratin (hair, horn, etc.). Many have prominent asexual states, but they may also produce tiny spherical fruitbodies (cleistothecia, see page 30) with \pm globose asci; the spores are released passively as the ascus walls and fruitbodies dissolve/decay.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

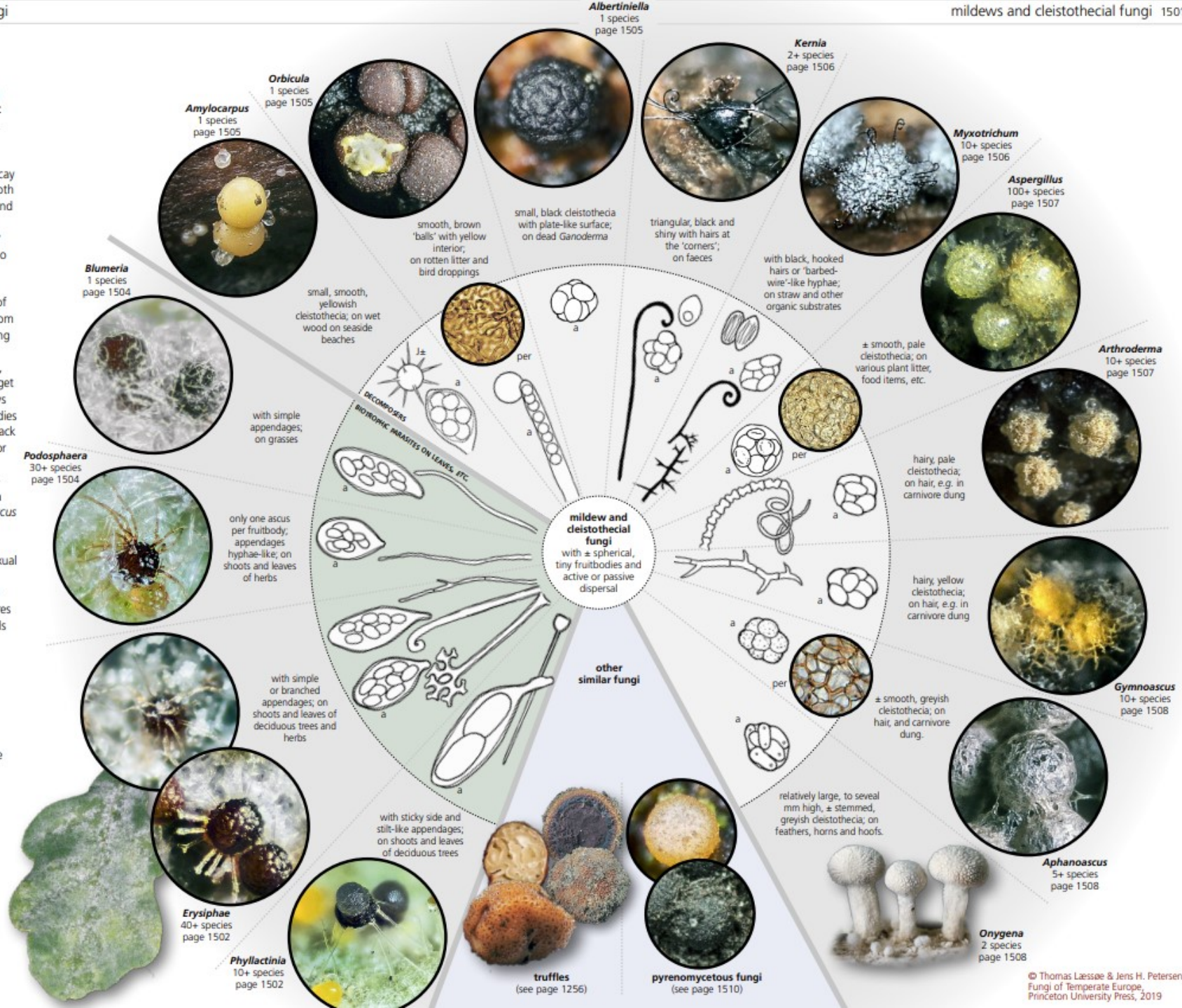
– pyrenomycetous fungi may have an almost invisible opening (ostiole), see page 1510.

– truffles are \pm spherical and decay at maturity but are much larger, see page 1256.

FURTHER READING: 35, 47, 68, 72, 73, 78, 79, 80, 164, 188.

Micro-drawings: outermost asci (a) and sometimes spores followed by peridial appendages. Three inset images depict peridia, as seen in a compound microscope (per).

Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.



Meeldauwen

Albertiniella
Amylocarpus
Aphanoascus
Arthroderma
Aspergillus
Blumeria
Erysiphae
Gymnoascus
Kernia
Myxotrichum
Onygena
Orbicula
Phyllactinia
Podosphaera
[Pyromyceten](#)
[Truffel-achtigen](#)

Pyrenomycetous fungi

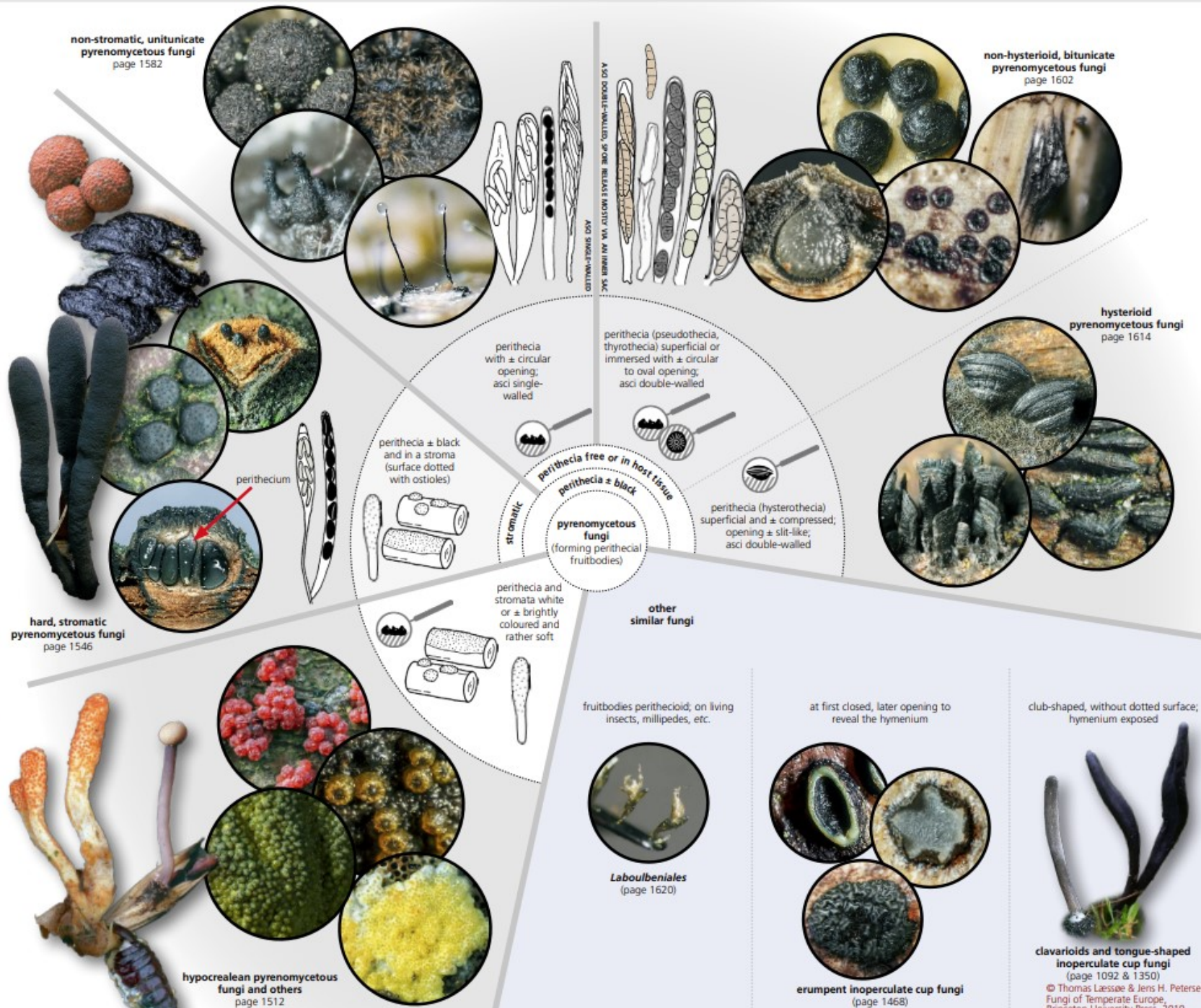
This is a form group of fungi with small, mostly spherical, flask-shaped or sac-like fruitbodies with an opening (ostiole) from where the spores, in most cases, are shot out. The fruitbodies are here all termed 'perithecia' (see more on page 30), although a more precise terminology is often used by mycologists that reflects ontogeny and phylogeny, whereby the fruitbodies of ascomycetes with double-walled asci (right-hand side of the wheel) may be termed pseudothecia, thyriothecia and hysterothecia.

In some species the perithecia are ± imbedded in a uniting flesh, a stroma (pl. stromata), which may be flattened (applanate), cushion-shaped (pulvinate) or club-shaped (clavate).

Many species are decomposers, decaying dead wood, herbs, dung, etc, while others are parasites on plants, mosses, insects, etc. Some kill insects and spiders and some are lichenized. Many live inside living plant tissues (endophytic) and only fruit when the plant dies.

The pyrenomycetous fungi is a very large group with more than 2,500 species in temperate Europe. Parallel evolution has led to similar-looking structures in many ascomycote orders and only very pyrenomycetous fungi can be identified without microscopy. Experience and specialized literature are required for detailed studies of pyrenomycetous fungi, and there are also good internet fora available (for references, see the following wheels).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:
 - *Laboulbeniomyces* has very small, perithecioid fruitbodies on living insects, millipedes, etc. (page 1620).
 - some erumpent inoperculate cup fungi may be completely closed, but the hymenium is revealed in wet weather (page 1468).
 - fungi with clavate, non-composite fruitbodies may look similar, but the hymenium is on the outside, completely exposed (pages 1092 & 1350).



Pyrenomyceten

[Niet stromatische, unitunicate pyrenomyceten](#)

[Niet hysteroide, bitunicate pyrenomyceten](#)

[Hysteroide pyrenomyceten](#)

[Hypocreale pyrenomyceten](#)

[Harde stromatische pyrenomyceten](#)

[Bastdoorbrekende inoperculate Bekerzwammen](#)

[Laboulbeniales Clavaria-achtigen Aardtong-achtigen](#)

Hard, stromatic pyrenomycetous fungi

A form group of fungi with black, mostly rather carbonized perithecia that are ± immersed in a stroma (plural stromata), and which may be club-, nail- or cushion-shaped or quite flat. The stroma may be well defined, as in most genera on the left hand side of the wheel, or composed of a mixture of tissue from the host plant and the fungus, as in many species on the right hand side of the wheel.

All species are decomposers, but some may also kill the host, e.g. *Kretzschmaria deusta* and *Eutypa spinosa*. Some species may survive as endophytes in living tissues and only become active when the host dies.

The majority of the hard, stromatic pyrenomycetous fungi are found in three families: Xylariaceae has brown, ± asymmetrical ellipsoid spores, mostly with a germ slit; Diatrypaceae has paler allantoid spores and asci with a long tail-like base; and Diaporthaceae has hyaline, 1–2-celled spores and loosening asci. The first two families mostly have an amyloid ascus apparatus.

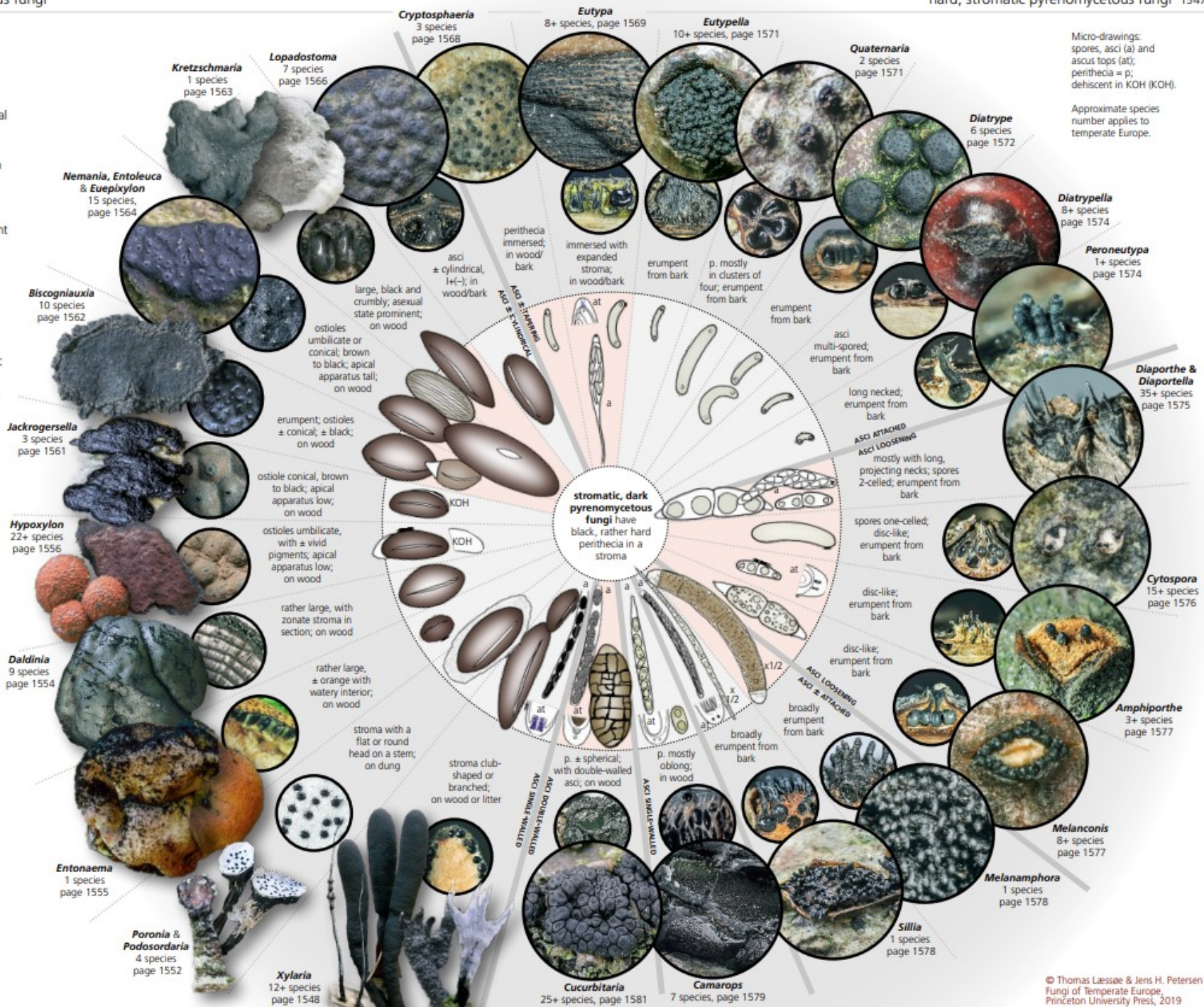
The genera *Daldinia*, *Hypoxylon*, and *Jackrogersella* have diagnostic pigments that can be dissolved with KOH; scrape the surface onto blotting paper and add a drop of 10% KOH (corrosive) – the pigment will be drawn into the paper (see pages 1557–1560).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- hypocrealean pyrenomycetous fungi have a softer texture and paler or brighter colours (page 1512).
- the non-stromatic pyrenomycetous fungi and the bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungi have ± free perithecia (pages 1582 & 1602).

See also the general wheel, page 1510.

FURTHER READING: 61, 78, 82, 83, 93, 130, 179, 250, 251, 254, 255, 256, 313, 314, 353.



Micro-drawings: spores, asci (a) and ascus tops (at); perithecia = p; dehiscent in KOH (KOH).
Approximate species number applies to temperate Europe.

Pyrenomyceten harde ± zwarte stroma-achtige

- Amphiporthe
- Biscogniauxia
- Camarops
- Cryptosphaeria
- Cucurbitaria
- Cystospora
- Daldinia
- Diaportha
- Diaportella
- Diatrype
- Diatrypella
- Entoleuca
- Entonaema
- Euepixon
- Eutypa
- Hypoxylon
- Jackrogersella
- Kretzschmaria
- Lopadostoma
- Melanconis
- Melanophora
- Nemanium
- Peroneutypa
- Podosordaria
- Poronia
- Quaternaria
- Sillia
- Xylaria



Non-stromatic, unitunicate, dark pyrenomycetous fungi

Species in this form group have more or less solitary, perithecia and the asci have single walls (unitunicate). They are generally ± brown or black but may be covered in white or more colourful hairs. The perithecia may be seated on the surface of the substrate or immersed and almost invisible, with only the ostiolar necks appearing at or above substrate level.

The majority of the species are decomposers of leaves, herbaceous stems, wood or dung – a few are parasitic.

The non-stromatic pyrenomycetous fungi form a heterogeneous group of fungi with representatives from a range of orders, of which *Sordariales* is the most prominent. Many of these species produce large, ± brown spores.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– the bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungi have thick, double-walled asci. The spores are mainly released when the outer wall ruptures, allowing an inner sac to stretch out (page 1602).

– hypocrealean pyrenomycetous fungi can also be non-stromatic, but the perithecia are mostly brightly coloured and rather soft (page 1512).

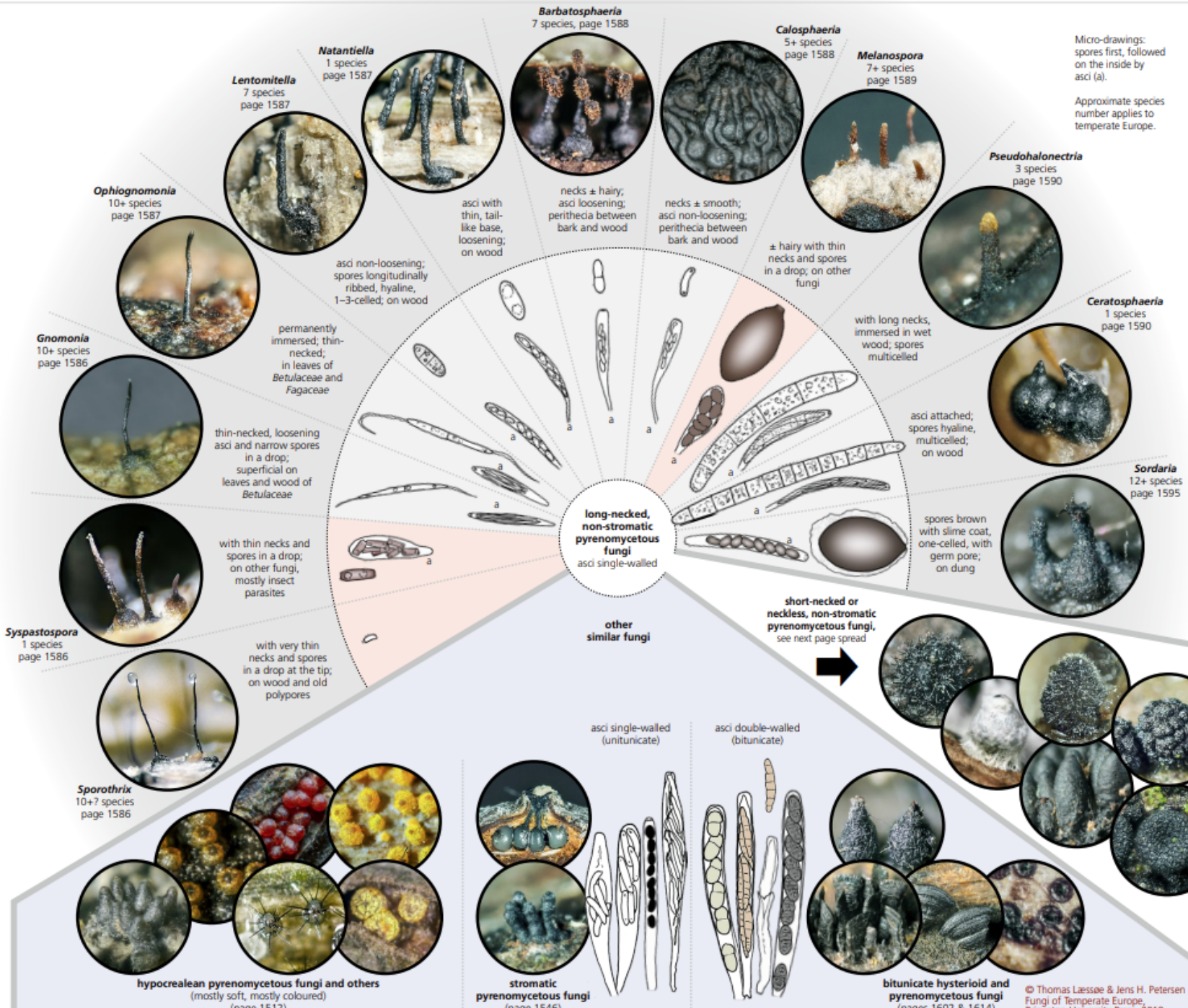
– the dark stromatic pyrenomycetous fungi grade into the non-stromatic. For species with immersed perithecia it can be especially difficult to determine whether or not a stroma is present (page 1546).

See also the general wheel, page 1510.

FURTHER READING: 16, 54, 58, 62, 73, 78, 185, 195, 196, 247, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 304, 350, 353.



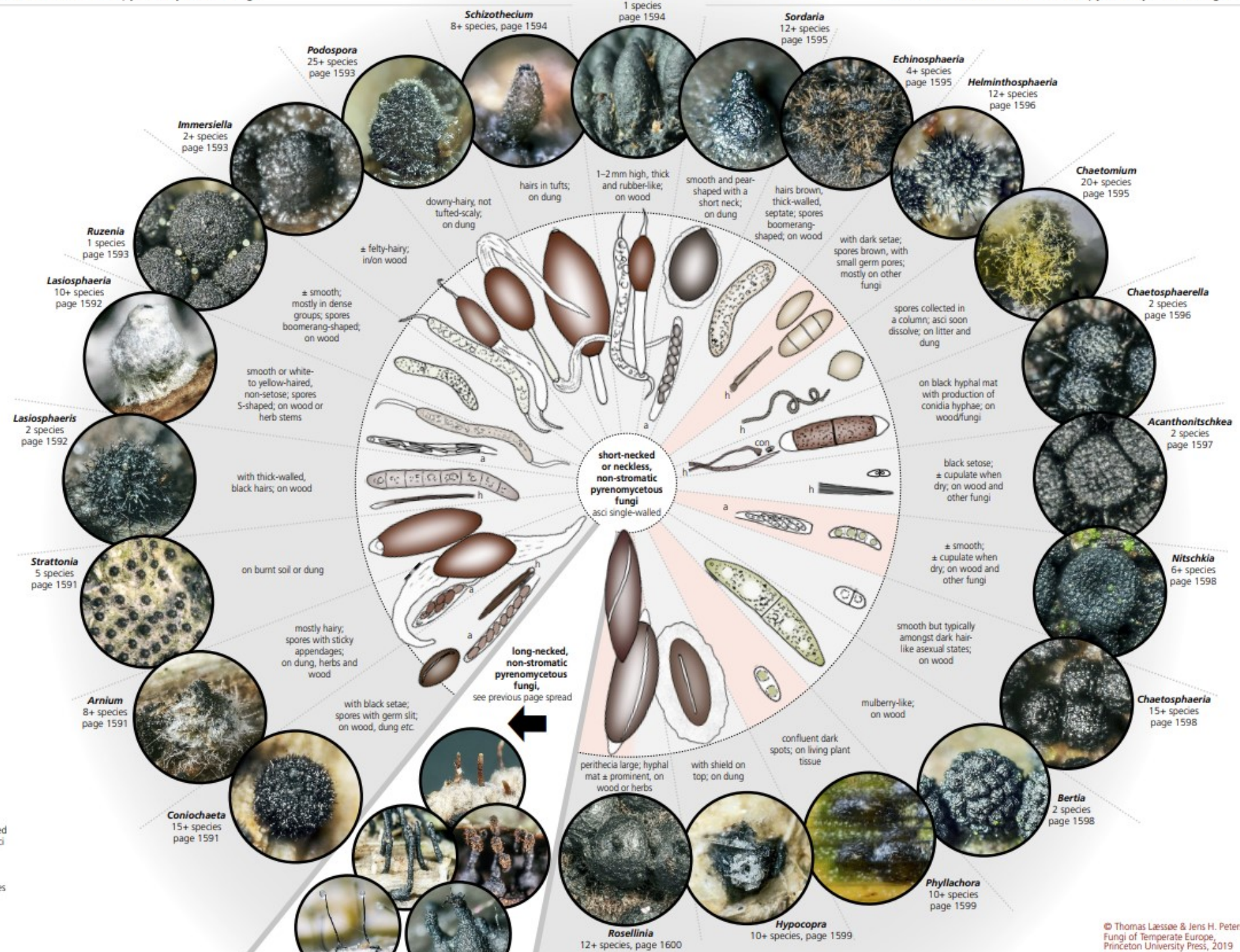
Asci with single walls (unitunicate).



pyrenomyceten niet stromatische unitunicate donkere met lange nekken

- Barbatosphaeria
- [Bitunicate hysterioiden](#)
- Calosphaeria
- Ceratosphaeria
- Gnomonia
- [Hypocrealean pyrenomyceten](#)
- Lentomitella
- Melanospora
- Natantiella
- [Niet stromatische unitunicate Pyrenomyceten met korte nekken](#)
- Ophiognomonia
- Pseudohalonectria
- Sordaria
- [Stromatische pyrenomyceten](#)
- Sypastospora





Pyrenomyceten niet stromatische donkere met korte of geen nek

- Acanthonitschkea
- Arnium
- Bertia
- Bombardia
- Chaetomium
- Chaetosphaerella
- Chaetosphaeria
- Coniochaeta
- Echinospaeria
- Helminthospaeria
- Hypocopra
- Immersiella
- Lasiosphaeria
- Lasiosphaeris
- Niet stromatische unitunicate donkere pyrenomyceten met lange nekken
- Nitschkea
- Phyllachora
- Podospora
- Rosellinia
- Ruzenia
- Schizothecium
- Sordaria
- Strattonia

Non-hysterioid, bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungi

Species in this form group have thick-walled asci with several functional wall layers. Most species have small, free perithecia (also termed pseudothecia) or even smaller, circular, flattened perithecia (termed thyrithocia – page 1604).

The young asci are typically very thick-walled, especially the upper parts, where a characteristic bulge often can be seen (see arrow below). The spores are ejected from an inner sac that stretches out from the outer sac once the ascus tip ruptures – a so-called jack-in-the-box mechanism.

Most species in this form group are plant parasites, or decomposers of wood, herbs or dung.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– the \pm black, non-stromatic unitunicate pyrenomycetous fungi are similar but the asci are single-walled (page 1582).

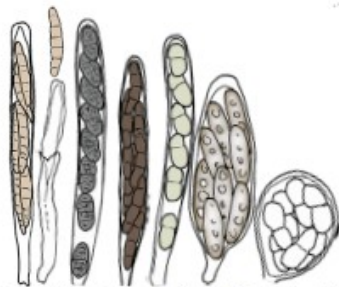
– the hysterioid pyrenomycetous fungi have similar asci (and phylogenetically belong to the same class), but have compressed, superficial fruitbodies that open by a narrow slit (page 1614).

See the wheel page 1510.

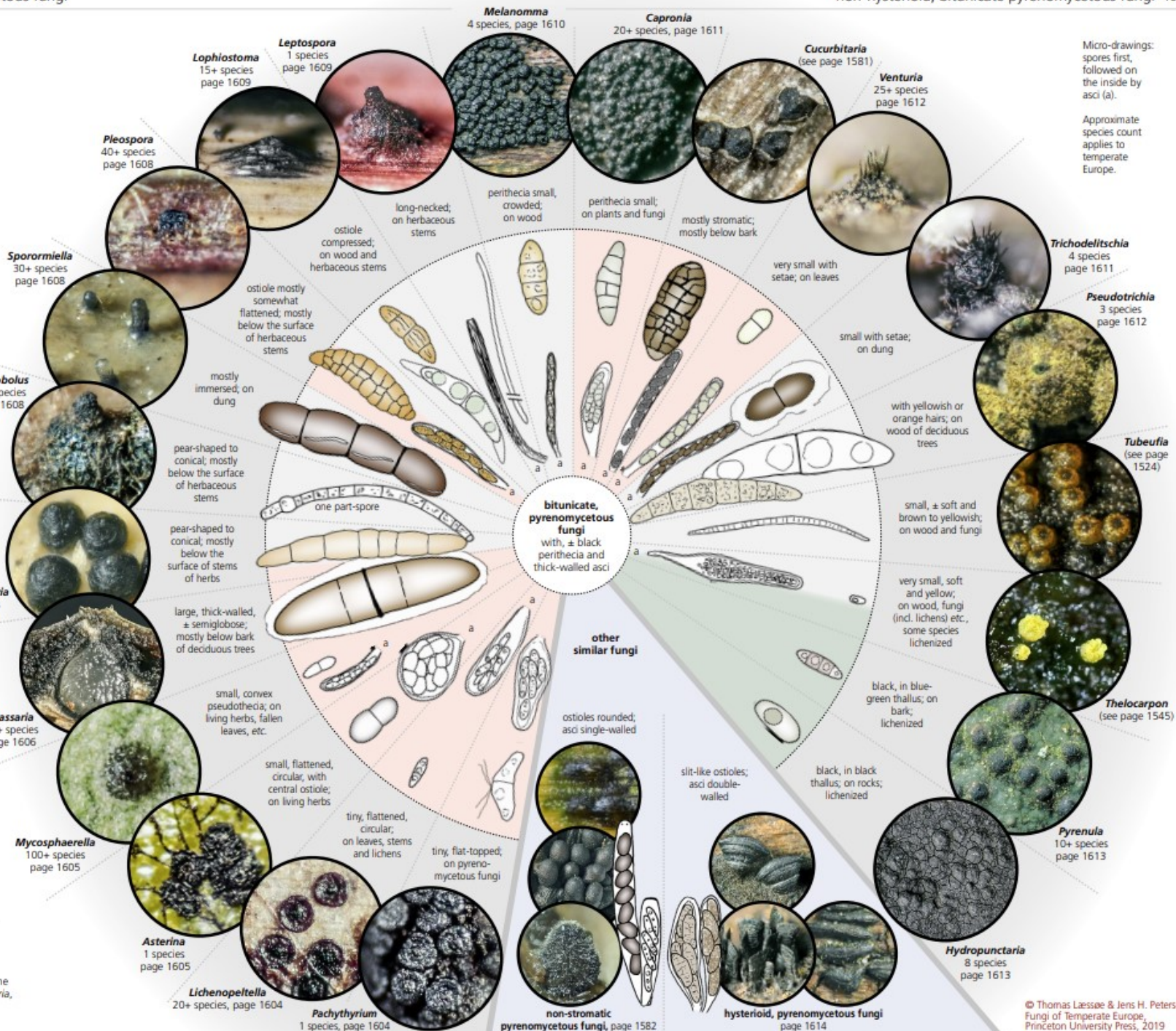
Further reading: 61, 73, 77, 78, 84, 234, 299, 300, 302, 312, 347, 353, 357.



Asci in most bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungi have a characteristic thick-walled tip with a bulge, here in *Cucurbitaria*.



Asci with bitunicate walls – from left *Leptosphaeria* (one mature and one with the inner sac ejected), *Cucurbitaria*, *Sporormiella*, *Venturia*, *Massaria* & *Asterina*.



Micro-drawings: spores first, followed on the inside by asci (a).

Approximate species count applies to temperate Europe.

Pyrenomyceten bitunicate niet langgerekte met \pm zwart perithecium

- Asterina
- Capronia
- Cucurbitaria
- Hydropunctaria
- [Hysterioide pyrenomyceten Niet-stromatische pyrenomyceten](#)
- Leptosphaeria
- Leptospora
- Lichenopeltella
- Lophiostoma
- Massaria
- Melanomma
- Mycosphaerella
- Ophiobolus
- Pachythyrium
- Pleospora
- Pseudotruchia
- Pyrenula
- Sporormiella
- Thelocarpon
- Trichodelitschia
- Tubeufia
- Venturia

Hysterioid pyrenomycetous fungi

This group of fungi includes species with mostly superficial perithecia that have distinct, \pm compressed ostioles and a slit-like opening (hysterothecia). The fruitbody shape is highly variable: many are elongate, others clam- or

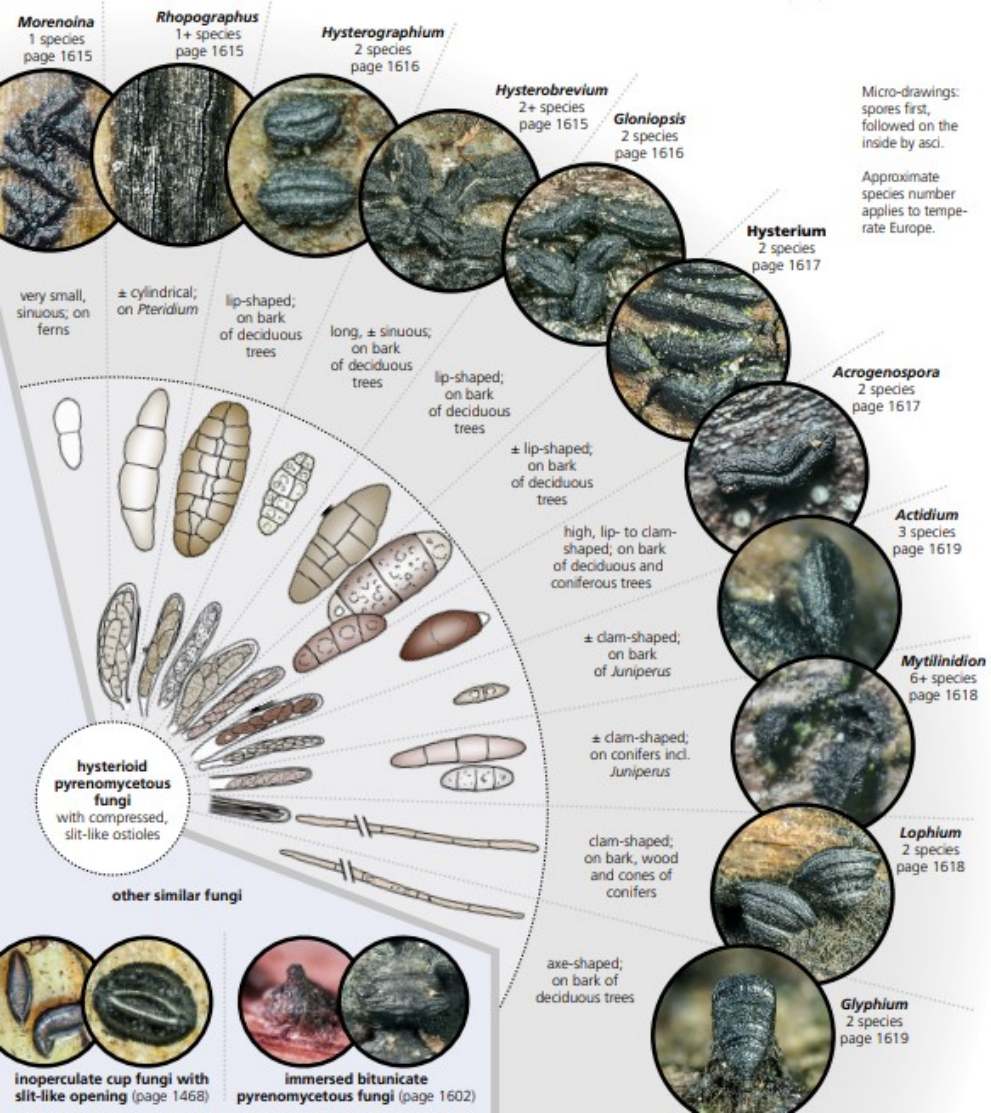
axe-like. All have double-walled asci (bitunicate) that typically release the spores after an inner sac has stretched through the outer sac (jack-in-the-box-release).

All species are decomposers of wood, cones, herbs, etc. They mostly occur in exposed, dry habitats, e.g. on bark of \pm sun-exposed twigs.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– inoperculate cup fungi with slit-like openings reveal the hymenium in wet weather. They have single-walled (unitunicate) asci (page 1468).
– some bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungi (e.g. *Lophiostoma*) have flattened ostioles, but the fruitbodies are immersed in the substrate (page 1602).

FURTHER READING: 41, 42, 368.



Morenoina pteridicola is a black, bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungus with oblong, somewhat branched, very small, \pm flattened fruitbodies that have slit-like ostioles. The margin has brown, radiating, \pm branching hyphae. Asci double-walled, measure $18\text{--}27 \times 9\text{--}14 \mu\text{m}$. The spores are 2-celled, not completely symmetrical, smooth, somewhat brownish when old, measure $9\text{--}13 \times 3\text{--}4 \mu\text{m}$. Occurs on petioles of *Dryopteris*, *Pteridium* and probably other ferns.

There are apparently no other similar species on these substrates.

Possibly widespread, but very rarely reported, most likely overlooked; most of the year.

Rhopographus filicinus is a bitunicate pyrenomycetous fungus that forms elongated-oblong, black, \pm confluent fruitbodies with slit-like ostioles along the length of the hosts' 'stems'. Asci double-walled, 8-spored, measure $70\text{--}86 \times 20\text{--}25 \mu\text{m}$, l-. The somewhat bent, yellow-brown, 4–8-celled spores measure $27\text{--}35 \times 7\text{--}8 \mu\text{m}$. Occurs on petioles of *Pteridium*.

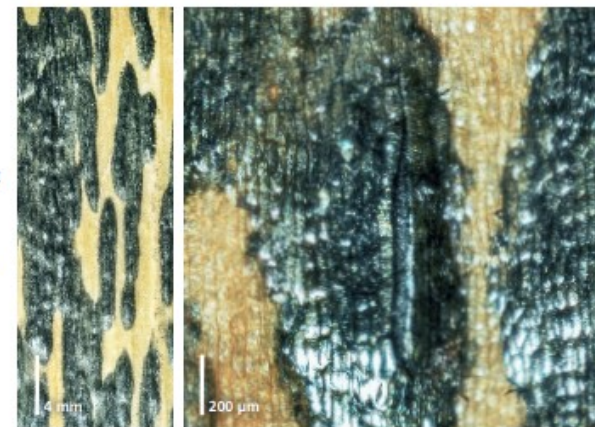
Scirrhia aspidiorum \times forms grey fruitbodies/stromata and hyaline 2-celled spores.

Widespread, very common; all year.

Hysterographium fraxini has elongated, black, longitudinally furrowed, half-open fruitbodies (hysterothecia) that may branch slightly. Asci double-walled, l-. Spores yellow-brown, muriform-septate with a slightly constricted middle septum and many transverse and longitudinal septa; they measure $40\text{--}48 \times 16\text{--}20 \mu\text{m}$, are mostly broadly rounded and have a slime coat. Mainly occurs on *Fraxinus* bark.

Hysterographium flexuosum \times has somewhat longer, more pointed spores; *H. elongatum* \times apparently has 1 or no longitudinal septa, but is perhaps just a synonym of *H. fraxini*.

Widespread, occasional; all year.



Pyrenomyceten langgerekte

Acrogenospora
Actidium
Gloniopsis
Glyphium
Hysterium
Hysterographium
Hysterobrevium

[Inoperculate bekerzwammen met spleetvormige opening](#)

Lophium

Morenoina

Mytilinidion

Rhopographus

[Verzonken bitunicate pyrenomyceten](#)

Laboulbeniales

The *Laboulbeniales* are tiny, 0.03–2 mm high, ascomycetes that grow on living insects, millipedes and other arthropods. Each species has one or several hosts and some are always situated on specific areas of the host, e.g. the antenna. The entire fungus (thallus) includes a dark 'foot', a stem, a perithecium (with asci and 2-celled spores with a slime coat), antheridia, which form spermatia, and finally

sterile appendages. During the sexual process spermatia are transferred from the antheridia to a trichogyne. After this the perithecium develops.

The *Laboulbeniales* do not have a true mycelium, and apparently do not enter the host cavity, but get their nutrients only from the exoskeleton. Large aggregations of fruitbodies may weaken some hosts.

The *Laboulbeniales* belong in their own class, *Laboulbeniomyces*, with

50+ genera in temperate Europe. Only a few examples are included here – all from beetles.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– insect parasites are also found among the hypocrealan fungi (page 1512), and within the asexual fungi (pages 1630, 1635 & 1643), but none resemble *Laboulbeniales*.

FURTHER READING: 114, 117, 187, 352.



hypocrealan pyrenomycetous fungi,
(page 1512)



asexual fungi
(page 1626)



other parasites
on arthropods

the *Laboulbeniales*
are tiny fungi on living
arthropods, e.g. beetles
and flies



1 mm

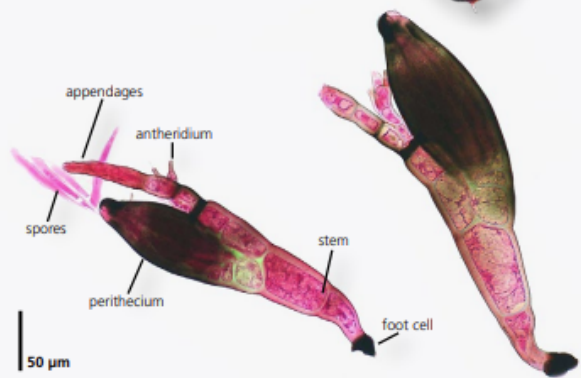


Laboulbenia is the largest genus of the *Laboulbeniales*. It has a short foot cell and lateral appendages.

Laboulbenia argutoris is an approximately 275 μm long *Laboulbenia* with a dark olive-brown, perithecium about 125 μm long. The outer, simple appendages may have up to 9 cells. Spores asymmetrically 2-celled, hyaline, and have a thick slime coat that enables it to stick to the host animal. Occurs on beetles in the genus *Pterostichus*.

At least four species of *Laboulbenia* occur on this type of beetle. *Laboulbenia pseudomasei* \times and *L. flagellata* \triangleright have more complex outer appendages than those in *L. argutoris*. *Laboulbenia kajaniensis* \times is very similar to *L. argutoris* but has small differences in cell dimensions.

Distribution and frequency not well known, but probably rather common; all year.



50 μm

Jimmie Haer

Laboulbenia flagellata is a \pm olive-green *Laboulbenia* with a thallus about 400 μm long. The perithecia appear from three large basal cells that arise from the dark attachment cell. The appendages appear from a 2-celled extension of the basal cells. Occurs on a number of carabid beetle genera and species.

A very variable and rather difficult species to identify, with identification further complicated by the long list of hosts.

Probably widespread and common; all year.



50 μm

Jimmie Haer

Monoicomyces fragilis is a laboulbenialean fungus with thalli approximately 200 μm long and 140 μm wide. Each thallus divides above cell two, and one perithecium develops on each side. Two long appendages with brown basal pigmentation arise from just above the lower pigmented cell. Spores hyaline, 2-celled, and have a slime coat. Occurs on the rove beetles *Ocalea picata* and *Oxypoda opaca*.

The distinctive split thallus makes this species easy to identify.

Distribution and frequency poorly known; all year.



50 μm

Jimmie Haer

Rhachomyces furcatus is a complex laboulbenialean fungus, up to 500 μm long with many dark appendages and one or two, \pm centrally positioned, approximately 250 μm long perithecia. The cell size gradually increases up to the cell that supports the perithecium, and decreases again above it. The spores are 2-celled, hyaline, and have a slime coat. Occurs on rove beetles in the genus *Othius*.

A relatively easy species to recognize, provided the host animal is taken into account.

Distribution and frequency poorly known; all year.



80 μm

Jimmie Haer

Laboulbeniales

Asexuele fungi

Hypocrealane pyrenomyceten

Taphrinales

Species in the order *Taphrinales* are all biotrophic plant parasites that never form proper fruitbodies, but mostly produce a layer of asci within the host tissue. The hosts may be galled in various ways, from small leaf blisters to huge witch's brooms in the crown of infected trees.

All belong in *Taphrinomycotina* – one of three subphyla within the

phylum *Ascomycota*. The other two subphyla are the yeasts in *Saccharomycotina* and the often fruitbody-forming *Pezizomycotina* (page 12).

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

– the basidiomycetes in *Exobasidium* parasitize species of *Ericaceae* (page 1214).

– *Erysiphales* are more mealy from

surface production of conidia and form small spherical fruitbodies with asci (page 1500).

– some non-fungal organisms, *Albugo* for example, may look similar but do not have basidia or asci (page 1645).

FURTHER READING: 78, 80, 87, 164.



Exobasidium
(page 1214)

Erysiphales
(page 1500)

non-fungal
(page 1645)

other similar groups

Taphrinales
parasitizes plants
– often visible as galled tissues

Taphrina
page 1622



Protomyces
page 1625



Taphrina is a large genus of plant parasites. All species deform the infected tissue in more or less spectacular ways: from curly or blistered leaves, through deforming fruits, to inducing 'witch's brooms'. The small asci are formed in a palisade directly on the surface of the host tissue. The spores mostly produce yeast stages within the asci. When sporulating the infected tissue may have a pruinose appearance.

Taphrina betulina causes the formation of Magpie nest-like witch's brooms. The asci are formed in the leaves of the host, which appear from the brooms; they measure 25–70 × 10–25 μm and are l-. Spores measure 4–6.5 × 2.5–5 μm. Occurs in the crown of living *Betula* trees.

Other organisms may also cause the formation of witch's brooms in *Betula*, so in reality reliable identification requires microscopy. *Taphrina betulae* × forms discoloured, swollen spots on the leaves of *Betula* rather than conspicuous galls.

Widespread, very common; all year (as brooms).



Taphrina wiesneri causes a very spectacular formation of drooping witch's brooms. The asci are formed on discoloured, somewhat bumpy leaves; they measure 17–35 × 15 μm and are l-. The spores measure 3.5–9 × 3–6 μm and form yeast-like cells. Occurs on both cultivated and wild species of cherry (*Prunus cerasus* and *P. avium*).

In order to ensure a correct identification, infected leaves require microscopical investigation.

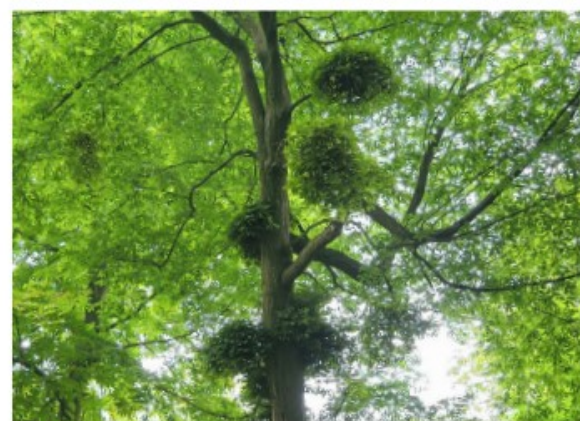
Mainly nemoral-hemiboreal, rather common; all year (as brooms).



Taphrina carpini forms conspicuous witch's brooms. Asci occur on the pale leaves of the host that appear as long shoots from the brooms; they measure 20–30 × 7–15 μm. The spores measure 3.5–5 × 3–4.5 μm. Found on *Carpinus*, including in mature hedgerows.

Microscopical investigation is recommended as other organisms can induce the formation of witch's brooms in *Carpinus*.

Nemoral, rather common; all year (brooms).



Tom Smith

Taphrina farlowii deforms leaves, shoots and fruits of the host with yellowish to reddish blisters and swollen galls. The asci are formed on the galls and measure 20–30 × 8–9 μm, the basal cell measures 8–9 × 15–25 μm. The spores are ± spherical to broadly egg-shaped and measure 4–6 × 4–5 μm. Affects *Prunus serotina*, a North American species that is widely planted and now spreading.

The very similar *T. deformans* × deforms the leaves of other *Prunus* species, including *P. amygdalus* and *P. persica*.

Nemoral, probably common; mainly June–October.



Taphrinales

[Erysiphales](#)
[Exobasidium](#)
[Myxomyceten](#)

[Taphrina alni](#)
[Taphrina betulae](#)
[Taphrina betulina](#)
[Taphrina bullata](#)
[Taphrina carpini](#)
[Taphrina communis](#)
[Taphrina deformans](#)
[Taphrina farlowii](#)
[Taphrina johansonii](#)
[Taphrina padi](#)
[Taphrina populina](#)
[Taphrina pruni](#)
[Taphrina sadebeckii](#)
[Taphrina tosquetii](#)
[Taphrina ulmi](#)
[Taphrina wiesneri](#)

Asexual fungi

Many fungi have asexual states where propagules are produced following mitosis rather than meiosis. These mitospores (typically termed conidia) are \pm genetically identical to the mycelium that produced them. Contrary to this, meiospores (in this publication termed spores) are formed in, for example, asci, or on basidia, by a sexual process that involves nuclear fusion and subsequent meiosis, see pages 11 & 22.

Many species produce both sexual and asexual states. Where the two states occur together both states are usually included in the description of the sexual state.

Traditionally, asexual and sexual states were given separate scientific names. For example, *Aspergillus glaucus* (page 1507) was the name for an asexual state, while *Eurotium herbariorum* was the name for the sexual state of the same species. However, in 2011, the code that governs the naming of fungi was changed so that one name is used, the first described taking precedence irrespective of the state to which it was attached. Thus, *Aspergillus glaucus* became the valid name for all states of this fungus.

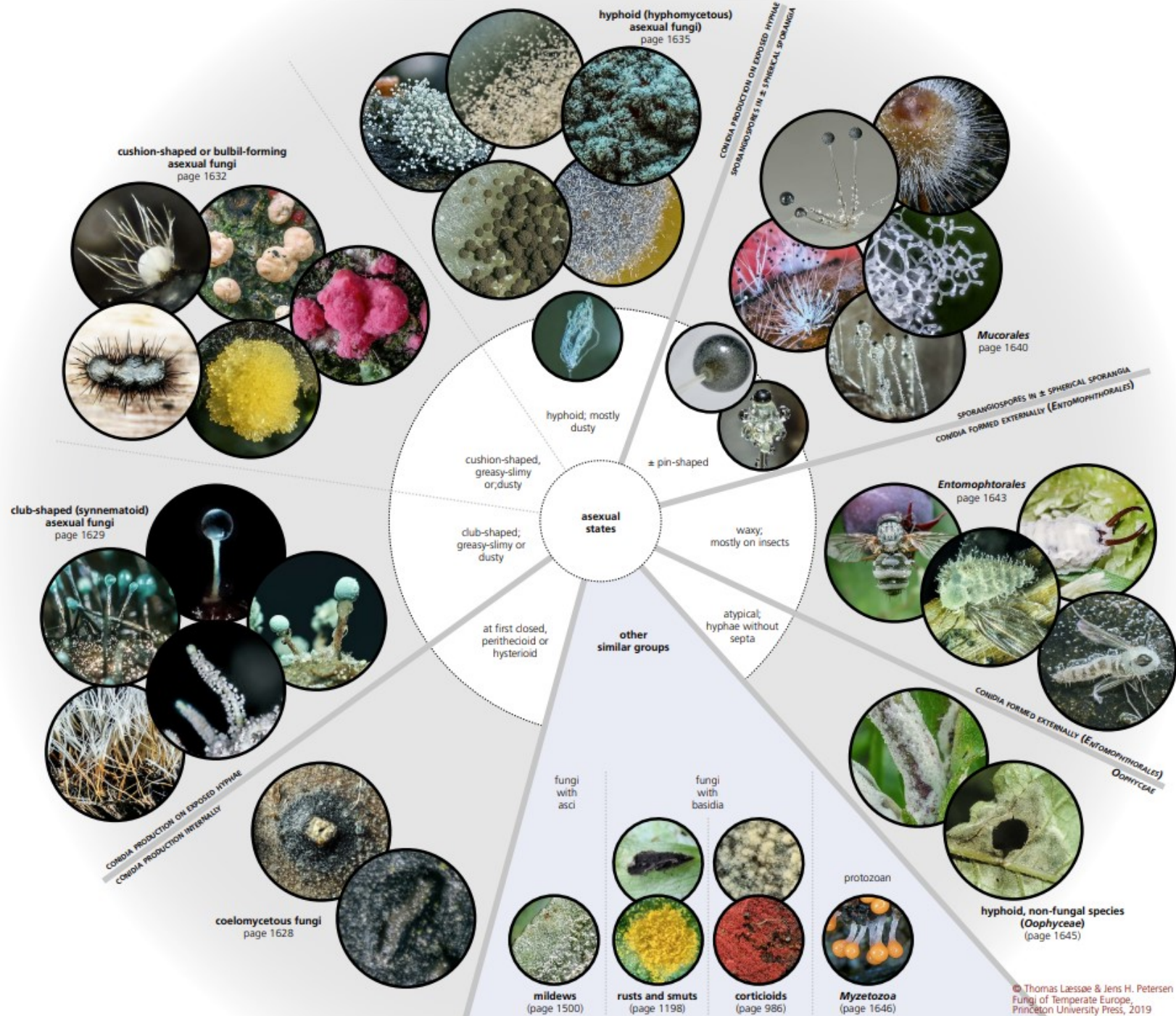
Asexual fungi constitute a pool of thousands of 'species'. These are not a main theme of this publication, and on the following pages only a few characteristic examples are given.

Asexual propagation is found in almost all fungal groups. However, the more spectacular examples are found mainly within the ascomycotes and zygomycotes, and less so within the basidiomycotes.

OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI:

- species of mildew form asexual spores from a mealy covering on living leaves, but later form tiny, spherical fruitbodies with internal asci (page 1500).
- rusts and smuts have a series of asexual spore states, see page 1198.
- cobweb-like corticioids may look similar to asexual moulds but form meiospores from basidia (page 986).
- Mycetozoa (slime moulds) may look similar to asexual fungal moulds (page 1646).

FURTHER READING: 78, 94, 144, 145, 146, 293, 294, 321, 351, 369.



Asexuella fungi

Mycetozoa

Mycetozoa (slime moulds) do not belong in the fungal kingdom but within the Protozoa. However, their spore-producing structures may resemble those from fungi. They ingest organic particles in their mobile amoeboid stages and can be found in many environments, particularly on bark and rotten wood. The amoeboid stages range from tiny to huge. The

sporulating stage mostly has internal spore production and the spores can be mixed with a hyphoid capillitium. There are approximately 48 genera in temperate Europe; a few examples are included here to show the variation.

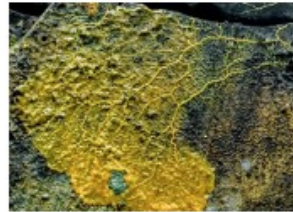
OTHER SIMILAR FUNGI

- asexual fungi may look similar (page 1626).
- *Phleogena* (page 1246) has dusty

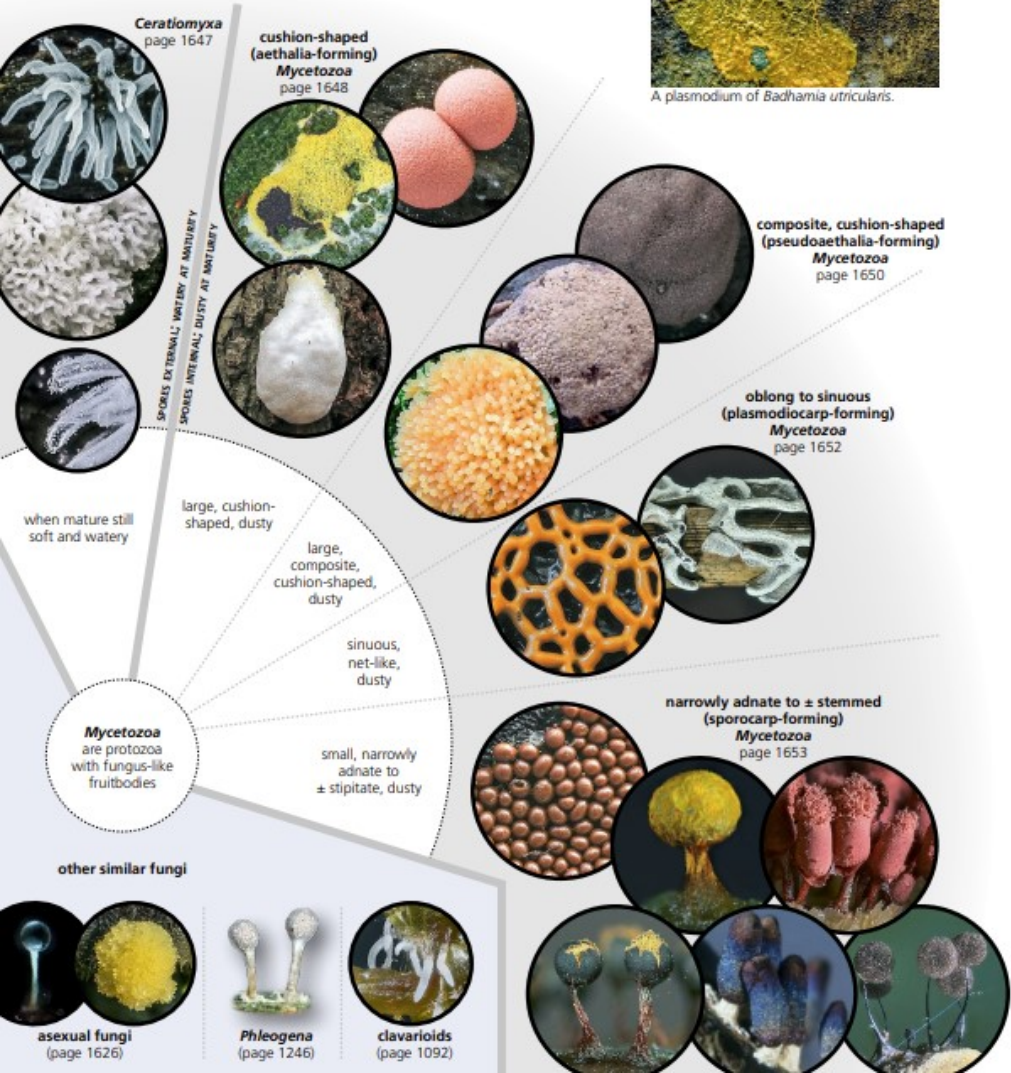
fruitbodies but transversely divided basidia.

- small clavarioids have basidia and are not dusty at maturity (page 1092).

FURTHER READING: 120, 217, 249.



A plasmodium of *Badhamia utricularis*.



Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa is a white to somewhat yellowish slime mould with external spore production (inset image). It forms large, dense areas of long-branched fruitbodies that ± dissolve when touched. The egg-shaped to broadly ellipsoid, mostly hyaline, smooth spores are positioned on a small stem and measure 8–15 × 6–10 μm. Occurs on rotten wood, both deciduous and coniferous.



The variety *Ceratiomyxa fruticulosa* var. *porioides* (lower image) almost looks like a resupinate polypore but is much softer and disintegrates when touched. *Mucronella* (page 1096) and *Ceratellopsis* (page 1097) are firmer when touched and have basidia. *Ceratiomyxa* is not closely related to the other groups of slime moulds.

Widespread, very common; May–October, peaking during the summer.



Thomas Laessle

alfabetische index

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y
Z



A

Aardtong-achtigen

Agaricus

Agaricus-achtigen sporenfiguur wit tot crémé

Agaricus-achtigen sporenfiguur donkerder

Allopsella

Amanita-achtigen

Asexuele fungi



B

Bekerzwammen operculate

Bekerzwammen operculate met doffe kleuren 1

Bekerzwammen operculate met doffe kleuren 2

Bekerzwammen operculate gele, oranje tot roze

Bekerzwammen inoperculate

Bekerzwammen inoperculate donzige tot harige met bleke haren

Bekerzwammen inoperculate donzige tot harige met donkere haren

Bekerzwammen inoperculate grote gelatineuze

Bekerzwammen inoperculate hoge of langstelige, gladde tot viltige

Bekerzwammen inoperculate lage gladde tot viltige met wit, grijs of zwart hymenium 1

Bekerzwammen inoperculate lage gladde tot viltige met wit, grijs of zwart hymenium 2

Bekerzwammen inoperculate lage gladde tot viltige met levendig gekleurd hymenium 1

Bekerzwammen inoperculate lage gladde tot viltige met levendig gekleurd hymenium 2

Bekerzwammen inoperculate bastdoorbrekende 1

Bekerzwammen inoperculate bastdoorbrekende 2



B

Boleet-achtigen

Branden



C

Calicioide fungi

Cantharel-achtigen

Chamaemyces

Clavaria-achtigen kleine dunne onvertakte

Clavaria-achtigen grotere < 2 mm dikke of sterk vertakte

Clitocybe-achtigen

Collybia-achtigen

Coprinus-achtigen

Cortinarius

Cyphella-achtigen

Cystoderma-achtigen



D

Dacrymyces-achtigen

Dikvlezige hydnum-achtige fungi



E

Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en bleke context 1

Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en bleke context 2

Eenjarige polyporen met hoed en donkere context

Eenjarige resupinate polyporen 1

Eenjarige resupinate polyporen 2

Entoloma-achtigen

Exobasidiales



F

Fragiele korsten gladde, katoenachtige of schilferige 1

Fragiele korsten gladde, katoenachtige of schilferige 2



G

Gomphidius



H

Hebeloma

Hydnum-achtige fungi dikvlezig

Hygrocybe-achtigen

Hypholoma-achtigen





Inocybe



K

Kleine bruine paddenstoelen

Korstvormige fungi

Korstvormige fungi met hoeden

Korstvormige fungi meruloide

Korstvormige fungi fragiele gladde, katoenachtige of schilferige 1

Korstvormige fungi fragiele gladde, katoenachtige of schilferige 2

Korstvormige fungi stevige gladde witachtige tot grijze korsten 1

Korstvormige fungi stevige gladde witachtige tot grijze korsten 2

Korstvormige fungi stevige gladde gekleurde 1

Korstvormige fungi stevige gladde gekleurde 2

Korstvormige fungi met stekels, pinnen of tanden 1

Korstvormige fungi met stekels, pinnen of tanden 2



L

Laboulbeniales

Lactarius-achtigen

Lepiota-achtigen

Lichenen

Limacella



M

Marasmius-achtigen

Meeldauwen

Meerjarige polyporen

Melanomphalia

Meruloide korstvormige fungi

Morielje-achtigen

Mycena-achtigen

Mycocalicioide fungi

Myxomyceten



N

Nestzwammetjes



O

Omphalina-achtigen



P

Paxillus-achtigen

Pholiota-achtigen

Pleurotus-achtigen

Pluteus-achtigen

Polyporen

Polyporen eenjarige met hoed en bleke context 1

Polyporen eenjarige met hoed en bleke context 2

Polyporen eenjarige met hoed en donkere context

Polyporen eenjarige resupinate 1

Polyporen eenjarige resupinate 2

Polyporen in clusters

Polyporen met een steel

Polyporen meerjarige



P

Psathyrella-achtigen

Pyrenomyceten

Pyrenomyceten hypocrealeane

Pyrenomyceten harde ± zwarte stroma-achtige

Pyrenomyceten niet stromatische unitunicate donkere met lange nekken

Pyrenomyceten niet stromatische unicate donkere met korte of geen nek

Pyrenomyceten bitunicate niet langgerekt met ± zwart perithecium

Pyrenomyceten langgerekte



R

Roesten

Rozet-achtige fungi

Russula-achtigen



S

Stevige gladde witachtige tot grijze korsten 1

Stevige gladde witachtige tot grijze korsten 2

Stevige gladde gekleurde korsten 1

Stevige gladde gekleurde korsten 2

Stinkzwammen

Stuivende zwammen



T

Taphrinales

Tricholoma-achtigen

Trilzwamachtigen met kleine eenvoudige vruchtlichamen

Trilzwamachtigen met grotere of meer complexe vruchtlichamen

Truffels ascomycote

Truffels basidiomycote



V

- Vruchtlichamen met externe sporenproductie
- Vruchtlichamen met interne sporenproductie

