

Wild Mushrooms Diversity and Indigenous knowledge from North West Himalaya of Jammu and Kashmir State, India

Sanjeev Kumar, Yash Pal Sharma

University of Jammu, J&K, India

With the realization of implications of wild mushrooms, a large number of researchers engaged themselves in the survey, distribution and myco-ecological aspects of this natural resource wealth belonging to this group from different parts of the world.

The Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir, which lies in the north-west Himalaya, is a rich repository of the unexplored macrofungal wealth due to its varied climatic and topographic condition, thus providing congenial environment for the lavish growth of this heterogenous group of fungi. An exploration was undertaken in 2005-2018 to collect and document the wild mushroom diversity occurring in the north-west Himalyan forests of Jammu and Kashmir State. In the present communication 185 species wild mushrooms belonging to fifty four genera are described and illustrated. These genera includes species of *Agaricus* spp., *Amanita* spp., *Aleuria* spp., *Astreaus* sp., *Auricularia* spp., *Boletus* spp., *Bovista* spp., *Bovistella* sp., *Cantharellus* spp., *Calvatia* spp., *Clavaria* sp., *Clavulina* spp., *Coprinus* spp., *Coprinellus* spp., *Coprinopsis* spp., *Clitocybe* spp., *Chlorolepiota* sp., *Craterellus* sp., *Cyathus* spp., *Flammulina* sp., *Fomes* spp., *Ganoderma* spp., *Geopora* spp., *Geastrum* spp., *Gymnopilus* sp., *Gyromitra* spp., *Helvella* spp., *Hygrocybe* spp., *Inocybe* spp., *Lactarius* spp., *Lepiota* spp., *Lenzites* spp., *Leucoagaricus* sp., *Leucocoprinus* spp., *Lycoperdon* spp., *Marasmiellus* spp., *Morchella* spp., *Phallus* spp., *Peziza* spp., *Pleurotus* spp., *Psathyrella* spp., *Ramaria* spp., *Russula* spp., *Rhizopogon* spp., *Sarcoscypha* sp., *Scleroderma* spp., *Sepultaria* spp., *Sparassis* spp., *Strobilomyces* spp., *Suillus* sp., *Termitomyces* spp. *Trametes* spp., *Volvariella* spp., and *Verpa* sp.. Brief morphological description, macro- and microscopic details, locality, habitat, edibility status and general distribution of these species have been incorporated.