

Chapter 1. Thesis introduction and rationale

Interrelationships between mammals, mycorrhizal fungi and plants: the ecological importance of mycophagy

MYCORRHIZAS

Fungal interactions shape ecosystems. Most plants in natural ecosystems form mycorrhizal associations (mycorrhizas) with specialised soil fungi (Brundrett 1991; Smith and Read 1997). Mycorrhizas are highly-evolved mutualistic symbioses usually benefiting both plant and fungus (Brundrett 2004) and contributing to ecosystem function (Read 1991; Amaranthus and Perry 1994). Hyphae of mycorrhizal fungi are the primary interface between the soil and the roots of mycorrhizal plants, facilitating uptake of water and nutrients by the plant (Harley 1971; Smith and Read 1997). In return, the fungus acquires photosynthates (carbon) from the plant (Harley 1971; Smith and Read 1997). Mycorrhizal fungi play an important role in soil carbon fluxes (Treseder and Allen 2000; Hobbie 2006; Talbot *et al.* 2008; Wilson *et al.* 2009) and mediate interactions and transfer nutrients between individual plants, linking plant communities in extensive shared mycorrhizal networks (Simard and Durall 2004; Beiler *et al.* 2010).

The type and ecology of mycorrhizal associations is determined by host plant, fungus, and soil and other environmental factors (Brundrett 1991). Mycorrhizal fungal ecology is an emerging field; the ecological roles and functions of many mycorrhizal fungi are poorly known (Lilleskov and Bruns 2001; Lilleskov and Parrent 2007). Ectomycorrhizas (EM) and arbuscular mycorrhizas (AM) are the two most common mycorrhizal types. EM, formed by species of Basidiomycota, Ascomycota, and *Endogone* (Zygomycota), develop extensive hyphal systems outside of the host plant root, form sheaths around the root, and do not usually penetrate the host plant cells, while AM penetrate host cells and are formed by species in the

Glomeromycota (Brundrett 1991). More than 80% of vascular plants form mycorrhizas, but only 2% form EM (Brundrett 2009). However, EM plants, such as those in the Pinaceae, Fagaceae, Myrtaceae, and Betulaceae families, dominate forest ecosystems in mesic temperate and boreal landscapes (Read 1991; Allen *et al.* 1995). Globally, approximately 7750 species of EM fungi are known to science but conservative estimates put the potential global number of species around three times that amount (Rinaldi *et al.* 2008); most EM ecosystems remain under-sampled (Dickie and Moyersoen 2008). EM fungi, far more diverse than EM plants, tend to have widespread distributions and intermediate to broad host ranges (Molina *et al.* 1992; May and Simpson 1997; May 2002; Jumpponen *et al.* 2004). For example, EM fungi that form mycorrhizas with *Eucalyptus* associate with a variety of species within the genus as well as with other woody trees, shrubs and non-woody herbs (Chilvers 1973; Warcup 1980; Malajczuk *et al.* 1982).

TRUFFLE-LIKE FUNGI

Mycorrhizal macrofungi predominantly form EM associations and produce fleshy fruiting bodies (sporocarps), above (epigeous, mushroom-like) or below (hypogeous, sequestrate, truffle-like) the ground surface. Truffle-like fungi are particularly poorly known both taxonomically and ecologically, owing to their ephemeral, below-ground fruiting habit and the need to examine sporocarps for identification, although recent developments in the identification of fungi from vegetative material (mycelium or EM root tips) using molecular techniques are advancing the study of these and other sporocarpic EM fungi (Buscot *et al.* 2000; Horton and Bruns 2001; Anderson and Cairney 2007; Peay *et al.* 2008). In Australia, a centre for truffle-like fungi diversity and endemism (Lebel and Castellano 1999; Bougher and Lebel 2001), truffle-like fungi diversity is likely to be higher than epigeous macrofungal diversity (Bougher 1995) and is estimated at 1278-2450 species, of which only 12-23% have been described (Bougher and Lebel 2001). This thesis looks primarily at the truffle-like EM

fungi on account of their importance in plant mycorrhizal networks, the prevalence of sporocarps of these fungi in the diet of many ground-dwelling mammals, and their reliance upon these mammals for spore dispersal. Truffle-like fungi are part of a complex, co-evolved, system of symbioses and interactions with plants, soils, and animals (Read 1997; Bougher and Lebel 2001; Brundrett 2002).

MAMMAL MYCOPHAGISTS: FUNGUS-FEEDERS AND SPORE DISPERSAL AGENTS

Macrofungal sporocarps are a food resource for many animals, including birds (Simpson 1998; Medway 2000; Simpson 2000), reptiles (Hailey *et al.* 1997; Vernes and Cooper in press), invertebrates, (Lilleskov and Bruns 2005; Houston and Bougher 2010) and mammals (Fogel and Trappe 1978; Claridge and May 1994). Mycophagy (fungus-feeding) is widespread among forest-dwelling mammals; sporocarps are recorded in the diet of marsupials, rodents, cervids, and primates in temperate, tropical, and boreal landscapes around the world (e.g. Fogel and Trappe 1978; Genard *et al.* 1988; Blaschke and Baeumler 1989; Cazares and Trappe 1994; Claridge and May 1994; Claridge *et al.* 1996; Mangan and Adler 2000; Porter 2001; Bertolino *et al.* 2004; Hanya 2004; Vernes 2007; Hilário and Ferrari 2010).

Mycophagous animals facilitate the dispersal of macrofungal spores because the spores of consumed sporocarps remain viable after gut-passage and are deposited in the faeces some distance from the point of consumption (Trappe and Maser 1977; Maser *et al.* 1978). This process is particularly important to truffle-like fungi because their below-ground fruiting habit and enclosed spore-bearing tissues limit abiotic dispersal mechanisms such as wind and water (Fogel and Trappe 1978; Maser *et al.* 1978; Claridge and May 1994; Johnson 1996; Trappe and Claridge 2005). In some cases, passage of spores through the mammalian gut is necessary for, and may even enhance, spore viability (e.g. Lamont *et al.* 1985; Caldwell *et al.* 2005). Mammal mycophagists are crucial to the maintenance of diverse EM fungi and EM plant

communities and to the spread of these organisms in new or regenerating habitats (Maser *et al.* 1978; Cazares and Trappe 1994; Terwilliger and Pastor 1999; Ashkannejhad and Horton 2005). The relationship between truffle-like fungi, their host plants and mycophagous fauna is complex, and integral to biodiversity and ecosystem function (Malajczuk *et al.* 1987).

In Australia, most ground-dwelling mammals are mycophagous to some extent (Claridge and May 1994). While mycophagy is often considered most prevalent among Australian mammals with a body weight of less than 3kg, particularly among the Muridae (rodents) and Potoroidae (rat-kangaroos, bettongs and potoroos) families, many other mammals consume fungi (Claridge and May 1994; Claridge *et al.* 1996; Vernes 2010). Levels of mycophagy occur along a spectrum from primarily mycophagous mammals (fungal specialists) to mammals consuming sporocarps as part of a broader diet (non-specialists) and are seasonally variable (Claridge *et al.* 1996). Some potoroids are fungal specialists, and important dispersers of fungal spores (Bennett and Baxter 1989; Claridge and May 1994; Tory *et al.* 1997). Rodents, bandicoots, pademelons, wallabies, possums, and small dasyurids also consume sporocarps, to varying degrees (Claridge *et al.* 1991; Claridge and May 1994; Reddell *et al.* 1997; Tory *et al.* 1997; Claridge and Lindenmayer 1998; McIlwee and Johnson 1998; Claridge *et al.* 2001; Vernes and Trappe 2007; Vernes and McGrath 2009; Vernes 2010; Vernes and Lebel in prep.) although the interactions of these animals with macrofungal sporocarp communities have been less well studied. The importance of sporocarps in the diet of non-specialist mycophagists, and other potentially overlooked mycophagists, and the importance of these mammals as spore dispersal agents, remains relatively poorly known.

Research themes

The interrelationships outlined above (and in Figure 1.1) underpin the two research themes upon which this thesis is based:

1. Is there a relationship between truffle-like sporocarp diversity in the soil and diversity in the diet of a mycophagous mammal?
2. Are non-specialist mycophagous mammals effective spore dispersers for truffle-like fungi?

These themes are important from biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, and agricultural production perspectives. Macrofungal diversity is poorly known in many parts of the world, including Australia, and yet fungi are essential components of natural ecosystems and are involved in many aspects of ecosystem functioning. Animals that consume macrofungi sporocarps can be important in maintaining diverse fungal communities, and have other important roles in ecosystems such as contributing to nutrient cycling and water infiltration through digging activity or as prey for predators. Paddock trees and other remnant vegetation are valuable in agricultural landscapes because they contribute to both production and conservation values. They provide shade and shelter for livestock, mitigate erosion, store carbon, and provide habitat and corridors for native vertebrate and invertebrate wildlife. Ectomycorrhizal macrofungi are vital symbionts with trees and other woody plants. In modified or fragmented landscapes, transfer of ectomycorrhizal macrofungal propagules between established communities and new plantings or remnant trees surrounded by non-ectomycorrhizal communities could be vital to the functioning and resilience of these plants. Mycophagous mammals resilient in modified landscapes may play a key role in maintaining transfer of ectomycorrhizal macrofungal propagules between mycorrhizal plant communities.

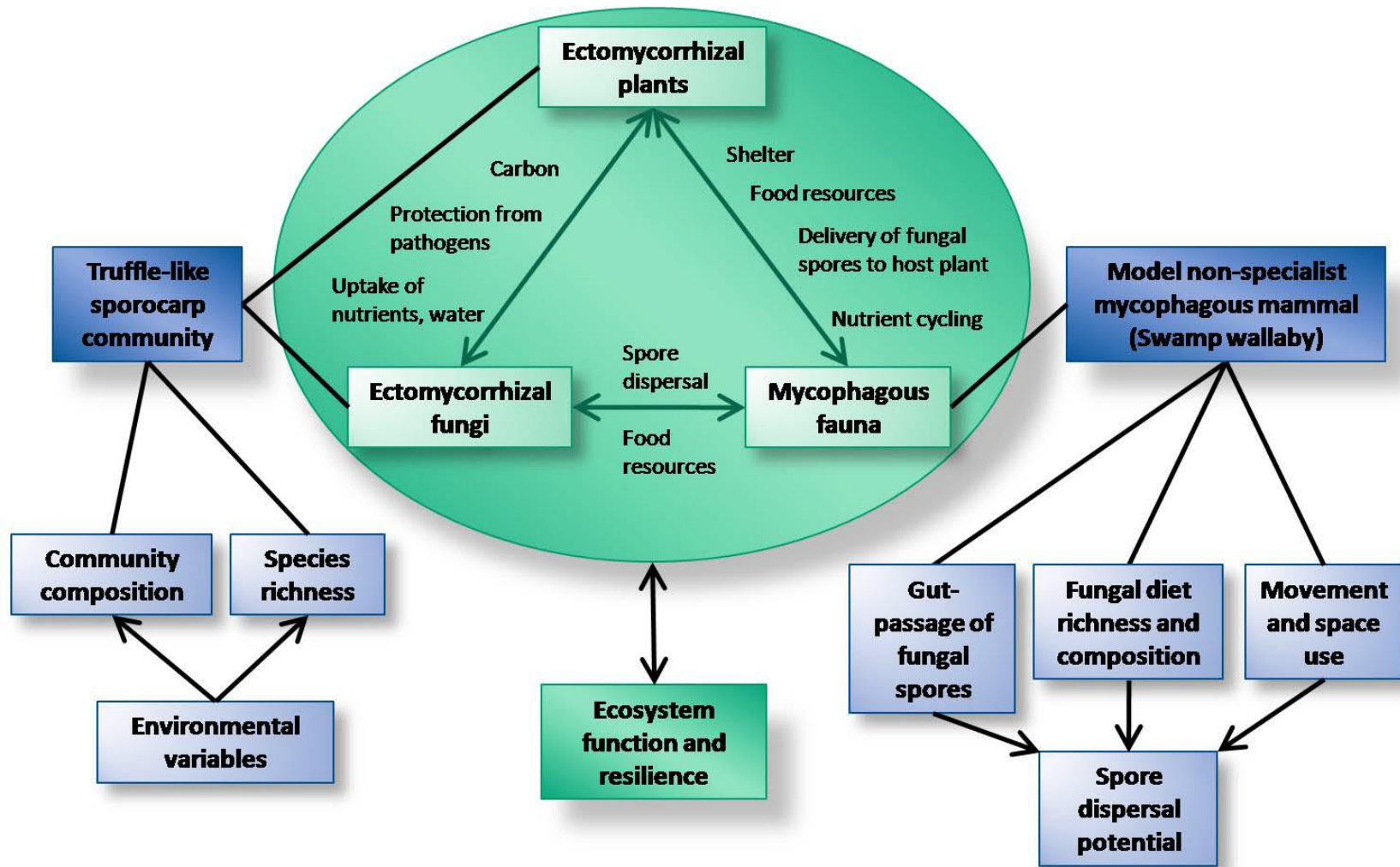


Figure 1.1 Simplified diagram of the interrelationships between mycophagous mammal, ectomycorrhizal fungi and plant communities (green boxes), with linkages to the research themes explored in this thesis (blue boxes).



Figure 2.2. Swamp wallaby, *Wallabia bicolor* (photo James Turner 2009).

The swamp wallaby: a generalist macropodid browser

The swamp wallaby *Wallabia bicolor* (Desmarest: Macropodidae; Figure 2.2) is a widespread, medium-sized (6 – 25 kg), macropod abundant in a range of habitats across eastern Australia, from Cape York to south-western Victoria (Pople 1989; Merchant 1995). While it is common within its range, surprisingly little is known of its ecology. The swamp wallaby was chosen as the model species for this study because it has recently been found to consume a variety of macrofungal sporocarps (Claridge *et al.* 2001; Vernes and McGrath 2009; Vernes 2010) and it remains common in some areas in which other mycophagists are in decline or have become extinct, and is therefore of interest as a disperser of macrofungal spores.

In the little more than 200 years since European occupation, Australian terrestrial mammals have suffered dramatic declines in number and range (Burbidge and McKenzie 1989; Johnson *et al.* 1989; Maxwell *et al.* 1996; Burbidge *et al.* 2009). More than 30% of species have

become either locally or fully extinct (Burbidge *et al.* 2009). Mycophagous potoroos, bettongs, rat-kangaroos, bandicoots, and rodents are among the species experiencing the most severe declines ('critical weight range'; 35 – 5 500 g (Burbidge and McKenzie 1989). The swamp wallaby, a non-specialist mycophagist, and one of the larger mycophagous Australian mammals, remains common across much of its range: it is estimated to have declined by less than 10% since European settlement and has a stable conservation status (Maxwell *et al.* 1996).

General objectives

The research reported in this thesis has two general objectives:

1. Quantify the diversity of truffle-like fungi (a) available in sporocarp communities, (b) as spores in swamp wallaby diet and (c) compare sporocarp communities and diet in terms of both swamp wallaby feeding strategy and methods of sampling truffle-like sporocarp communities;
2. Explore the potential importance of swamp wallabies as dispersers of truffle-like fungi spores in a modified landscape through examination of (a) spore gut-passage time and (b) home range and movement patterns.

Specific hypotheses are outlined below, for each chapter.

Thesis structure

This thesis has a 'chapters as journal article manuscripts' structure and study sites and methods are described within relevant chapters rather than in a separate preliminary chapter. Thus there is some overlap in introductory and methodological descriptions among chapters.

In Chapter 2 I quantify the diversity and composition of truffle-like fungi in three different eucalypt forest types at two geographically and climatically different locations over two seasons (Objective 1a) and assess differences between forest types, locations and seasons. This chapter also investigates relationships between truffle-like sporocarp community composition

and environmental variables. Truffle-like communities are expected to differ between forests, locations, and seasons and soil chemistry, rainfall, temperature, and above-ground plant communities will influence the diversity and composition of truffle-like sporocarp communities.

In Chapter 3 I examine the diversity and composition of swamp wallaby macrofungal diet (Objective 1b) using microscopic analysis of faecal pellets collected from the same sites used in the preceding chapter. I assess differences between forest types, locations and seasons. This work supports previous research which found that swamp wallabies consume a great diversity of macrofungi, including truffle-like fungi. I also compare the taxon richness of swamp wallaby macrofungal diet to published accounts of the diet of other Australian mycophagous mammals.

Chapter 4 compares the diversity and composition of truffle-like sporocarp communities to swamp wallaby diet (Objective 1c). As swamp wallabies are considered to have a generalist feeding strategy, the diversity and composition of fungi consumed is expected to differ from, and reflect a subset of, the available sporocarp communities.

In Chapter 5 I quantify the time taken for truffle-like fungi spores to pass through the swamp wallaby gut (Objective 2), and compare this 'gut-retention time' to that of other mycophagous mammals, including specialist mycophagists. This is the first study to examine whole gut digesta passage in the swamp wallaby and one of the few studies to utilise a natural marker (truffle-like fungi spores). It is expected that gut-retention times in the swamp wallaby will be most similar to those found for smaller browsing wallabies as they are most similar to swamp wallabies in terms of diet. Gut-retention time information is essential as a baseline for determining the potential distances to which swamp wallabies could disperse spores of ingested sporocarps (Chapter 6).

In Chapter 6 I examine the home range and movement patterns of swamp wallabies within, and adjacent to, a large forested remnant in a patchily-forested landscape and assess use of isolated remnant woodland patches, shelterbelt plantings and paddock trees. I then estimate, with reference to Chapter 5, the potential distance from the point of consumption to which swamp wallabies could disperse spores and the likelihood of spore dispersal to isolated trees in this landscape (Objective 2).

Chapter 7 provides a synthesis of the main findings of this thesis, summarises themes for further research, and makes recommendations for natural resource management.

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Chapter 2. Truffle-like (sequestrate) fungi sporocarps in a eucalypt-dominated landscape:
patterns in diversity and community structure

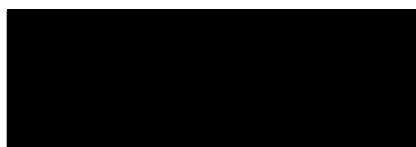
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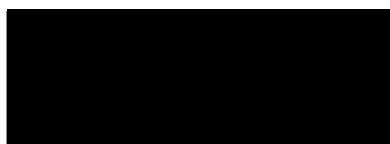
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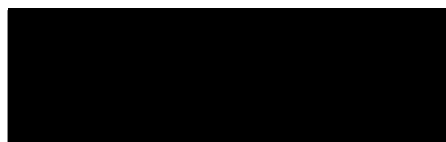
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Candidate	Melissa Danks	90
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Chapter 3. Landscape and local-scale patterns of mycophagy by a generalist browser macropod

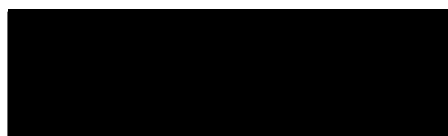
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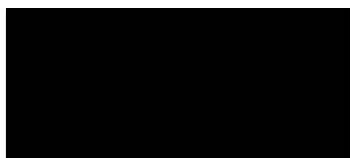
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Chapter 4. A comparison of truffle-like fungi sporocarp diversity and diet of a non-specialist mycophagist

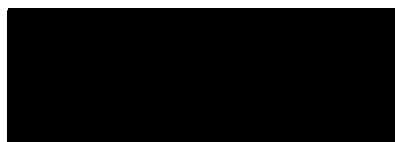
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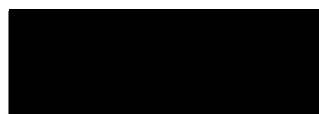
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Chapter 5. Retention time of truffle-like fungal spores in the swamp wallaby gut and comparison with other mycophagous mammals

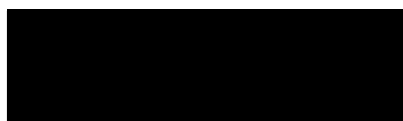
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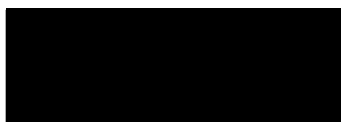
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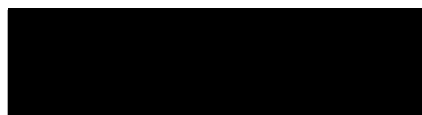
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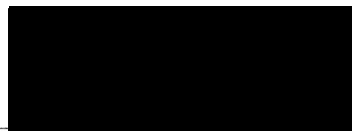
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Chapter 6. Short-term movement and potential dispersal of truffle-like fungi spores by a generalist mycophagous macropod in a variegated landscape

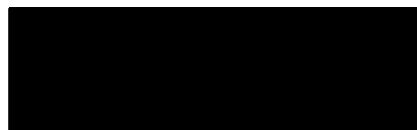
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Manuscript	125-154



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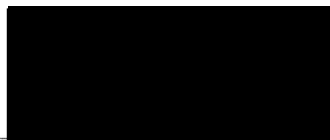
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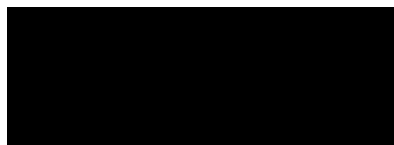
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Chapter 7. Synthesis and perspectives

The aim of this thesis was to quantify the diversity of truffle-like fungi available as sporocarps and in swamp wallaby diet, and examine swamp wallaby feeding strategy by comparing available sporocarps and diet species richness and composition. Additionally, I aimed to explore the role of swamp wallabies as dispersers of truffle-like fungi spores in a modified landscape through examination of spore gut-passage time and home range and movement patterns. Here I present summaries of the main findings of my thesis and the significance of those findings for the management of the swamp wallaby, and other mycophagous mammals, in eucalypt forests. Potential future research directions are suggested. Additional research conducted during the course of the work presented in this thesis, and considered pertinent to future research directions, is outlined.

Summary of main findings

DIVERSITY AND DISTRIBUTION OF TRUFFLE-LIKE FUNGI

This study, the first systematic sampling of truffle-like fungi in the New England Tableland and Nandewar Bioregions, identified 118 species (35 genera) from 1126 sporocarps, with over half of these species undescribed at the time of collection. Eight new species in the genus *Cortinarius* have been described as a result of this work (Appendix 2, Danks *et al.* 2010) and taxonomic descriptions are ongoing. Sporocarp production was strongly seasonal: standing crop and species richness were greater in winter than in summer, similar to temperate and tropical regions of Australia despite different climatic patterns. As expected, variation in sporocarp community composition was high across spatial and temporal scales, indeed much variation was not explained by the effect of site, forest types, quadrat, or season. Variation in community composition among forest types was associated with habitat attributes that differed with site. At

Mount Kaputar, canopy cover, litter cover, litter depth, soil phosphorous and temperature were most important in differentiating the sporocarp communities of different forest types, while at New England, rainfall, aspect, soil texture, log (pH), and soil nitrogen distinguished communities.

MYCOPHAGY BY THE SWAMP WALLABY

Variation in truffle-like sporocarp production affects food resource availability for mycophagous mammals. The results of this work, the largest study of the macrofungal component of swamp wallaby diet, support the conclusions of previous research that found that swamp wallabies consume a great diversity of macrofungi in multiple seasons. Swamp wallabies consumed more truffle-like than epigeous sporocarps and the total number of spore types consumed was similar to other mycophagous marsupials in eucalypt-dominated landscapes, including specialist and non-specialist mycophagists. On the basis of their consistently diverse macrofungal diets, swamp wallabies are likely to be important spore dispersers, particularly for truffle-like fungi that rely upon mammalian spore dispersal. Variation in the composition of swamp wallaby diet was high at all spatial and temporal scales, and further investigation of the relationship between swamp wallaby diet composition and sporocarp community composition was warranted.

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SWAMP WALLABY MACROFUNGAL DIET AND SPOROCARP COMMUNITY

Overall, swamp wallabies did not consume sporocarps in relation to their availability. Wallabies showed preferences for a suite of taxa, some of which were frequently detected in sporocarp survey and some of which were rare. Only ~60% of the genera detected in sporocarp surveys were consumed but one quarter of the genera in their diet were not detected in surveys. At a more localised scale (the scale of the sampling quadrat), which is closer to the scale at which swamp wallabies would be foraging, swamp wallaby diet was similar in richness to the

sporocarp community. Compositional differences between the diet and the community varied with forest type and season. Diet composition was highly variable at a fine spatial scale, as was the sporocarp community. Although spatial and temporal differences between the swamp wallaby diet and sporocarp community data limit inferences, swamp wallabies are clearly responding to sporocarp community diversity and composition at a fine-scale. In combination, dietary analysis and sporocarp survey might provide a more efficient and more comprehensive ‘snapshot’ of available sporocarp diversity in a forested landscape than either technique could alone.

GUT-PASSAGE OF TRUFFLE-LIKE FUNGI SPORES

Spores of a truffle-like fungus were retained in the swamp wallaby gut for a mean time of just over one day, and some spores for up to 3 days, before being deposited in faeces. This study is the first study of digesta gut-passage rate in the swamp wallaby, one of few studies to examine passage of macrofungal spores, and is also unusual in examining gut-passage in semi-free ranging animals consuming a predominantly natural, freely-chosen, diet. Gut-retention times in the swamp wallaby were most similar to gut-retention times in smaller mycophagous marsupials, including the specialist potoroids, but much longer than in the small wallabies with diets and gut morphologies most similar to the swamp wallaby. It is not clear why the swamp wallaby’s spore gut-retention time is longer than would be expected for a medium-sized browsing macropodid. Gut-passage rates vary greatly with diet, activity patterns, and among individuals, and further studies of swamp wallaby gut morphology and digestive physiology will be required to answer this question. Nevertheless, I have provided an estimate of the time taken for truffle-like fungi spores to pass through the gut of the swamp wallaby, information that can be used to examine the swamp wallaby’s role in spore dispersal. I also review

published studies of gut-retention in mycophagous mammals, and both mycophagous and non-mycophagous macropodid marsupials.

SWAMP WALLABY MOVEMENT PATTERNS AND SPORE DISPERSAL POTENTIAL

Gut-passage time, together with movement patterns influence the distance to which a mycophagous mammal may carry the spores of ingested sporocarps. While GPS-telemetry indicated that most movement was restricted to the interior and edge of the large forest remnant in which swamp wallabies were captured, camera trapping revealed occasional use of isolated forest patches by swamp wallabies. The mean spore dispersal distance predicted by ‘dispersal kernel’ models based on GPS-telemetry movement records and spore gut-retention time (Chapter 5) was 187 m, with maximum distances of over one kilometre. Such distances represent long-distance spore dispersal for truffle-like fungi, further than an individual or a genet may spread via mycelial extension. Rare longer-distance movements, including to isolated trees and forest patches, could be extremely important in establishing new or refreshing existing EM associations in isolated host plants or communities. The approach used here represents a useful way to model spore dispersal that could be readily adapted for other mycophagous mammals and other landscapes.

The natural eucalypt-dominated landscapes of the study region are rich in truffle-like fungi, vital symbionts with forest trees and shrubs. The abundant sporocarps of these fungi, while highly variable both spatially and temporally, are an important food resource for mycophagous mammals, including the non-specialist browsing swamp wallaby. Swamp wallabies regularly consume a diversity of sporocarps, responding to fine-scale variation in sporocarp occurrence, and are key spore dispersal agents for truffle-like fungi, disseminating spores in their faeces across many hundreds of metres. This study emphasises the importance of non-specialist mycophagists, such as the swamp wallaby, and other potentially overlooked mammal

mycophagists in dispersing the spores of truffle-like fungi in forest ecosystems. A diverse community of mammal mycophagists is likely important to the maintenance of these highly diverse sporocarp communities and thus to the functioning of these forests.

Implications and recommendations

The findings of this thesis have several implications for the management of the swamp wallaby. Regular consumption of a diversity of macrofungal sporocarps by this non-specialist mycophagist was highlighted. Small amounts of sporocarps are probably nutritionally important to the swamp wallaby year-round, supplementing the plant browse component of the diet. The requirements of the swamp wallaby for a diversity of macrofungi should be incorporated into management plans for landscapes in which this species occurs.

Australia has a rich ground-dwelling mammal fauna, many of which are mycophagous to some degree. Mycophagous mammals have important roles in maintaining diverse macrofungal communities through dissemination of spores, whether strongly mycophagous or not. Specialist mycophagous potoroids are known to be important consumers and dispersers of truffle-like fungi, while knowledge of the diets and spore dispersal roles of other mycophagous mammals is limited. This thesis has highlighted the role of the swamp wallaby, a common macropod and generalist mycophagist, in consuming and dispersing macrofungi spores. Further studies of diets and activity patterns across mycophagous mammal assemblages will improve our understanding of competition and niche partitioning, and the role of mammals in spore dispersal. Other non-specialist mycophagists are likely to be similarly important consumers in EM-forest dominated landscapes, and particularly in areas where specialist mycophagists do not occur. Multiple mammal mycophagists may be important in maintaining truffle-like fungi diversity in landscapes, such as the New England Tableland bioregion, which have a rich truffle-like sporocarp community and, historically, a rich mammal fauna. Conserving a

diversity of mycophagists, macrofungi, and plant hosts is important to the functioning of remnant forests in these landscapes. In turn, a mosaic of forest types is likely to contribute to macrofungi diversity and to the sporocarp resource consumed by a wide range of mammals.

Mycophagous mammals tend to occupy areas of dense cover and adjacent areas for the food resources and protection from predators that they provide. These habitats also favour truffle-like sporocarp production, due to the presence of both host plants and mammalian spore dispersal agents. Many vertebrate species require mosaics of habitats (Law and Dickman 1998), and preference for ecotones or habitat mosaics at the scale of the home range that provide some dense cover are common among mycophagous mammals. For example, Vernes and Dunn (2009) report the bush rat *Rattus fuscipes* foraging for sporocarps across a eucalypt forest-rainforest ecotone, the northern bettong *Bettongia tropica* prefers ecotonal eucalypt woodland and *Allocasuarina* forest in the Australian Wet Tropics (Abell *et al.* 2006), the long-nosed potoroo *Potorous tridactylus* utilises contrasting microhabitats within its temperate eucalypt forest habitat (Bennett 1993), and the swamp wallaby *Wallabia bicolor* uses eucalypt forest-pasture interfaces (Edwards and Ealey 1975; Chapter 6) and mosaics of regenerating forest (Lunney and O'Connell 1988; Di Stefano *et al.* 2009).

Mycophagous mammals dispersing spores both within habitats and across habitat boundaries function as 'mobile link organisms' (*sensu* Lundberg and Moberg 2003), vital components in ecosystem development and resilience, influencing the development and survival of mycorrhizal plant and fungal communities (Lundberg and Moberg 2003). In early successional habitats, mycophagous mammals traversing the boundaries of adjacent habitats can be crucial to colonisation of 'new' habitat by a diversity of truffle-like fungi (Cazares and Trappe 1994; Terwilliger and Pastor 1999; Ashkannejhad and Horton 2005) because deposits of spore-containing faeces provide the seeds of EM host that germinate near the faeces with EM inoculum, facilitating the spread of EM plant species (Maser *et al.* 1978). Mammal

mycophagists resilient in some human-modified landscapes, including the swamp wallaby, play a key role in the dispersal of fungal spores and the maintenance of ectomycorrhizal associations in these landscapes. This is particularly the case in fragmented or partially cleared landscapes, or areas with naturally sparse tree cover, where barriers to mycelial spread occur and in landscapes from which other mycophagous mammals have been extirpated. Establishment and maintenance of mycorrhizal symbioses may be crucial to the persistence of native vegetation remnants, shelterbelt plantings, and isolated paddock trees, and to the success of revegetation programs, in human-modified landscapes.

Australian EM forests and woodlands have co-evolved with a rich and highly endemic truffle-like fungi biota (Bougher and Lebel 2001). The taxonomy and ecology of these fungi, critical forest components, remain poorly known. More studies exploring the taxonomy, distribution, functional roles, and interactions with host plants and mycophagists are needed to elucidate the dynamics of EM fungi. An understanding of the drivers of diversity and sporocarp production at multiple spatial scales will inform sustainable forest management.

A major challenge in the conservation of macrofungi, and therefore in the conservation of mycophagous mammals, is incomplete knowledge of their taxonomy, distribution, and ecology (Buchanan and May 2003; Mueller *et al.* 2007; Molina *et al.*) and one of the impediments is the limited accumulation and sharing of expert knowledge (Molina *et al.* 2011). To help address this need, an online database for collation and communication of ecological and taxonomic information on macrofungi and mycophagous mammals is in development (Appendix 11).

Viability, dormancy, and longevity of truffle-like fungi spores in the soil, whether eaten and disseminated by mammals or other mycophagists, or deposited *in situ* as the sporocarp rots away, remain unknown (but see Bruns *et al.* 2009). Knowledge of potential distances to which mammals may disseminate spores, and the effect of digestion on spores, is necessary for

investigation of disperser effectiveness. With some fundamental knowledge of macrofungal occurrence, habitat configuration, mycophagous mammal diets and movement patterns, spore viability, and host plant occurrence, more detailed models of mammal-mediated macrofungal spore dispersal in EM-dominated landscapes could be constructed. Such models could be used to examine further the functioning of mammal-fungal-plant relationships, and would be particularly useful tools for assessing functional diversity in mycophagous mammal communities.

Adaptive management of EM-dominated human-modified and ‘intact’ landscapes will require continued study of interactions between EM fungi, plants, and mycophagous mammals and their contributions to ecosystem function. The maintenance of genetic diversity, species diversity, and functional diversity is integral to ecosystem function, and understanding the drivers of soil biodiversity will aid our understanding of terrestrial ecosystems (Wardle 2006). Bougher & Tommerup (1996) note that association with a network of ectomycorrhizal fungi may have been advantageous for plants faced with climatic fluctuations in the geological past. Maintaining a taxonomically and functionally diverse ectomycorrhizal community, and their associated plant and animal assemblages, will be essential to the survival and resilience of EM forests and other EM ecosystems in a changing climate.

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Appendices

Appendix 1. Attributes of site x forest type combinations (mean \pm SE of three replicate quadrats). Values of categorical attributes are presented as ranges. MK = Mt Kaputar site, NE = New England site, GW = grassy woodland, WS = wet forest, DS = dry forest.

Attribute	MK			NE		
	GW	WS	DS	GW	WS	DS
<i>Climate^a</i>						
Annual mean temperature (°C)	10.9 \pm 0.1	11.6 \pm 0.1	13.5 \pm 0.1	9.6 \pm 0	10.7 \pm 0	11.2 \pm 0.1
Mean diurnal temperature range (°C)	12.5 \pm 0	12.9 \pm 0.1	13.8 \pm 0.1	9.8 \pm 0	10.6 \pm 0	11.2 \pm 0.1
Annual temperature range (°C)	27.4 \pm 0	28 \pm 0.1	29.2 \pm 0.1	21 \pm 0	22 \pm 0	22.8 \pm 0.1
Mean temperature wettest quarter (°C)	17.7 \pm 0.1	18.5 \pm 0.1	20.5 \pm 0.1	14.2 \pm 0	15.3 \pm 0	16.4 \pm 0.1
Mean temperature driest quarter (°C)	7.5 \pm 0.1	7.3 \pm 0.4	8.4 \pm 0.1	6.1 \pm 0	7.1 \pm 0	7.1 \pm 0.1
Mean temperature warmest quarter (°C)	17.8 \pm 0.1	18.5 \pm 0.1	20.5 \pm 0.1	14.6 \pm 0	15.7 \pm 0	16.4 \pm 0.1
Mean temperature coldest quarter (°C)	4 \pm 0.1	4.6 \pm 0.1	6.3 \pm 0.1	4.4 \pm 0	5.3 \pm 0	5.8 \pm 0.1
Annual mean precipitation (mm)	1222 \pm 5.7	1160.7 \pm 10.3	1022.7 \pm 10.1	2093 \pm 9.3	1651 \pm 10.6	1218.3 \pm 8
Mean precipitation wettest quarter (mm)	374 \pm 1.5	359 \pm 2.6	328 \pm 2.3	871 \pm 4.6	641.7 \pm 5.6	453.3 \pm 1.2
Mean precipitation driest quarter (mm)	260.3 \pm 1.2	247.7 \pm 2.3	217 \pm 2.3	266.3 \pm 0.9	226.7 \pm 0.9	186 \pm 2.3
Mean precipitation warmest quarter (mm)	372 \pm 1.5	357.7 \pm 2.3	328 \pm 2.3	772 \pm 3.6	604.3 \pm 3.8	452.7 \pm 1.5
Mean precipitation coldest quarter (mm)	294 \pm 1.5	276.7 \pm 2.9	237 \pm 2.9	365 \pm 1.2	308.7 \pm 1.5	238.7 \pm 4.1
Annual mean radiation (Mj/m ²)	17.1 \pm 0	17.3 \pm 0	17.6 \pm 0	15.9 \pm 0	16.4 \pm 0	17 \pm 0
Mean radiation wettest quarter (Mj/m ²)	21.7 \pm 0.1	22 \pm 0	22.3 \pm 0	17.9 \pm 0	18.4 \pm 0	20.9 \pm 0
Mean radiation driest quarter (Mj/m ²)	16.7 \pm 0	15.8 \pm 0.5	15.3 \pm 0.2	15.1 \pm 0	15.4 \pm 0	15.1 \pm 0
Mean radiation warmest quarter (Mj/m ²)	22.2 \pm 0	22.3 \pm 0	22.7 \pm 0	19.6 \pm 0	20.2 \pm 0	21.2 \pm 0
Mean radiation coldest quarter (Mj/m ²)	11 \pm 0	11.1 \pm 0	11.3 \pm 0	11 \pm 0	11.2 \pm 0	11.5 \pm 0
Annual mean moisture index (0–1)	0.8 \pm 0	0.8 \pm 0	0.7 \pm 0	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0	0.9 \pm 0
Mean moisture index highest moisture quarter (0–1)	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0	1 \pm 0

Attribute	MK			NE		
	GW	WS	DS	GW	WS	DS
Mean moisture index lowest moisture quarter (0–1)	0.6 ± 0	0.6 ± 0	0.5 ± 0	1 ± 0	1 ± 0	0.9 ± 0
Mean moisture index warmest quarter (0–1)	0.6 ± 0	0.6 ± 0	0.5 ± 0	1 ± 0	1 ± 0	0.9 ± 0
Mean moisture index coldest quarter (0–1)	1 ± 0	1 ± 0	0.9 ± 0	1 ± 0	1 ± 0	1 ± 0
<i>Landscape</i>						
Elevation (m asl)	1429.7 ± 10.7	1311 ± 20.4	998.3 ± 23.4	1522 ± 4	1323.7 ± 1.9	1226.7 ± 24.3
Latitude (degrees S)	30.3 ± 0.0	30.3 ± 0.0	30.3 ± 0.0	30.5 ± 0.0	30.5 ± 0.0	30.5 ± 0.0
Longitude (degrees E)	150.2 ± 0.0	150.2 ± 0.0	150.1 ± 0.0	152.4 ± 0.0	152.4 ± 0.0	152.3 ± 0.0
Position in slope (ridge; up-slope; mid-slope; low-slope; flat) ^b	1-2	2-3	3	1-2	2	1-2
Aspect (degrees from north) ^c	89.7 ± 11.3	46 ± 112.1	-46 ± 19.7	64.7 ± 74.9	12.7 ± 24.5	-8.3 ± 60.6
Slope (degrees from horizontal)	12.3 ± 0.7	18.3 ± 4.3	15.7 ± 1.8	8.7 ± 1.9	17 ± 7.2	6.3 ± 1.5
<i>Floristic</i>						
Eucalyptus species ^f	1.5 ± 0.3	3 ± 0	3 ± 0	3.5 ± 0.3	2 ± 0	2.5 ± 0.3
Acacia species ^f	1.5 ± 0.3	1 ± 0.6	1 ± 0	1 ± 0	1 ± 0	1 ± 0
Other woody plant species ^f	6 ± 0.6	4 ± 0.6	11 ± 0	4 ± 0.6	8.5 ± 1.4	18 ± 1.7
Total ectomycorrhizal plant species ^f	13 ± 1.2	16.5 ± 2	24 ± 0.6	22 ± 3.5	26 ± 0	31.5 ± 0.9
<i>Structure of 'live' vegetation</i>						
Total upper canopy cover (%)	93.6 ± 2.6	97 ± 0.3	94.9 ± 1.9	89 ± 3.6	96.4 ± 1.9	92.2 ± 4
Tree fern cover (%)	0	13.7 ± 13.2	0	0	18 ± 16	0
Shrub cover (%)	10.3 ± 4.7	38.3 ± 6	70 ± 2.9	20 ± 7.6	63.3 ± 21.9	23.3 ± 8.8
Total understorey cover (%)	10.3 ± 4.7	52 ± 9.9	70 ± 2.9	20 ± 7.6	81.3 ± 6.4	23.3 ± 8.8
Ground fern cover (%)	0	13.8 ± 6.9	0	2.5 ± 1.9	19.6 ± 4.2	0
Graminoid cover (%)	68.3 ± 4	43.7 ± 6.1	10.8 ± 1.2	82.4 ± 13.2	37.6 ± 10.2	37.9 ± 6.7

Attribute	MK			NE		
	GW	WS	DS	GW	WS	DS
Total live ground cover (%)	68.3 ± 4	57.4 ± 2.2	10.8 ± 1.2	84.9 ± 11.4	57.2 ± 14.2	37.9 ± 6.7
<i>Structure of 'dead' vegetation</i>						
Rock cover (%)	0	13.9 ± 10.1	5.6 ± 4.2	1.7 ± 1.7	0.8 ± 0.8	0.4 ± 0.4
Coarse woody debris cover (%)	6.8 ± 4.3	5 ± 0	6.7 ± 1.7	7.7 ± 3.7	10 ± 2.9	5.7 ± 2.3
Litter cover (%) ^d	31.7 ± 4	27.6 ± 8.4	68.1 ± 1	12.6 ± 10.1	42.4 ± 13.3	59.6 ± 7.1
Litter depth (cm) ^d	55.8 ± 8	49.9 ± 0.8	28.8 ± 1.9	50.6 ± 4	60 ± 17	37.1 ± 5.5
<i>Edaphic</i>						
Total P concentration (ppm) ^d	0.11 ± 0.04	0.16 ± 0.04	0.17 ± 0.05	0.32 ± 0.04	0.161 ± 0.021	0.005 ± 0.001
Total C concentration (ppm) ^d	5.02 ± 0.82	7.56 ± 2.51	3.81 ± 0.36	13.02 ± 1.60	13.314 ± 2.895	1.66 ± 0.43
Total N concentration (ppm) ^d	0.29 ± 0.00	0.39 ± 0.14	0.29 ± 0.02	0.83 ± 0.10	0.674 ± 0.135	0.08 ± 0.02
pH ^c	5.4 ± 0.3	5.9 ± 0.1	7 ± 0.1	5.4 ± 0.1	5.4 ± 0	5 ± 0.2
Electrical conductivity (µS) ^d	50.5 ± 2.6	74.6 ± 7.5	65.4 ± 2.4	67.8 ± 11.2	69.4 ± 14	31.5 ± 2
Soil texture (sand; loam; clay-loam; clay) ^{de}	3 - 4	3 - 4	4	3	2 - 4	2 - 3
Soil moisture content ^d	2.6 ± 0.4	3.4 ± 0.9	2.9 ± 0.5	15.3 ± 5.1	12.2 ± 2.6	0.6 ± 0.1

a Values of climatic parameters estimated for each quadrat using ANUCLIM 5.1.

b Where 1=ridge, 2=up-slope, 3=mid-slope, 4=low-slope, 5=flat.

c Distance from 0 (north). Westerly values negative, easterly values positive, maximum value 180 (south).

d Average measured at central points of four 1m² sub-plots.

e Where 1=sand, 2=loam, 3=clay-loam, 4=clay.

f Species contributing >10% cover

Appendix 2.

Danks, M., T. Lebel and K. Vernes (2010). "'Cort short on a mountaintop' - Eight new species of sequestrate *Cortinarius* from sub-alpine Australia and affiliations to sections within the genus." Personia 24: 106-126.

Appendix 3. Percent occurrence of sporocarps, proportion of total sporocarp abundance and proportion of total sporocarp biomass (dry weight) of truffle-like fungi species sampled in 18 quadrats at New England NP and Mt Kaputar NP over two seasons (summer and winter). EM = ectomycorrhizal, NM = non-mycorrhizal.

Species	Nutritional mode	No. of quadrat samples	Percent occurrence (%)	Proportional abundance (%)	Proportional biomass (%)
<i>Amylascus herbertianus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.38
<i>Arcangeliella</i> sp ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.04
<i>Aroramyces</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	3	8.33	0.36	0.28
<i>Austrogautieria</i> '7-ridges' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.98	2.50
<i>Austrogautieria</i> 'aff costata' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.09
<i>Austrogautieria clelandii</i>	EM	3	8.33	1.24	0.49
<i>Austrogautieria manjimupana</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.44	1.27
<i>Castoreum radicum</i>	EM	3	8.33	0.44	1.72
<i>Chamonixia mucosa</i>	EM	4	11.11	0.62	0.70
<i>Chamonixia vittatispora</i>	EM	3	8.33	2.66	2.19
<i>Chondrogaster</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.11
<i>Chondrogaster</i> sp 2 ^a	EM	3	8.33	1.07	2.61
<i>Chondrogaster</i> sp 3 'winged' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.40
<i>Cortinarius basorapulus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.44	0.93
<i>Cortinarius caesibulga</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.62	4.01
<i>Cortinarius cinereoroseolus</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.80	0.55
<i>Cortinarius kaputarensis</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.36	0.72
<i>Cortinarius maculobulga</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.98	1.33
<i>Cortinarius</i> 'mustard green gleba' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.01
<i>Cortinarius nebulobrunneus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.62	2.28
<i>Cortinarius sinapivelus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.51
<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	3	8.33	1.24	1.80
<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 2 ^a	EM	1	2.78	1.15	2.28
<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 3 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.30
<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 5 ^a	EM	1	2.78	1.69	0.34
<i>Cystangium</i> 'aff sessile' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.98	0.18
<i>Cystangium balpineum</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.27	0.44
<i>Cystangium luteobrunneum</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.16
<i>Cystangium phymatodisporum</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.18	0.04
<i>Cystangium seminudum</i>	EM	4	11.11	1.87	0.67
<i>Cystangium sessile</i>	EM	3	8.33	0.53	0.11
<i>Cystangium sparsum</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.11
<i>Cystangium trappei</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.62	0.54
<i>Dermocybe globuliformis</i>	EM	8	22.22	18.03	7.78
<i>Dermocybe</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.07
<i>Descomyces albellus</i>	EM	4	11.11	1.60	0.26
<i>Descomyces albus</i>	EM	6	16.67	1.95	0.26

Species	Nutritional mode	No. of quadrat samples	Percent occurrence (%)	Proportional abundance (%)	Proportional biomass (%)
<i>Descomyces</i> 'dougmillisii' ^a	EM	3	8.33	0.62	0.08
<i>Descomyces</i> 'jumpponenii' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.04
<i>Descomyces</i> 'lebelii' ^a	EM	9	25.00	2.93	0.93
<i>Descomyces</i> 'miresii' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.62	0.18
<i>Descomyces</i> 'parviretifer' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.44	0.03
<i>Dingleya</i> 'cf geometrica' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.04
<i>Dingleya verrucosa</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.21
<i>Endogone</i> sp ^a	EM/NM	1	2.78	0.09	0.00
<i>Gallacea</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.19
<i>Gallacea</i> sp 2 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.08
<i>Gymnohydnotrya ellipsospora</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.13
<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff eburneus' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.10
<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff glarea' ^a	EM	2	5.56	0.44	0.26
<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff pallidus' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.05
<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff westresii' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.07
<i>Gymnomyces eburneus</i>	EM	4	11.11	4.80	3.66
<i>Gymnomyces eildonensis</i>	EM	3	8.33	1.51	2.27
<i>Gymnomyces glarea</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.27	0.09
<i>Gymnomyces pallidus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.12
<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'rosy pink' ^a	EM	1	2.78	1.42	1.72
<i>Gymnomyces</i> sp ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.03
<i>Hydnangium carneum</i>	EM	5	13.89	1.87	1.57
<i>Hydnangium</i> 'parvisporum' ^a	EM	4	11.11	1.24	0.64
<i>Hydnoplicata convoluta</i>	EM	6	16.67	1.51	1.80
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'aff gardneri' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.12
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'aff inflatum' ^a	EM	2	5.56	0.80	2.01
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'agglutinatum' ^a	EM	8	22.22	5.95	11.24
<i>Hysterangium aggregatum</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.39
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'bubble weed' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.10
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'golden inflated' ^a	EM	5	13.89	2.84	6.22
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'green inflated' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.02
<i>Hysterangium inflatum</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.12
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'multi layer rosy' ^a	EM	2	5.56	0.27	0.11
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'non-gel' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.74
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'olive not rosy' ^a	EM	2	5.56	0.98	0.79
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'rosy' ^a	EM	5	13.89	2.31	1.72
<i>Hysterangium</i> 'smooth' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.36	0.28
<i>Hysterogaster</i> 'apricot on drying' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.62	0.09
<i>Hysterogaster</i> 'descogasteroides' ^a	EM	4	11.11	2.04	0.35
<i>Hysterogaster rodwayii</i>	EM	1	2.78	2.58	0.63
<i>Hysterogaster</i> sp ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.36	0.14
<i>Hysterogaster tasmanicus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.03

Species	Nutritional mode	No. of quadrat samples	Percent occurrence (%)	Proportional abundance (%)	Proportional biomass (%)
<i>Leucogaster rubescens</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.80	0.43
<i>Malajczukia fusispora</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.44
<i>Mesophellia angustispora</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.27	0.57
<i>Mesophellia elelandii</i>	EM	1	2.78	1.69	6.80
<i>Nothocastoreum</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.44	0.47
<i>Octaviania</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.05
<i>Octaviania</i> sp 2 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.36	0.87
<i>Pisolithus hypogaeus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.11
<i>Protoglossum</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.17
<i>Quadrispora oblongispora</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.27	0.20
<i>Quadrispora</i> sp 1 'aff tubercularis' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.41
<i>Russula</i> 'aff pilosella' ^a	EM	6	16.67	0.71	1.28
<i>Russula</i> 'aff pumicoidea' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.62	0.37
<i>Russula albobrunnea</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.18	0.09
<i>Russula brunneonigra</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.27	1.34
<i>Russula sinuata</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.53	0.87
<i>Scleroderma densum</i>	EM	4	11.11	0.71	1.46
<i>Scleroderma paradoxum</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.24
<i>Setchelliogaster</i> sp 1 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.02
<i>Setchelliogaster</i> sp 2 ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.09
<i>Timgrovea reticulata</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.18	0.03
Unknown 1 ^a	unknown	2	5.56	0.44	0.54
<i>Zelleromyces</i> aff 'mattrappei' ^a	EM	7	19.44	0.89	0.48
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'aff rosy 2' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.06
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'aff subamyloideus' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.46
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'brown gleba 1' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.28
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'brown gleba 2' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.53	0.55
<i>Zelleromyces claridgei</i>	EM	3	8.33	0.53	0.31
<i>Zelleromyces daucus</i>	EM	2	5.56	1.24	0.29
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'golden turf' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.21
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'lebelii' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.27	0.12
<i>Zelleromyces majus</i>	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.20
<i>Zelleromyces microsporus</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.18	0.13
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'orange & white' ^a	EM	4	11.11	0.98	0.51
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'rosy' ^a	EM	1	2.78	1.07	0.75
<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp ^a	EM	3	8.33	0.36	0.11
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'spiny spore' ^a	EM	1	2.78	0.09	0.13
<i>Zelleromyces striatus</i>	EM	2	5.56	0.62	0.20
<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'vittatus' ^a	EM	6	16.67	1.07	0.49

a Undescribed species.

b Dry weight not recorded for one of these two collections.

Appendix 4. Spore morphotype image gallery: guide to identification of macrofungal spores in swamp wallaby faecal pellets.

Spore morphotype gallery
to aid identification of spores in
mycophagous mammal dietary samples

M. Danks & T. Lebel 2010

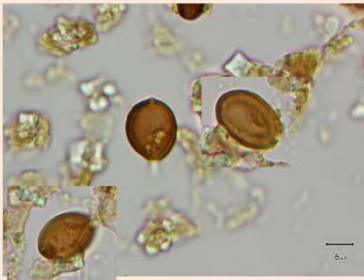
Micrographs of spores in swamp wallaby *Wallabia bicolor* faecal pellet samples collected at Newholme Field Station, Booroolong NR, Mt Kaputar NP, New England NP, & Cathedral Rock NP in northern New South Wales, 2007 – 2009.

Identifications made with reference to sporocarp collections of known taxa from the same sites, and various published and unpublished keys.

Background colour of slide indicates classification of fungal habit:

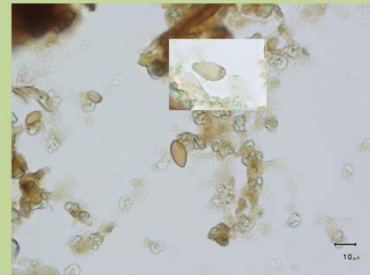


- Samples stained with Melzer's Reagent and mounted in CytoSeal™60 permanent mountant
- Micrographs taken at 1000 x or 400 x magnification. Bars indicate scale.
- Measurements ex ornamentation and apiculus



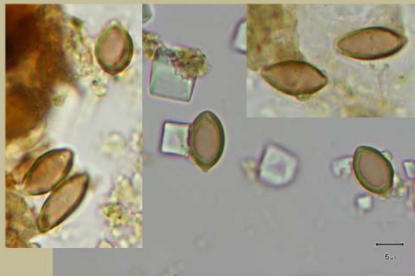
Agariceae 1

Rusty brown; subglobose; smooth; thick walled; germ pore visible at apex; blunt or cup-like point of attachment; 8 -10 x 11 -12 um



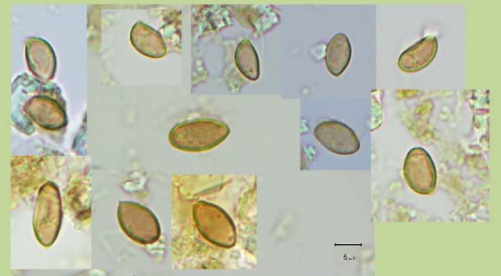
Agariceae 2

Pale brown, oblong – obovoid with one blunt end, asymmetrical, smooth, 6 -11 x 3 -7 um



Agariceae 3

Sub-hyaline, brown-tinted; smooth; teardrop shaped to fusiform; rounded apex with clear 'lens'; small conical apiculus; 11 - 15 x 5 -6 um



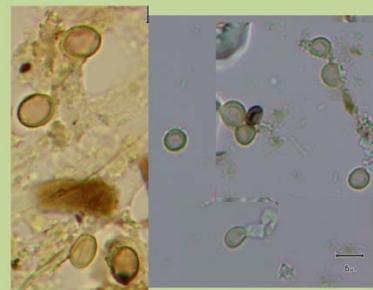
Agariceae 4

Pale brown or yellow brown, some pinkish; asymmetrical; ellipsoid; ovoid in face view; smooth; 6.5 -10 x 3 -5 um



Agariceae 5

Globose to subglobose; brown; smooth; obvious apiculus; 4 -5 x 3 -4 um



Agariceae 6

Globose to subglobose; smooth; hyaline or pale brown-tinted; 4 -7 x 3 -5 um



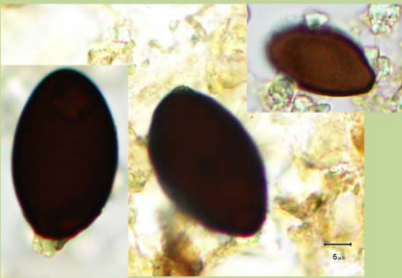
Agaricus / Panaeolus

Bronze-brown; broadly ellipsoid / asymmetric 'gumnut'; smooth; cup-like point of attachment; mucronate apex (germ pore visible); narrow lighter band around apex; fairly thick-walled (0.5 µm); 10-14 x 5-8 µm.



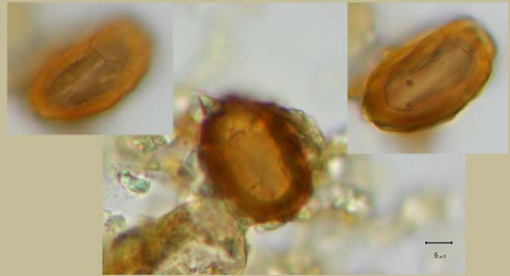
Aroramyces 3

Ellipsoid; asymmetrical; minutely punctate; utricle inflated to 1µm at base; 8-10 x 6-7 µm; differs from *A. sp nov 1* & *A. sp nov 2* (found in sporocarp survey)



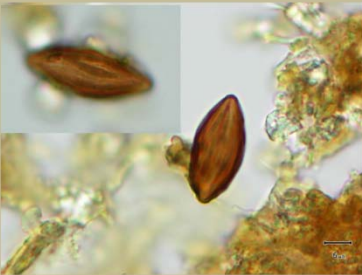
Ascomycete

Large, dark brown, broadly fusiform, asymmetric, smooth (or minutely textured); (16) 20-30 x 10-18 µm



Austrogautieria 1

Golden brown; ovoid to citriniform; rounded indistinct 'broken' ridges to 4 µm tall; ornamented with sparse pegs under ridges; prominent blunt hyaline apiculus 5 µm long; 23-25 x 11-12 µm. Similar to *A. clelandii*, but is larger.



Austrogautieria 2

Broadly fusiform, many branching longitudinal ridges, red-brown, 20-25 x 8 µm.



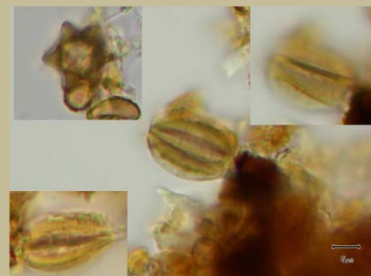
Austrogautieria 3

Pale pinkish-golden brown; narrowly citriniform; sharp ridges 1-2 µm tall, branched; prominent apiculus 2 µm tall; 11-16 x 5-6 µm. Doesn't have prominent 'beak'. Narrower and paler than *A. manjimupana*.



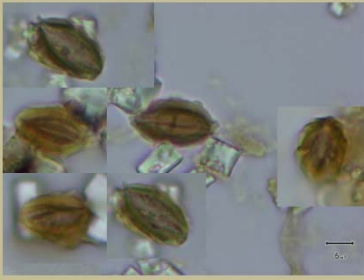
Austrogautieria 5

Brown; narrow citriniform; ~5 sharp ridges (1 µm tall) extending beyond spore ends; 10 x 3 µm



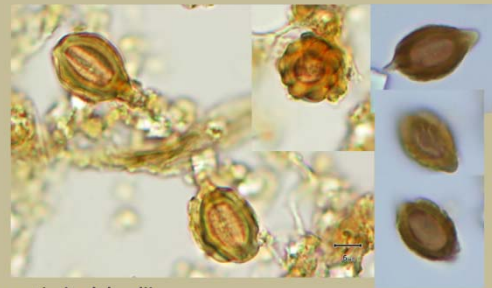
Austrogautieria 7

Pale golden brown or grey-brown; ovoid; 6-7 sharp ridges to 3 µm tall, sometimes branching; smooth under ridges; apiculus unobtrusive; 17-18 x 7-9 µm



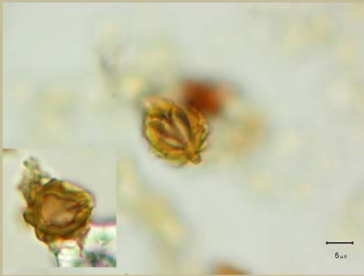
Austrogautieria aff manjimupana

Pale golden brown to greyish brown; citriniform; sharp ridges to 2 µm tall, branched; prominent apiculus 2 µm tall; 13 -15 x 5 -6 µm
Doesn't have prominent 'beak'.



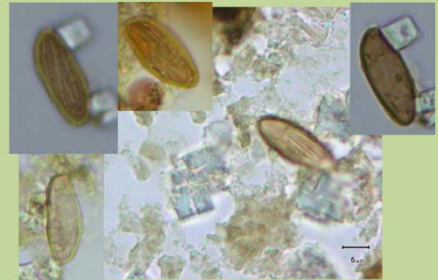
Austrogautieria clelandii

Golden brown; ovoid to citriniform; 8-9 rounded indistinct 'broken' ridges to 3 µm tall; ornamented with minute pegs under ridges; prominent blunt hyaline apiculus; 15 -17 x 6 -7 µm (young spores 10 -15 µm long).



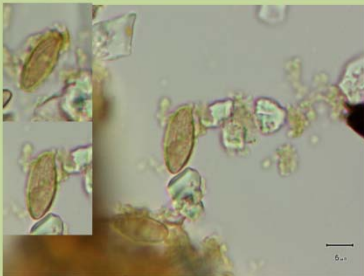
Austrogautieria costata

Golden brown; sub-globose; ~10 sharp ridges (2 µm); 10 -12 x 7 -8 µm



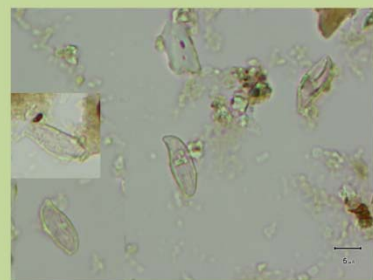
Boletellus 1

Fusiform; brown-tinted; slightly asymmetrical; many fine longitudinal low ridges/striations; 16 -20 x 5 -8 µm.



Boletellus 2

Fusiform; brown-tinted; asymmetrical; many fine longitudinal low ridges/striations; 13 x 3 µm.
Smaller than Boletellus 1.
Larger than Boletellus 3 and brown rather than hyaline.



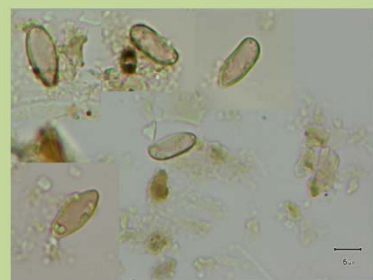
Boletellus 3

Fusiform; hyaline; asymmetrical; many fine longitudinal low ridges/striations; 11 -12 x 4 -5 µm.



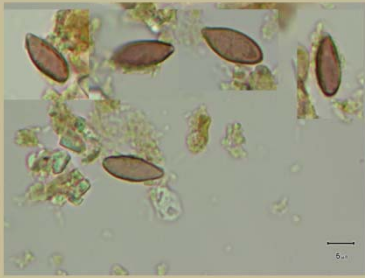
Boletoid 1

Fusiform; pale brown; smooth; asymmetrical; 12 -15 x 3 -4 µm.



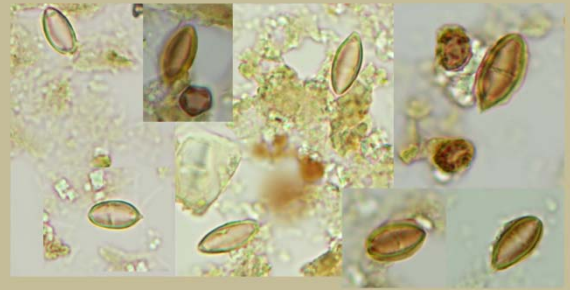
Boletoid 2

Hyaline to pinkish; fusiform-oblong; asymmetric; smooth; 10 -11 x 3 -4 µm



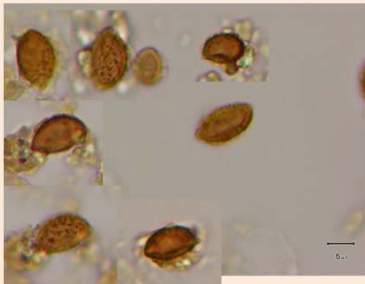
Boletoid 3

Purple-tinted; fusiform; smooth, but slightly 'undulating' surface; 12-14 x 3-4 μm



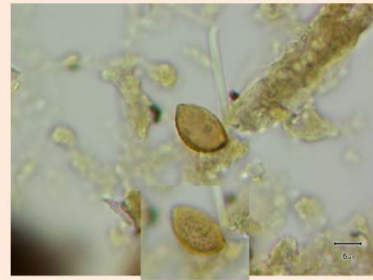
Chamonixia

Pink-brown tinted to golden bronze-brown, broadly fusiform, low broad smooth longitudinal ridge, 8 - 11 (13) x 3.5 - 5 μm. Episporium not always obvious. Darker spores = more mature.



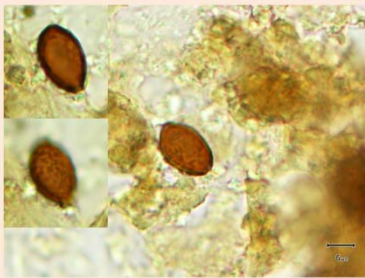
Cortinariaceae 1

Rusty brown; amygdal; asymmetrical; finely nodulose; 9 x 5 μm



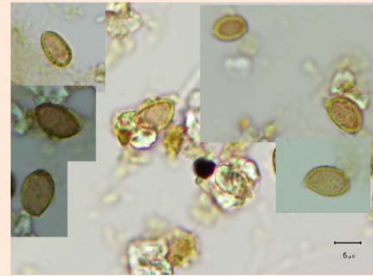
Cortinariaceae 2

Pale rusty brown; amygdal; asymmetrical; finely nodulose / verrucose; 12 x 7 μm



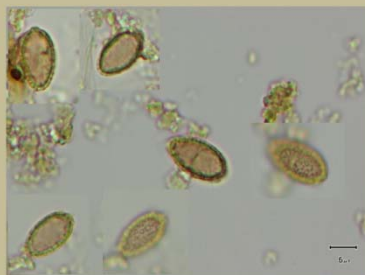
Cortinariaceae 3

Light golden brown; broadly ovoid; verrucose, 'wrinkled'; 10 - 12 x 6 μm



Cortinariaceae 4

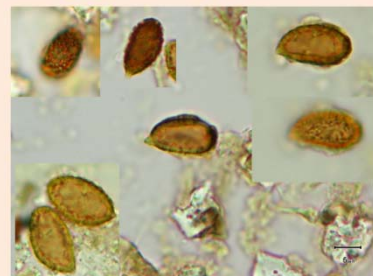
Pale rusty brown; ovoid-ellipsoid; asymmetrical; minutely warty/punctate; apiculus hyaline; 5-9 x 3-5 μm



Cortinarius 1

Pale brown; narrowly ovoid; symmetrical; short conical hyaline apiculus; apex somewhat square; fine low rounded warts, distinctive utricles to 1 μm; 9 - 11 x 5 μm

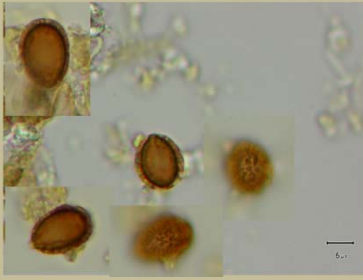
Similar to 'Cortinarius 4' but pale and narrower. Similar to 'Cortinariaceae 4' but much larger.



Cortinarius 2

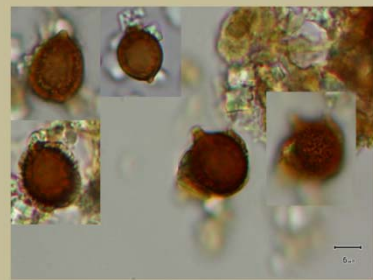
Rusty brown or dark brown; ovoid or almost amygdal; slightly asymmetrical; irregular low fine warts and lines to partial reticulum; hyaline apiculus; 7 - 13 x 4 - 6 μm

Sequestrate Cortinarius/Thaxterogaster



Cortinarius 4

Rusty brown; broadly ovoid; symmetrical; short conical hyaline apiculus; apex somewhat square; crowded low rounded warts, short lines or partial reticulum, distinctive utricule to 1 um; 9 -12 x 6 -8 um
Similar to C. 6 & C. 2 but has obvious utricule and is broader



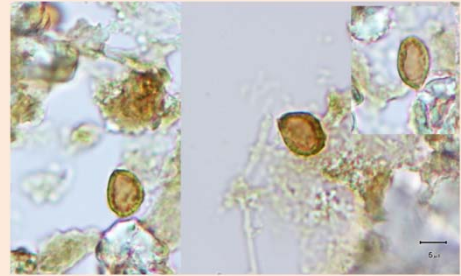
Cortinarius 5

Dark rusty brown; broadly ovoid; symmetrical; broad conical hyaline apiculus; regular, crowded, small warts and short lines, utricule to 1 um; 8 -9 x 9 -12 um.
Similar to C. 6 & C. 2 but has obvious utricule. Darker and broader than C. 4.



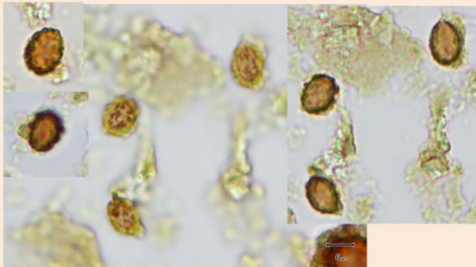
Cortinarius 6

Ovoid; asymmetrical; rusty brown; fine warts, partial reticulum <1 um; hyaline apiculus curved, 1 um tall; 10 x 7 um
Similar to C. 10 but slightly larger. Shorter and broader than Quadrispora and sometimes has short lines. Shorter and broader than C. 2.



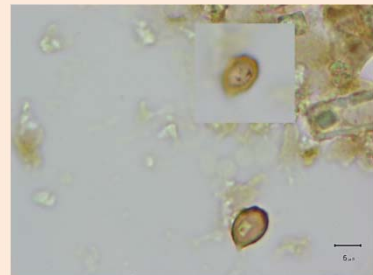
Cortinarius 7

Rusty brown, broadly ovoid -amygdal, asymmetrical, low fine warts/verruose, thick-walled?; 6 -8 x 4 -6.5 um
Sequestrate Cortinarius/Thaxterogaster
Smaller than C. 15.



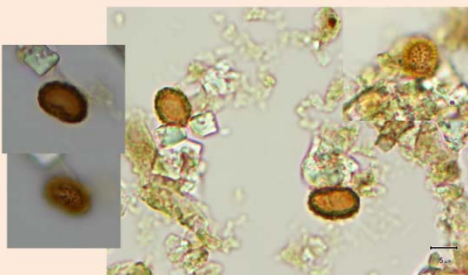
Cortinarius 8

Rusty brown - pale yellow brown, broadly ovoid to sub-globose, robustly warty (angular or rounded irregular warts), 5 -8 x 4.5 -6 um
Compared to C. 14 is symmetrical; slightly smaller; warts sparser and more angular



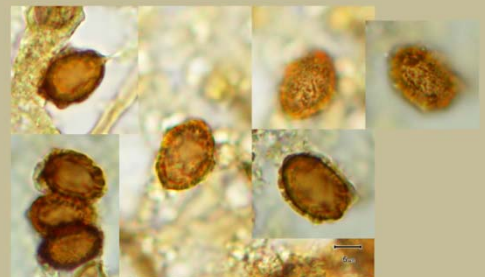
Cortinarius 9

Pale yellow brown; broadly ovoid to sub-globose; asymmetrical; sparse, irregular low warts; hyaline, asymmetrical apiculus 1.5 um tall; 7 -8 x 4 -5 um



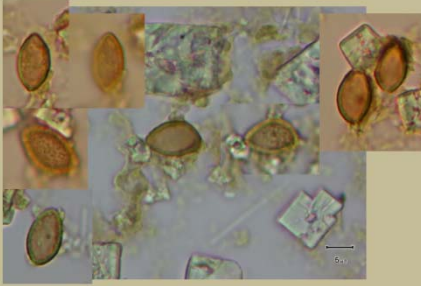
Cortinarius 10

Sub-globose to broadly ovoid or oblong; asymmetrical in side view; rusty brown or pale rusty brown; crowded, minute pegs <1 um tall, irregular;
5 -8 x 4.5 -6 um



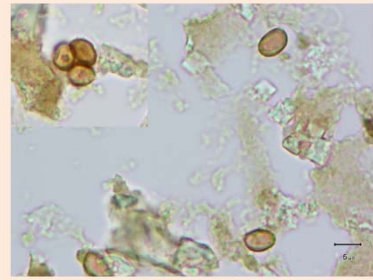
Cortinarius 11

Rusty brown, broadly ovoid, low irregular warts to 1um tall, 11 -14 x 7 -9 um.



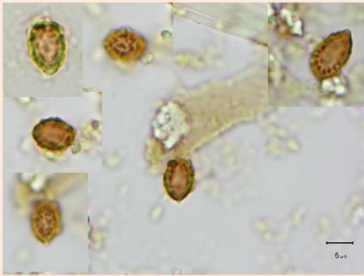
Cortinarius 12

Pale yellow-brown; almond-shaped; asymmetrical; finely verrucose (only visible at high magn.); 5 -6 x 10 -11 um.
Similar to C. 15 but paler & ornamentation less robust.



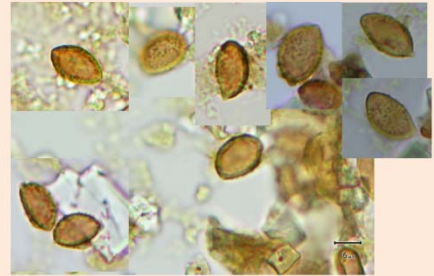
Cortinarius 13

Pale rusty brown, sub-globose to broadly ovoid, slightly asymmetrical, verrucose , 4.5 -6 x 3 -4 um



Cortinarius 14

Rusty brown; broadly ovoid; large robust irregular warts; asymmetrical; apex rounded; apiculus small conical; 7 -10 x 4 -6 um.



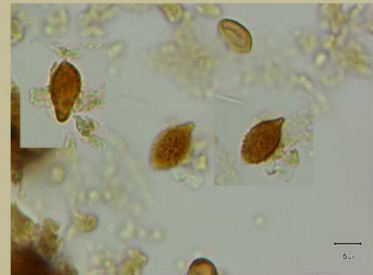
Cortinarius 15

Rusty brown or yellow brown; broadly ovoid; low fine warts; asymmetrical; mucronate base; apex rounded; warts more robust to apex; 8 -13 x 5 -8 um
Larger than C. 7



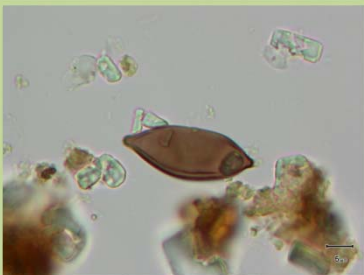
Descolea

Rusty brown; broadly ovoid - citriniform; appearing almost smooth; apex rounded; apiculus small conical; 9 -10 x 6 um.



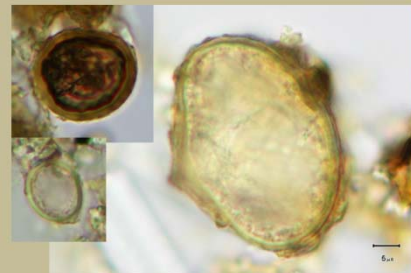
Descomyces aff lebelii

Rusty brown; citriniform; low fine irregular warts; naked rostrum; hyaline apiculus; 11 x 6 um



Entolomataceae

Pinkish-brown; fusiform, slightly angular; smooth; thick-walled; both ends pointed; 22 x 9 um



Glomus

Yellow- or brown-tinted or hyaline; smooth, verrucose or nodulose; thick walled; sub-globose; attachment point visible; 20 -50 x 14 -45 um (11 x 9 um immature).

(NB: 1 point of attachment = Glomus. None or 2 = Endogone)



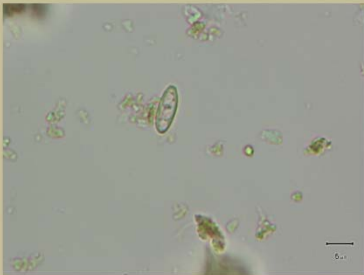
Glomus 2

Pale brown; ellipsoid; asymmetrical; smooth; thick walled; 30-35 x 60-65 um



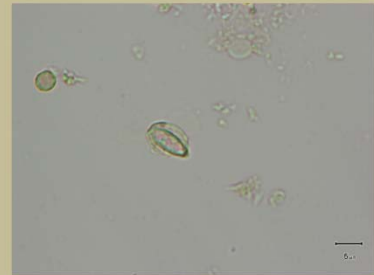
Hydnoplicata convoluta

Sub-globose; sub-hyaline; low warts or wrinkles; 8 x 5 um. Likely *H. convoluta*, although spores typically hyaline.



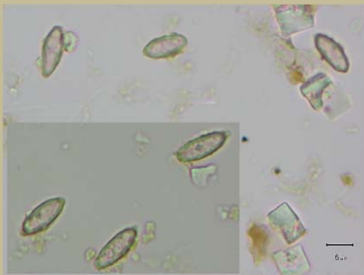
Hysterangium 1

Hyaline; fusiform; smooth; blunt/cup-like point of attachment; 10 x 3 um



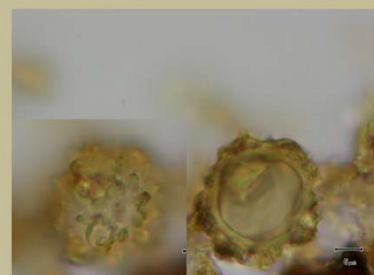
Hysterangium 2

Hyaline; fusiform; utricle inflated to 2 um; 8 x 3 um



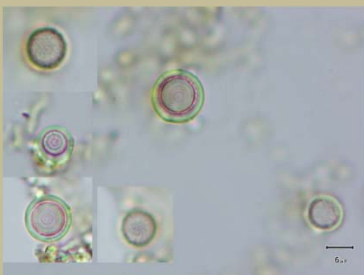
Hysterangium 3

Hyaline; broadly fusiform; smooth; some small bubbles/wrinkles in utricle; apiculus cup-like; 8-12 x 3-3.5 um.



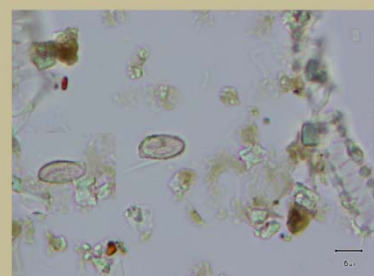
Labyrinthomyces

Globose; sub-hyaline / yellow-tinted; ornamentation rough, crowded, angular warts to 3 um tall; thick-walled; 15-18 x 15-20 um
Labyrinthomyces / Dingleya / Reddellomyces



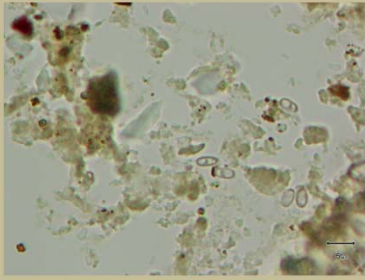
Leucogaster

Hyaline; globose; pitted reticulum (pits very small); thick-walled; covered by thick gelatinous utricle; inamyloid; non-dextrinoid; variable size, 5-11 um diam



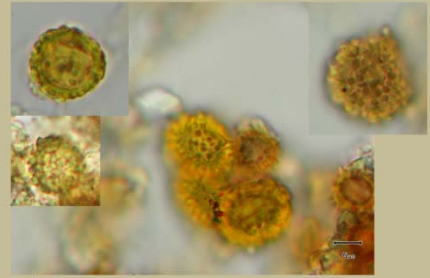
Mesophelliaceae

Hyaline; ellipsoid; asymmetric; verrucose; 9 x 4 um



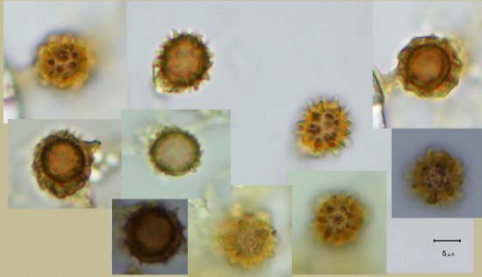
Protuberata

Hyaline; oblong; smooth; 3 -4 x 1.5 -2 µm



Octaviania 1

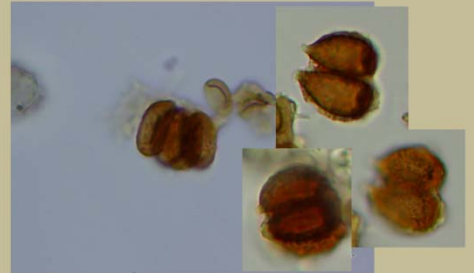
Sub-globose; bright yellow-tinted, rarely dull yellow; pegs irregular, angular, blunt-ended, isolated, 2 -3 µm tall; 7 -10 x 8 -11 µm. Brighter, slightly larger, and appearing 'cleaner' than Octaviania 2 / Hydngangium.



Octaviania 2 / Hydngangium

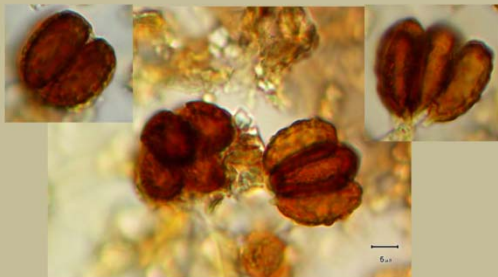
Sub-globose – globose; yellow-tinted to yellow-brown; spines messy, angular, crowded, curved or straight, can be hard to distinguish or encased in debris, made of multiple spines to 3 µm tall; thick-walled; 6 -8 x 7 -9 µm.

Unlike Scleroderma 1 and Russuloid 7 has cones rather than pegs. NB: morphotype includes Hydngangium parvisporum MS Trappe.



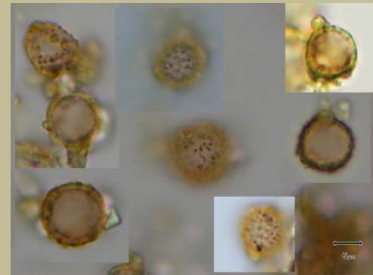
Quadrispora musispora

Rusty brown; ellipsoid; in a tetrad; irregular warts; hyaline, curved apiculus 1 µm tall; 11 -13 x 6 µm



Quadrispora oblongispora

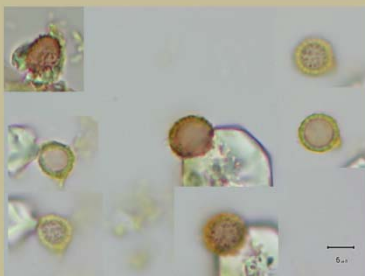
Rusty brown; ellipsoid; asymmetrical; in a tetrad; irregular warts and short lines; hyaline, curved apiculus 2 µm tall; 15 -17 x 7 µm



Russula aff brunneonigra

Pale yellow tinted; sub-globose; fine reddish brown verrucae or lines to 1 µm tall, sparse, irregular; thick-walled; apiculus conical, hyaline, broad 1.5 x 2 µm; 8 -11 x 9 -12 µm

Paler, not robustly ornamented, has reddish ornamentation as compared to Scleroderma spp. Larger than Russuloid 1.



Russuloid 1

Globose; sub-hyaline or pale reddish-brown; thick-walled; crowded, low pegs to 1µm, pale or dark reddish-brown; hyaline, conical apiculus 1.5 -2 µm; 5 -8 x 5 -7 µm.

Similar to Russuloid aff brunneonigra, but is smaller and apiculus slender. Similar to Russuloid 6, but is not reticulate.



Russuloid 2

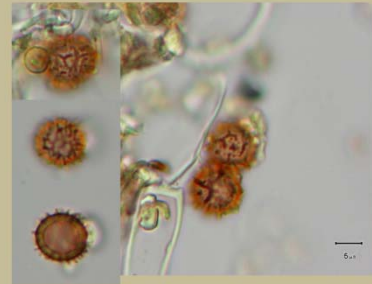
Globose; pale yellowish brown; hyaline, conical spines to 1.5 µm; 6 x 7 µm.

Differs from Russuloid 1 in having tall, conical spines



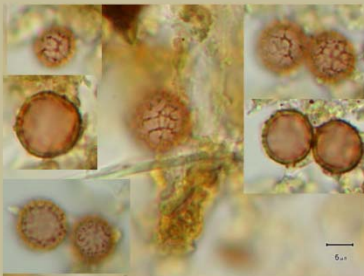
Russuloid 3

Reddish-brown; sub-globose; thick-walled; isolated, broad or fine, 1.5 µm tall spines; 8-9 x 8-10 µm.



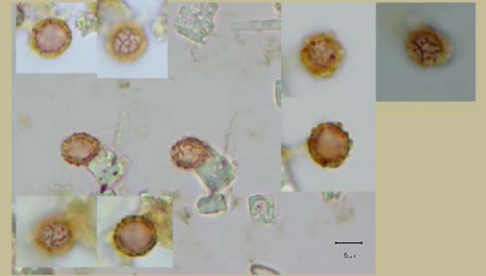
Russuloid 4

Reddish-brown; globose; sparse, fairly robust, partial reticulum and short lines to 1µm tall; 8-9 x 8-11 µm



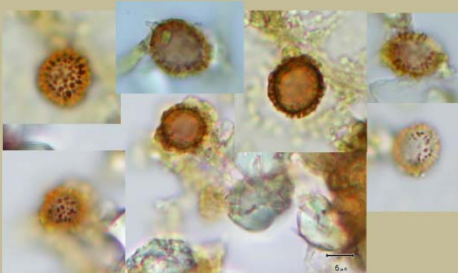
Russuloid 5

Globose; reddish-brown tinted; fine sparse reddish-brown reticulum to 1µm tall, connection points darker than lines; 8-10 x 8-10 µm. Larger than Russuloid 6. Lines finer than R. 4 and Scleroderma reticulate.



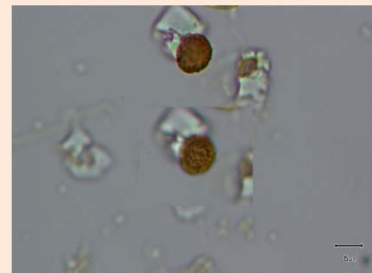
Russuloid 6

Pale reddish-brown tinted; sub-globose or globose; fine reddish-brown partial or complete reticulum <1 µm tall; 6-8 x 5-7 µm. Similar to Russuloid 3, but has at least a partial reticulum and usually smaller and finer.



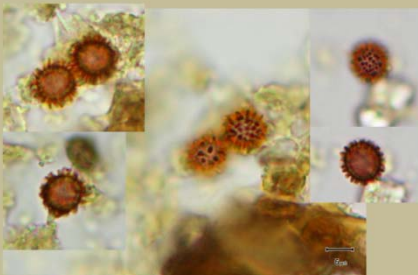
Russuloid 7

Pale brown to reddish brown; short isolated spines; sometimes encrusted with debris; sub-globose; apiculus conical, hyaline, 1-2.5 µm tall, rarely seen; 7-9 x 5-9 µm. Appears messier, is larger, has shorter spines than Scleroderma 1. Similar to Octaviania but has spines not cones.



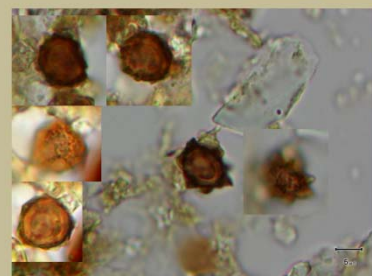
Scleroderma / Pisolithus

Subglobose; brown; low crowded fine warts; 7-8 x 6-7 µm



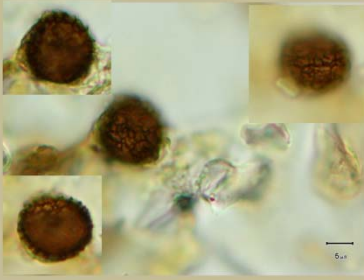
Scleroderma 1

Globose – sub-globose; reddish brown; large hyaline conical apiculus; crowded isolated spines to 1.5 µm tall; 5-7 x 5-7 µm. Compared to other Scleroderma spp - is smaller; spines are more slender, longer, peg-like; is reddish brown. Spore wall is darker, browner than Russuloids.



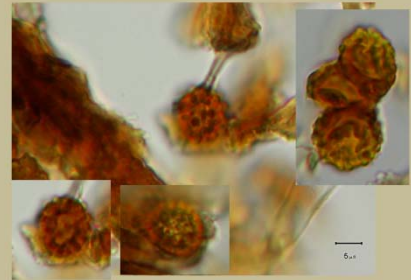
Scleroderma 2

Dark brown; sub-globose to globose; broad irregular cones 2 µm tall, and short fine irregular spines to 1 µm tall; 7-9 x 8-9 µm



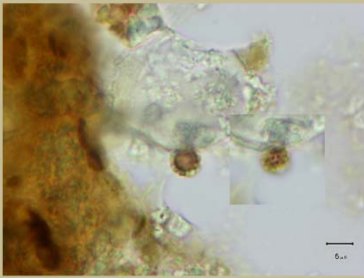
Scleroderma 3

Brown; sub-globose; reticulum of low narrow ridges and sometimes curved pegs; 9-12 x 8-12 µm



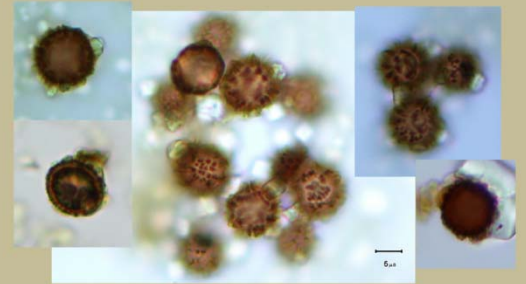
Scleroderma 4

Dark brown; subglobose; crowded 'gravelly' warts to 2 µm tall; 6-8 x 7-8 µm
Similar to Octaviania 1, but is brown and ornaments are larger.



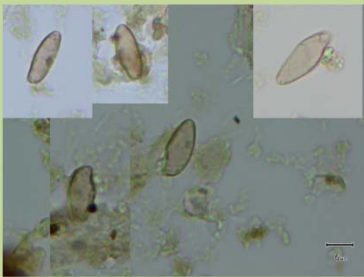
Scleroderma 5

Brown; globose; robustly (1.5 µm tall) nodulose; 4 µm diam.



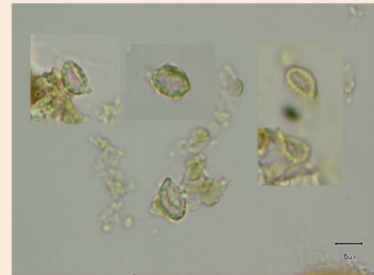
Scleroderma aff paradoxum

Brown; irregular, isolated, crowded cones to 2 µm, sometimes curved, irregularly distributed; large, hyaline apiculus 3 x 3 µm; sub-globose; 8-10 x 8-10 µm
Compared to Scleroderma 1 and 2, has cones not pegs.



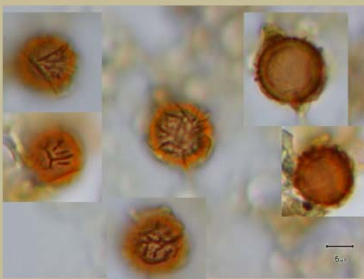
Tylopius

Fusiform; sub-hyaline/pink-brown tinted; asymmetrical; smooth; 10-14 x 4-5 µm.



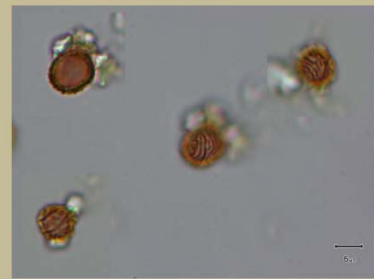
Unknown 1

Hyaline; ellipsoid; asymmetrical; regular warts; prominent broad apiculus; 6-7 x 3-4 µm.



Zelleromyces microsporus

Globose; reddish brown; thick-walled; ridges/partial reticulum, short lines or long 'swirls' 1-2 µm tall; 9-12 x 9-12 µm
This morphotype includes Z. daucus, Z. microsporus & Z. cremus.



Zelleromyces striatus

Globose; reddish-brown; distinct 'zebra' pattern, isolated and branched ridges to 1 µm tall; 6 x 6 µm

Appendix 5. Occurrence of macrofungal taxa detected in swamp wallaby faecal pellet samples (N = 196) in eucalypt-dominated forest over two seasons (summer and winter). Taxa occurring in more than 20% of samples indicated in bold type.

Taxon	No. of samples	Total frequency of occurrence (%)
<i>Epigeous (mushroom-like) taxa</i>	92	54.8
Agariceae 4	54	32.1
Agariceae 5	8	4.8
Agariceae 6	10	6.0
Agaricus / Panaeolus	5	3.0
Ascomycete	8	4.8
Boletellus 1	13	7.7
Boletellus 2	5	3.0
Boletellus 3	4	2.4
Boletoid 1	7	4.2
Boletoid 2	13	7.7
Cortinarius 14	1	0.6
Cortinarius 6	2	1.2
Descolea	3	1.8
Entolomataceae	1	0.6
Tylopilus	11	6.5
<i>Sequestrate (truffle-like) taxa</i>	164	97.6
Agariceae 3	6	3.6
Aroramyces 3	1	0.6
Austrogautieria 1	1	0.6
Austrogautieria 3	4	2.4
Austrogautieria 5	1	0.6
Austrogautieria 7	7	4.2
Austrogautieria aff manjimupana	1	0.6
Austrogautieria clelandii	6	3.6
Boletoid 3	4	2.4
Chamonixia	68	40.5
Cortinarius 1	3	1.8
Cortinarius 11	23	13.7
Cortinarius 4	1	0.6
Descomyces aff lebelii	3	1.8
Glomus	14	8.3
Hydnoplicata convoluta	2	1.2
Hysterangium 1	1	0.6
Hysterangium 2	2	1.2
Hysterangium 3	20	11.9
Labyrinthomyces group	6	3.6
Mesophelliaceae	6	3.6
Octaviana 1	3	1.8
Octaviana 2 / Hydnangium	95	56.5

Taxon	No. of samples	Total frequency of occurrence (%)
Quadrispora musispora	2	1.2
Russula aff brunneonigra	22	13.1
Russuloid 1	37	22.0
Russuloid 3	14	8.3
Russuloid 4	1	0.6
Russuloid 5	6	3.6
Russuloid 6	57	33.9
Russuloid 7	24	14.3
Scleroderma 1	6	3.6
Scleroderma 3	3	1.8
Scleroderma aff paradoxum	2	1.2
Zelleromyces microsporus	2	1.2
Zelleromyces striatus	3	1.8
<i>Unclassifiable taxa</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>61.9</i>
Cortinariaceae 1	6	3.6
Cortinariaceae 2	7	4.2
Cortinariaceae 4	40	23.8
Cortinarius 10	42	25.0
Cortinarius 13	4	2.4
Cortinarius 15	33	19.6
Cortinarius 2	22	13.1
Cortinarius 7	12	7.1
Cortinarius 8	5	3.0
Cortinarius 9	1	0.6
Scleroderma / Pisolithus	3	1.8
Unknown 1	2	1.2

Appendix 6. Sequestrate macrofungal species and spore types included in genera or higher taxonomic groups for comparative analysis of swamp wallaby diet and sporocarp community.

Genus or higher group	higher taxon	Species or spore type	Record Source
Agariceae	Agariceae	3	Diet
<i>Amylascus</i>		<i>Amylascus herbertianus</i>	Survey
<i>Arcangeliella</i>		<i>Arcangeliella</i> sp	Survey
<i>Aroramyces</i>		<i>Aroramyces</i> 3	Diet
		<i>Aroramyces</i> sp 1	Survey
		<i>Aroramyces</i> sp 2	Survey
<i>Austrogautieria</i>		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 1	Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 2	Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 3	Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 5	Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 6	Survey
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 7	Survey
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 'aff costata'	Survey
		<i>Austrogautieria</i> 'aff manjimupana'	Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria clelandii</i>	Survey & Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria costata</i>	Survey & Diet
		<i>Austrogautieria manjimupana</i>	Survey
Boletoid	Boletaceae		Survey
	Boletoid	3	Diet
<i>Castoreum</i>		<i>Castoreum radicum</i>	Survey
<i>Chamonixia</i>		<i>Chamonixia</i>	Diet
		<i>Chamonixia mucosa</i>	Survey
		<i>Chamonixia vittatispora</i>	Survey
<i>Chondrogaster</i>		<i>Chondrogaster</i> sp 1	Survey
		<i>Chondrogaster</i> sp 2	Survey
		<i>Chondrogaster</i> sp 3	Survey
<i>Cordyceps</i>		<i>Cordyceps rodwayi</i>	Survey
<i>Cortinarius</i>		<i>Cortinarius</i> 1	Diet
		<i>Cortinarius</i> 11	Diet
		<i>Cortinarius</i> 12	Diet
		<i>Cortinarius</i> 4	Diet
		<i>Cortinarius</i> 5	Diet
		<i>Cortinarius</i> 'aff walpolensis'	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius argyrionus</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius basorapulus</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius caesibulga</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius cinereoroseolus</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius kaputarensis</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius maculobulga</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius nebulobrunneus</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius sinapivelus</i>	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 16	Survey

Genus or higher group	higher taxon	Species or spore type	Record Source
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 18	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 19	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 20	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 21	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 22	Survey
		<i>Cortinarius</i> sp 25	Survey
<i>Dermocybe</i>		<i>Dermocybe globuliformis</i>	Survey
		<i>Dermocybe</i> sp 1	Survey
<i>Descomyces</i>		<i>Descomyces</i> (aff <i>lebelii</i>)	Diet
		<i>Descomyces albellus</i>	Survey
		<i>Descomyces albus</i>	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'dougmillisii'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'jumpponenii'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'latisporus'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'lebelii'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'miresii'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'parviretifer'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> 'psilosporus'	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> sp 2	Survey
		<i>Descomyces</i> sp 3	Survey
<i>Dingleya</i>		<i>Dingleya</i> 'cf <i>geometrica</i> '	Survey
		<i>Dingleya verrucosa</i>	Survey
<i>Endogone</i>		<i>Endogone</i> sp	Survey
<i>Gallacea</i>		<i>Gallacea</i> sp 1	Survey
		<i>Gallacea</i> sp 2	Survey
Glomeraceae		<i>Glomus</i> sp	Diet
		<i>Glomus</i> ellipsoid	Diet
<i>Gymnohydnotrya</i>		<i>Gymnohydnotrya ellipsospora</i>	Survey
<i>Hydnangium</i>		<i>Hydnangium carneum</i>	Survey
		<i>Hydnangium</i> 'parvisporum'	Survey
		<i>Hydnangium</i> sp 1	Survey
<i>Hydnoplicata</i>		<i>Hydnoplicata convoluta</i>	Survey & Diet
		<i>Hydnoplicata</i> sp 1	Survey
<i>Hysterangium</i>		<i>Hysterangium</i> 'aff <i>gardneri</i> '	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> 'aff <i>inflatum</i> '	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> 'agglutinatum'	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium aggregatum</i>	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 1	Diet
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 10	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 11	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 12	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 2	Diet
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 3	Diet
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 4	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 5	Survey

Genus or higher group	higher taxon	Species or spore type	Record Source
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 6	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 7	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 8	Survey
		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 9	Survey
<i>Hysterogaster</i>		<i>Hysterangium</i> sp 13	Survey
		<i>Hysterogaster</i> 'descogasteroides'	Survey
		<i>Hysterogaster</i> H1307	Survey
		<i>Hysterogaster pogiesperma</i>	Survey
		<i>Hysterogaster rodwayii</i>	Survey
		<i>Hysterogaster</i> sp	Survey
		<i>Hysterogaster tasmanicus</i>	Survey
<i>Labyrinthomyces</i>		<i>Labyrinthomyces</i> sp	Diet
		<i>Labyrinthomyces varius</i>	Survey
<i>Leucogaster</i>		<i>Leucogaster</i>	Diet
		<i>Leucogaster rubescens</i>	Survey
Mesophellioid		<i>Malajczukia fusispora</i>	Survey
		<i>Mesophellia angustispora</i>	Survey
		<i>Mesophellia elegendii</i>	Survey
		<i>Mesophellia rava</i>	Survey
		Mesophelliaceae	Diet
		<i>Nothocastoreum</i> sp 1	Survey
<i>Octaviana / Hydnangium</i>		<i>Octaviana</i> 1	Survey & Diet
		<i>Octaviana</i> 2	Survey
		<i>Octaviana</i> 2 / <i>Hydnangium</i>	Diet
<i>Pisolithus</i>		<i>Pisolithus hypogaeus</i>	Survey
<i>Protoglossum</i>		<i>Protoglossum</i> sp 1	Survey
<i>Protuberata</i>		<i>Protuberata</i> 'aff parvispora'	Survey
<i>Quadrispora</i>		<i>Quadrispora</i> 'aff tubercularis'	Survey
		<i>Quadrispora</i> sp 1 (musispora)	Diet
		<i>Quadrispora oblongispora</i>	Survey & Diet
<i>Royoungia</i>		<i>Royoungia boletoides</i>	Survey
Russuloid		<i>Cystangium</i> 'aff sessile'	Survey
		<i>Cystangium</i> 'aff xanthocarpum'	Survey
		<i>Cystangium balpineum</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium clavatum</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium luteobrunneum</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium phymatodisporum</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium seminudum</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium sessile</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium</i> sp	Survey
		<i>Cystangium sparsum</i>	Survey
		<i>Cystangium trappei</i>	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff boranupensis'	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff eburneus'	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff glarea'	Survey

Genus or higher group	higher taxon	Species or spore type	Record Source
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff pallidus'	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> 'aff westresii'	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> aff wirrabarensis	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces eburneus</i>	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces eildonensis</i>	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces glarea</i>	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces pallidus</i>	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> sp 1	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> sp 2	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces</i> sp 3	Survey
		<i>Gymnomyces wirrabarensis</i>	Survey
		<i>Russula</i> 'aff brunneonigra'	Diet
		<i>Russula</i> 'aff pilosella'	Survey
		<i>Russula</i> 'aff pumicoidea'	Survey
		<i>Russula albobrunnea</i>	Survey
		<i>Russula brunneonigra</i>	Survey
		<i>Russula sinuata</i>	Survey
		Russuloid 1	Diet
		Russuloid 2	Diet
		Russuloid 3	Diet
		Russuloid 4	Diet
		Russuloid 5	Diet
		Russuloid 6	Diet
		Russuloid 7	Diet
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'aff maculatus'	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'aff mattrappei'	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'aff subamyloideus'	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces claridgei</i>	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces daucus</i>	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'lebelii'	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces majus</i>	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces microsporus</i>	Survey & Diet
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 1	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 2	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 3	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 4	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 5	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 6	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 7	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 8	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> sp 9	Survey
		<i>Zelleromyces striatus</i>	Survey & Diet
		<i>Zelleromyces</i> 'vittatus'	Survey
<i>Scleroderma</i>		<i>Scleroderma</i> 1	Diet
		<i>Scleroderma</i> 2	Diet

Genus or higher group	taxon	Species or spore type	Record Source
		<i>Scleroderma</i> 3	Diet
		<i>Scleroderma</i> 4	Diet
		<i>Scleroderma</i> 5	Diet
		<i>Scleroderma</i> 'aff paradoxum'	Survey & Diet
		<i>Scleroderma densum</i>	Survey
		<i>Scleroderma paradoxum</i>	Survey
		<i>Scleroderma sheltonii</i>	Survey
<i>Setchelliogaster</i>		<i>Setchelliogaster</i> sp 1	Survey
		<i>Setchelliogaster</i> sp 2	Survey
		<i>Setchelliogaster</i> sp 3	Survey
<i>Timgrovea</i>		<i>Timgrovea ferruginea</i>	Survey
		<i>Timgrovea reticulata</i>	Survey
Unknown		Unknown 1	Survey

Appendix 7. One-way analysis of similarity percentages (SIMPER) based on Bray Curtis similarity. Species contributions cumulating up to 90% of similarity are shown.

Group Survey

Average similarity: 33.57

<i>Species</i>	<i>Av.Abund</i>	<i>Av.Sim</i>	<i>Sim/SD</i>	<i>Contrib%</i>	<i>Cum.%</i>
Russuloid	0.80	14.57	1.11	43.40	43.40
Hysterangium	0.57	7.46	0.60	22.23	65.63
Descomyces	0.54	5.13	0.61	15.28	80.91
Cortinarius	0.31	1.45	0.31	4.33	85.24
Hydnangium	0.23	0.77	0.22	2.29	87.53
Dermocybe	0.23	0.73	0.22	2.16	89.70
Hysterogaster	0.20	0.66	0.19	1.96	91.66

Group Diet

Average similarity: 56.26

<i>Species</i>	<i>Av.Abund</i>	<i>Av.Sim</i>	<i>Sim/SD</i>	<i>Contrib%</i>	<i>Cum.%</i>
Russuloid	1.00	22.23	4.48	39.51	39.51
Octaviana / Hydnangium	0.80	13.55	1.25	24.08	63.59
Chamonixia	0.71	10.12	0.97	17.98	81.57
Hysterangium	0.37	2.70	0.38	4.80	86.37
Cortinarius	0.37	2.41	0.38	4.29	90.66

Groups Survey & Diet

Average dissimilarity = 69.47

<i>Species</i>	<i>Group Survey</i>	<i>Group Diet</i>	<i>Av.Diss</i>	<i>Diss/SD</i>	<i>Contrib%</i>	<i>Cum.%</i>
	<i>Av.Abund</i>	<i>Av.Abund</i>				
Octaviana / Hydnangium	0.06	0.80	8.99	1.51	12.94	12.94
Chamonixia	0.20	0.71	7.34	1.18	10.57	23.51
Hysterangium	0.57	0.37	6.11	0.94	8.79	32.30
Descomyces	0.54	0.03	5.42	1.02	7.80	40.10
Cortinarius	0.31	0.37	4.88	0.86	7.02	47.12
Glomus	0.00	0.34	3.70	0.68	5.32	52.45
Scleroderma	0.14	0.26	3.61	0.64	5.20	57.65
Mesophellioid	0.17	0.17	3.27	0.59	4.70	62.35

<i>Species</i>	<i>Group Survey</i>	<i>Group Diet</i>	<i>Av.Diss</i>	<i>Diss/SD</i>	<i>Contrib%</i>	<i>Cum.%</i>
	<i>Av.Abund</i>	<i>Av.Abund</i>				
Austrogautieria	0.17	0.23	3.18	0.65	4.58	66.93
Russuloid	0.80	1.00	2.86	0.47	4.12	71.05
Hydnangium	0.23	0.00	2.15	0.53	3.10	74.15
Dermocybe	0.23	0.00	2.10	0.52	3.02	77.17
Hydnoplicata	0.17	0.06	2.06	0.49	2.96	80.14
Hysterogaster	0.20	0.00	2.04	0.48	2.93	83.07
Agariceae	0.00	0.14	1.68	0.39	2.41	85.48
Chondrogaster	0.14	0.00	1.51	0.38	2.18	87.66
Labyrinthomyces	0.00	0.11	1.33	0.34	1.92	89.58
Quadrispora	0.09	0.06	1.20	0.38	1.73	91.31

Appendix 8. R code used to calculate swamp wallaby generated dispersal curves of macrofungal spores (spore ‘dispersal kernels’) combining observed spore gut-retention times and distribution of displacement distances. Programmed by D. Haydon, D. Kerlin, and K. Vernes, with modifications by M. Tighe and M. Danks, in R (version 2.10.1, R Foundation for Statistical Computing 2009, downloaded from <http://www.R-project.org> on 14 Dec 2009).

```

#Plot gut-passage rate
data <- read.table("etWB.csv", header = TRUE, sep = ",")
attach(data)
t1<- c(First[1], X50.[1], X90.[1], X99.[1])
t2<- c(First[2], X50.[2], X90.[2], X99.[2])
t3 <- c(t1, t2)
CE1 <-c(.01, .5, .9, .99)
CE2 <-c(.01, .5, .9, .99)
CE3 <- c(CE1, CE2)
plot(t1, CE1, ylab="Proportion excreted", xlab = "time")
line(t2, CE2)
#Function to compare observed pattern with prediction from a gamma distribution
criterion <- function(param){
cdf <- pgamma(t3, param[1], param[2])
p <- diff(cdf)
sum((diff(CE3)-p)^2/p)
}
# Optimization to find best gamma parameters
v1 <- optim(c(14, 0.5), criterion)
x <- seq(0, 50, 0.001)
plot(x, dgamma(x, v1$par[1], v1$par[2]), type = "l", ylab = "Excretion", xlab = "Time", main = " ", frame.plot =
FALSE)
### Distance matrix
x11() # Creates a new figure window
### BELOW CODE REPEATED FOR EACH TRACKING PERIOD###
travel <- read.table("WB4Feb08.csv", header = TRUE, sep = ",")
attach(travel)
time<-time
noRecords <- dim(travel)[1]
delta_distance<-0
delta_time<-0
zz<-0
k<-0;
for (lagahead in 1:100) { #select values randomly and lag ahead between 1 and 300 steps - must be set
according to number of points, and time between fixes - use as default 100 for 30 min fixes
for (i in 1:50) #performs each selection of lagged pairs 50 times {
z1<-runif(1,1,(noRecords-lagahead));
z2<-trunc(z1);
k<-k+1;
delta_distance[k] = sqrt((Easting[z2+lagahead]-Easting[z2])^2 + (Northing[z2+lagahead]-Northing[z2])^2)
delta_time[k] =(time[z2+lagahead]-time[z2])
}
}
plot(delta_time/60, delta_distance)
### Kernel Distribution
kernel_dist<-0
k<-0 #sets k to zero
for (i in 1:10000){

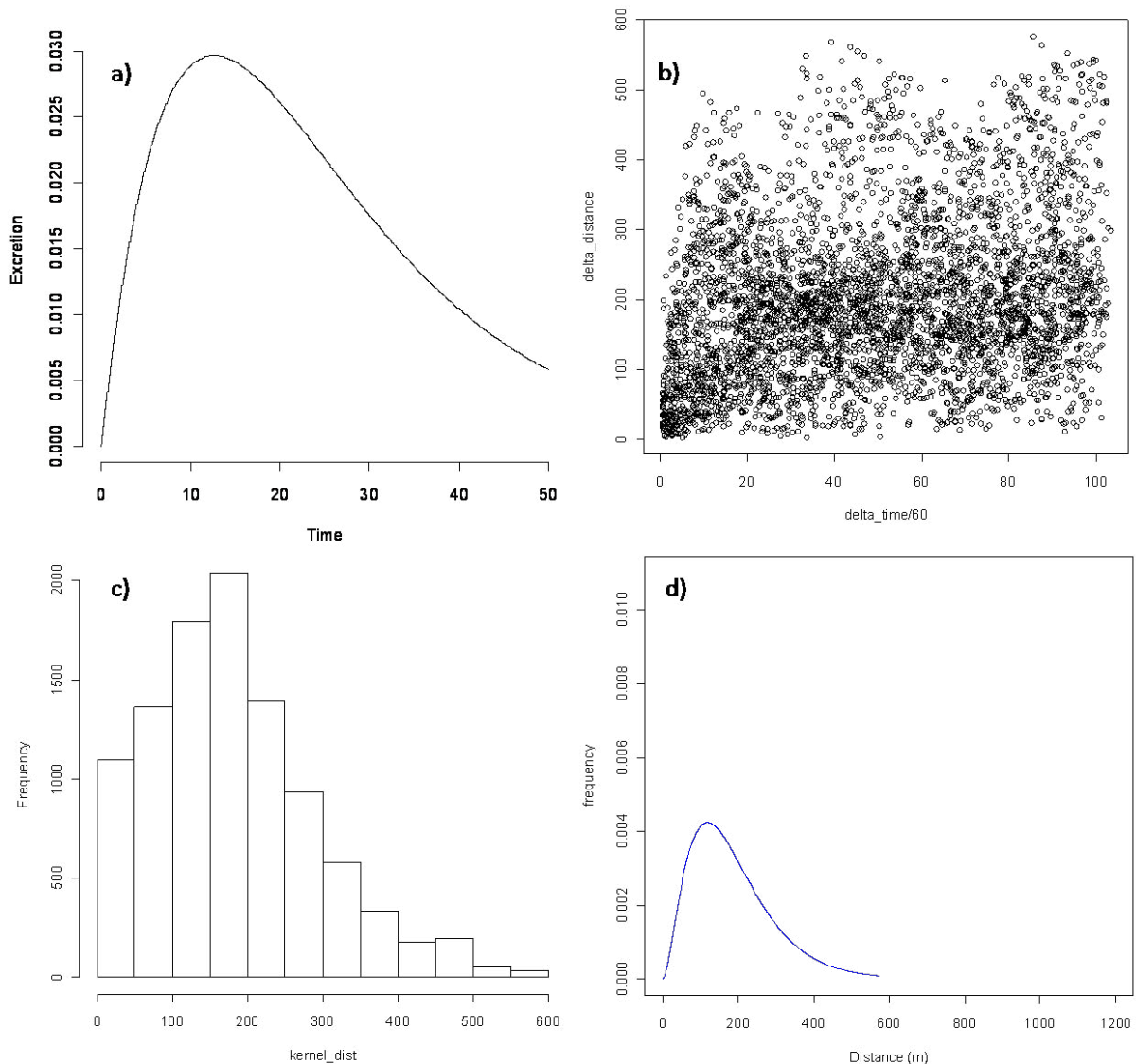
```

```

k<-k+1;
xt<-rgamma(1, v1$par[1], v1$par[2])*60
it<-which(abs(delta_time-xt)==min(abs(delta_time-xt)))
kernel_dist[k]<-delta_distance[it]
}
### Create a Spore Dispersal Kernel as a Histogram
hist(kernel_dist)
### Model Spore Dispersal as a Gamma Probability Distribution
bestkfit <-fitdistr(kernel_dist, "gamma")
x <- seq(0, max(kernel_dist), 0.01)
xlim=c(0,1200)
ylim=c(0,0.011)
first<-plot(x, dgamma(x, bestkfit$estimate[1], bestkfit$estimate[2]), type = "l", xlim=xlim, ylim=ylim,ylab =
"frequency", xlab = "Distance (m)", main = "spore dispersal",col=4)
### Generate a summary (mean, min, max, etc.) of the Kernel Distribution
summary(kernel_dist)

```

Appendix 9. Spore gut-retention time, swamp wallaby movement pattern, and spore dispersal kernel generated by a swamp wallaby for macrofungal spores. (a) Mean proportion of spores deposited in swamp wallaby faeces as a function of time since ingestion. (b) Distribution of GPS-tracked swamp wallaby displacement distances (lags of 100 fixes from origin, a randomly selected point) as a function of time since origin. Example shown is swamp wallaby #1, tracked in February 2008 at Newholme Field Station, northern New South Wales, Australia. (c) Dispersal kernel combining the spore gut-retention time distribution and the displacement distance distribution. (d) Dispersal curve fitted to a gamma distribution.



Appendix 10. Summary - Inoculum potential of ectomycorrhizal fungal spores deposited in swamp wallaby faecal pellets

Effective spore dispersal relies upon the viability of spores deposited in faecal pellets. How passage through the swamp wallaby gut affects spore viability is unknown, so I established experiments to test the hypotheses (1) spores of truffle-like ECM fungi remain viable after passage through the swamp wallaby digestive tract and (2) digestion by the swamp wallaby enhances the mycorrhizal potential of EM fungal spores. The mycorrhizal effectiveness of spores of *Hysterangium gardneri* in swamp wallaby faecal pellets (captive swamp wallabies which had not consumed other EM sporocarps), and from uneaten basidiomes, on *Eucalyptus nobilis* seedlings was examined in a glasshouse experiment. *Hysterangium* species are commonly found in native and planted eucalypt forests (Beaton *et al.* 1985; Johnson 1994; Nouhra *et al.* 2008), form ectomycorrhizas with eucalypts (Malajczuk *et al.* 1987; Burgess *et al.* 1993; Lu *et al.* 1999; Reddell *et al.* 1999; Nouhra *et al.* 2008), and produce truffle-like sporocarps which are found as spores in the diet of swamp wallabies (Vernes 2010). The results of the seedling inoculation experiment were inconclusive as all treatments (eaten spores, uneaten spores, and control) had similar, low, levels of root colonisation by *Hysterangium*, *Coenococcum*, and other, unidentified, EM fungi. Contamination among treatments in the glasshouse was considered to have obscured any treatment effects. Lab experiments to synthesize mycorrhizas of *Hysterangium* and *Pisolithus* and eucalypt germinants on agar media, and to variously test the metabolic activity or viability of eaten and uneaten *Hysterangium* spores using Tetrazolium and Flouricene-diacetate stains were also unsuccessful.

The inoculum potential of EM spores deposited in swamp wallaby faecal pellets therefore remains unknown, but some predictions can be made based upon the results of previous studies of mycophagous mammals. Studies on potoroids (Lamont *et al.* 1985; Claridge *et al.*

1992; Reddell *et al.* 1997), peramelids (Reddell *et al.* 1997), and rodents (Reddell *et al.* 1997; Colgan and Claridge 2002; Caldwell *et al.* 2005) have demonstrated that EM spores remain viable, and for some EM fungi taxa mycorrhizal effectiveness is enhanced (Lamont *et al.* 1985) by passage through the mammalian gut and subsequent deposition in faeces. I therefore consider it likely that EM spores remain able to form associations with host plant roots after passage through the swamp wallaby gut. Nevertheless, clarification of the effect on EM spores of gut-passage in the swamp wallaby, and other mycophagous mammals is needed.

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Appendix 11. Summary - Online database for truffle-like fungi and mycophagous mammal information (TRUFFMO)

Difficulties with accurate identification of macrofungal spores in mammal diets has hampered studies of mammal mycophagy, and limited accumulation and sharing of knowledge. This is certainly the case in Australia, where macrofungi and, particularly, truffle-like fungi, are poorly known. A major impediment is the lack of an accessible, additive, central database (data is currently scattered in disparate researcher and organisational datasets, collections and student theses) to advance information sharing and collaborative research across disciplines. To address this need, an online database, dubbed 'TruffMO', is in development, in collaboration with ArmidaleIT (Armidale, Australia), Dr Teresa Lebel (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Australia), and Dr Karl Vernes (Ecosystem Management, University of New England, Armidale, Australia). New and existing data will form the basis of this database to facilitate accurate identification of fungal spores and taxa, standardisation of methods, and provision of study site information. Ecological and taxonomic information, such as fungal sporocarp and faecal material collection data, images, descriptive information, spore types and identifications, and site information will also be included. This will increase potential for comparisons between studies and encourage collaboration and information sharing. The database is currently in the development and testing phases. In the final stage the database will be further developed for the web for worldwide access, including data uploads from other research teams. The information database will be a significant tool for communication of results, disseminating information, and facilitating collaboration between researchers, land managers, and community groups with benefits beyond the life of this project.