

## Estonian Mycological Society: 60 years!



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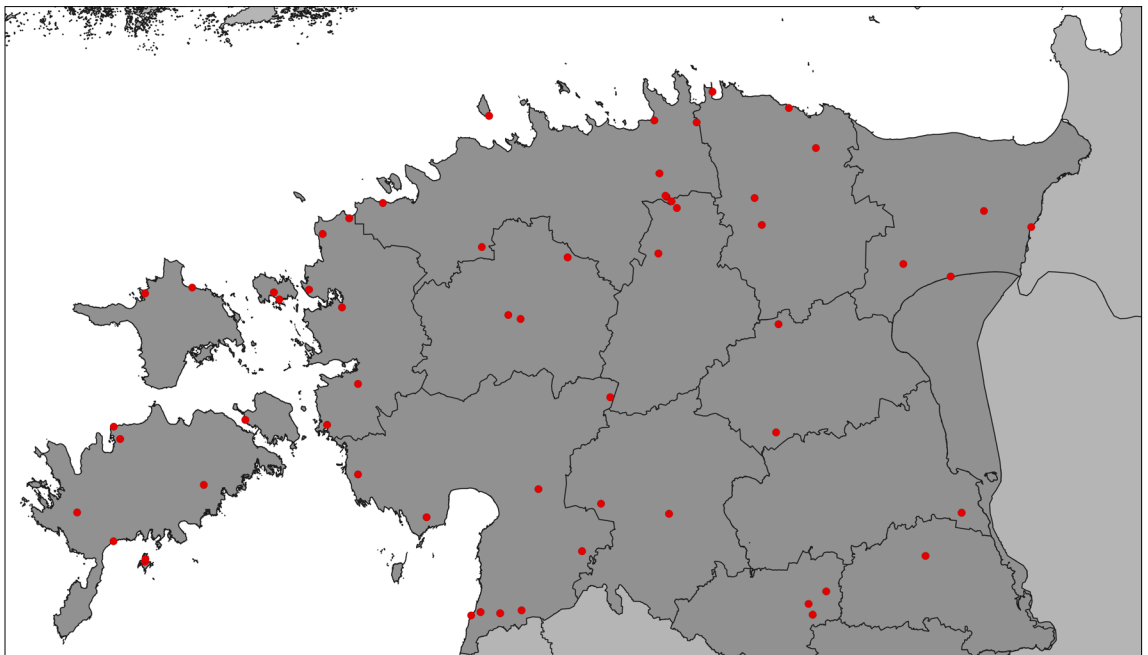
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Sixty years ago, on December 23, 1963, 15 members of the Estonian Naturalists' Society decided to establish a separate unit within the society – a section of mycology. The initiative came from Erast Parmasto (1928–2012), whose idea was to establish an organization that would consolidate and coordinate activities of professional mycologists from various

institutions and fungal enthusiasts in Estonia in order to promote exploration of local mycobiota.

Two main events were developed just after a few years, the most important of which are a-couple-of-days-lasting spring and autumn mushroom forays held in the same region in the same year. To date, the forays have taken place



**Fig. 1.** Localities of forays of Estonian Mycological Society (1963–2023)

in almost every region in Estonia (see map, Fig. 1). On the second weekend of December, there is a one-day seminar called *Actiones*. The goal of the seminar is to summarize the mycological activities of the year, to make presentations on various mycological topics and to plan activities for the coming year.

On April 16, 2000, the section was renamed the Estonian Mycological Society. Currently, the

Estonian Mycological Society has 41 members, many of them popularise fungi in the media and organize mushroom exhibitions. Since 1972, the society co-publishes an annual journal *Folia Cryptogamica Estonica*.

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