

NOTULAE AD FLORAM AGARICINAM NEERLANDICAM

Introduction

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After more than 30 years of intensively collecting, describing and studying agarics in the Netherlands, both by professional and amateur mycologists, it was felt that the time had come to endeavour the publication of a critical Agaric Flora of the Netherlands, in order to make the accumulated data on taxonomy, ecology, phenology, and distribution of Netherlands' agarics available to everyone interested in any aspect of the agarics.

In spite of the work on agarics up to now done in the Netherlands, the many recent (but often conflicting) publications in Europe, and the rather limited agaric flora of the Netherlands (the total number of species being estimated at 1600), this is certainly not a mean task, if 'critical' as used above is taken to mean that (i) this Flora, as much as possible, be based on original observations, (ii) all taxa, although often to be treated by different authors, be rather extensively described in an entirely comparable way, (iii) the habit and the most important microscopical characters of each species be illustrated, and (iv) the most recent edition of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature be closely followed.

Fortunately several mycologists, academically trained in the fields of taxonomy and floristics of agarics, were available, while the "Netherlands' Organization for the Advancement of Pure Research (Z.W.O.)" was found willing to supply a generous grant, allowing four of them to join temporarily the two staff-members of the Rijksherbarium participating in the project. This, together with the voluntary, but considerable co-operation of some other mycologists (professionals as well as amateurs), should make it possible to complete the publication of the 'Flora agaricina neerlandica' within a limited number of years.

The project is well on its way now. Publication in 3 volumes, written in the English language, is planned; the manuscript of the first of these, in which Hygrophoraceae, Tricholomataceae s.l., Pleurotaceae, Entolomataceae and possibly also Pluteaceae and Amanitaceae will be treated, is expected to be completed in 1984.

The working team of the 'Flora agaricina neerlandica' is well aware of the fact that the Netherlands are by no means a well-delimited mycogeographical unit. Therefore collections available from adjacent areas will be taken into consideration also. Taxa not yet recorded from the Netherlands, but to be expected here on the strength of their ecology and/or distribution, will at least be included in the keys with references to descriptions in literature.

Notwithstanding the vast and still rapidly growing amount of literature on temperate agarics, it has already turned out that taxonomic and nomenclatural problems remain to be solved in almost all genera, sometimes even in the case of very common fungi. In order to avoid lengthy discussions on taxonomy and nomenclature in the 'Flora' itself, a separate series of numbered precursory 'Notulae' is started, the first three of which are to be found on the following pages. More will follow. New taxa and new names will also be published in these 'Notulae'.

Comments on these 'Notulae' from colleagues disagreeing with certain concepts or observations are kindly requested and will be taken into serious consideration.