

Hyphomycetes

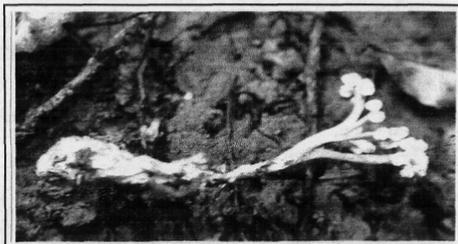
Beauveria bassiana sugar icing fungus. Several found parasitising cicada.

Isaria sp. Parasitising fly on grass inflorescence.

Sepeidonium sp. hyperparasite on truffle-like fungus.

Myxomycete (slime mould) by Clive Shirley

Physarum viride. Common, found on wood. A small stalked lens shaped fruiting body 0.5–0.6 mm diam. and 0.1–1.5 mm thick, 1.5 mm height. Bright yellow in colour. Cosmopolitan. On twig.



Isaria sp. Parasitising fly on grass inflorescence.

A Fine Start to this Year's Botanizing ...

A day of comparisons at Martins Bay Reserve and Scandretts Farm Park

Helen Cogle

On 16 Feb 2002 we assembled on the foreshore at Martins Bay and went through the slip-slop-slap routine as it promised to be a warm sunny day – unlike the last field trip I wrote up (ABS Journal 54/1). Our leader, Maureen Young, handed out species lists for the morning session, and offered home-grown GE-free plums to all. Before we ambled, like Brown's Cows, up the hill to the start of the bush track, we were told what treasures to look for, and that the reserve was owned and maintained by the Rodney District Council. Staff are doing a fairly good job – stiles over fences, steps on the slopes and boardwalks over the damp patches. Possums must be under control because we saw male and female inflorescences on *Collospermum hastatum*. Gorse had been cut and some weeds had been sprayed; but there remained kahili ginger *Hedychium gardnerianum*, and woolly nightshade *Solanum mauritianum*. These latter, Anne and Alistair dispatched, leaving a few pampas and old man pines for the Council staff to tackle.

It was not going to be a long walk, but the vegetation was very diverse; we spent some time learning to identify new species. Right from the start I could hear people comparing the similar coprosmas, and the various *Carex* and *Juncus* species; the various *Pseudopanax* species and hybrids were discussed, as were *Mida salicifolia* and *Nestegis lanceolata*; also the fruits of *Astelia banksii* and *A. solandri*. We saw an extremely long *Tmesipteris elongata* and discussed the acknowledgement or denial of its subspecies *robusta*. Then of course there was the kowhai; we had been warned about the *Sophora* puzzle (ABS News-sheet Feb/Mar 2002), so armed with diagrams and characters from the Te Kauri trip (Anniversary Weekend 2000) we compared the features at length, and concluded that the kowhai in the reserve are *Sophora chathamica*.

Other treats we saw included *Pomaderris hamiltonii*, *Senecio minimus*, *Elaeocarpus dentatus*, and *Bellschmidia tawaroa*. Then a brisk walk back to the beach for lunch under pohutukawa and a swim for those so inclined, before driving over to Scandretts for the afternoon session.

(Ed: This article was originally first in this journal, but graciously gave way to the Wollemi pine.)

Fungi in the Te haahi-Goodwin Reserve, Waiheke Island

Peter White & Clive Shirley

There was an information-gathering foray into Te haahi-Goodwin Reserve on 10 March 2002. The tour was organised by the Hauraki Islands Branch of Forest and Bird, who administer the reserve, as a Kiwi Conservation Club outing. The route was from the entrance on Orapiu Rd up the main gully to the central kauri ridge, and back down via a tributary stream.

There were 62 people on the outing including Ewen Cameron, Clive Shirley and members of the Forest and Bird branch committee. The trip added a number of fungi to the list of species present in the reserve. Samples of slime moulds (Myxomycetes) on nikau petioles were collected by Clive for later identification.

True Fungi

Agrocybe parasitica tawaka, poplar mushroom. A pair at the lower end of the main stream.

Amanita ? nothofagi. Growing from soil on bank of main stream.

Auricularia polytricha, hakeka, ear fungus, wood ears. Common on rotting wood.

Beauveria bassiana, (Fig. 1) sugar icing fungus.

Examples of this fungus parasitising mature cicada

and a preying mantis were scattered in ground litter in the reserve.



Beauveria bassiana

Calvatia cyathiformis, lilac puffball. A small one (70mm dia.) found among kanuka in the lower stream area.
Clavaria sulcata, fairy clubs or flame fungus. A couple of very spectacular ones seen on the kauri ridge.



Clavaria sulcata

Conchomyces bursaeformis. A pair on a dead branch in ground litter above main stream.
Cookeina colensoi, cup fungus. Several found on a twig in ground litter on the main stream bank.
Coprinus micaceus, mica or glistening ink cap. Bank of main stream.
Cyclomyces tabacinus. On a dead branch above the main stream.
Enteloma spp. (unidentified). Two fruiting bodies of different species on the kauri ridge.
Favolaschia calocera, orange pore fungus. An introduced species, common on dead wood.
Ganoderma aff. *applanatum*.
Ganoderma australe, perennial bracket fungus, artist's conk.
Isaria sinclairii, vegetable cicada fungus. On stream bank.
Psathyrella sp. In tree fern litter at the entrance.
Russula acrolamellata, a yellow-brown russula. Associated with kanuka on the kauri ridge.
Russula griseoviridis, a green russula. Associated with kanuka on the kauri ridge.
Russula macrocystidiata, purple russula. Associated with kanuka on the kauri ridge.

Scutellinia ?badioberbis, an eyelash cup fungus. On a dead log in tributary stream.

Trametes versicolor, rainbow bracket. On a dead tree on main stream bank.

Xylaria hypoxylon, candlesnuff or stags horn fungus. A colony on an old tree stump.

Slime Moulds

Craterium minutum. Stalked sporangia accruing in large numbers, which are cup shaped with a pronounced flat lid. 0.2 - 0.8mm dia. 0.4 - 1.2mm height.

Didymium squamulosum. A small spherical fruiting body with or without a stalk 0.3 to 1 mm diam.

When stalked to 1.5 mm high. Grey in colour.

Perichaena depressa. Sessile sporangia, flattened, closely packed to adjacent sporangia becoming angular at point of contact. 1 - 1.5mm across dark brown to black. Capillitium yellow released from edge of sporangia.

Physarum bogoriense. Forms elongate plasmodiocarps in small groups (looking like bits of spaghetti), dull yellow to brown, 0.3 - 0.6 mm wide. Splitting along a line of dehiscence to reveal inner iridescent layer and spore mass with white lime crystals.

Physarum globuliferum. Stalked sporangia accruing in large numbers, common, spherical, 0.4 - 0.7mm diam, 0.8 - 1.5mm tall. White to pale grey with white stalk.

Physarum lateritium. A small spherical fruiting body 0.3 to 0.7 mm diam. with no stalk. Orange to red in colour

Physarum nutans. Stalked sporangia accruing also in large numbers, common, nodding, lens shaped, 0.4 - 0.7 mm dia., to 1.5 mm tall, white or pale grey with a dark stalk twice the dia. of the sporangium.

Trichia varia. Clustered sessile sporangia, cushion shaped 0.5 - 0.9mm dia., yellow. Capillitium also yellow



Russula acrolamellata

Reference: Ing, Bruce, 1999, *The Myxomycetes of Britain and Ireland*, Richmond Publishing.