

NEW AND INTERESTING FUNGI IN 2023

Colin Pope & Jackie Hart

2023 proved to be a rather quiet year for fungi after the many exciting finds of 2022. Nevertheless, seven taxa were recorded for the first time on the Island, indicated by * in the accounts below. A number of species recorded have few previous records. George Greiff continued to discover several previously unrecorded micro-fungi on bryophytes; these are not included here, but will be reported in due course.

AGARICS and other Basidiomycetes (Class: Agaricomycetes)

Amanita ceciliae Snakeskin Grisette
An *Amanita* with distinctive grey scaly, snakeskin-like skin markings on the stipe (Fig. 1). Osborne Estate 7th October mo, det. EJ. Three previous Island records. First for Osborne.



Fig.1: Snakeskin Grisette (*Amanita ceciliae*), Osborne.

**Boletus luridiformis* var. *immutatus*

Scarletina Bolete

This is a newly described colour form. Osborne Estate 7th October mo, det. EJ.

**Botryobasidium leave*

A resupinate which is not uncommon nationally but not previously recorded from the Island. Osborne Estate 7th October, EJ.

Crepidotus calolepis

An Oysterling

A *Crepidotus* with a rusty brown fibrillose scaly cap, generally on Poplars. Fattingspark Copse 8th October mo, det. EJ. First Island record since 2014.

Gyroporus castaneus

Chestnut Bolete

A warm brown bolete, with yellow spore print, associated with oaks (Fig. 2). This is a generally uncommon bolete with four previous Island records but this year was seen at several sites: woodland at East Cowes Esplanade (EJ); Osborne Estate beneath Holm Oak (mo); and Lynch Copse, Newchurch (mo).

Hygrophorus persoonia

A viscid brown woodwax with a distinctive annular zone on the stipe (Fig. 3). Beneath Holm Oak growing along the old railway track by Bembridge ponds, 21st November CP conf. HFRG. This is the second Island record. It was recorded by Derek Reid from Firestone Copse in 1982 as *H. dichrous*.



Fig.2: Chestnut Bolete (*Gyroporus castaneus*), Osborne.



Fig. 3: *Hygrophorus persoonia*, Bembridge Ponds..

Lactarius circellatus

A milkcap strongly associated with Hornbeam. Haseley Manor, Arreton 28th September. There has been one previous record in 2001.

Mycena capillaripes

Pinkedge Bonnet

A small pinkish bonnet with reddish gill edges with a strong alkaline smell, in Parkhurst Forest, in needle litter beneath conifers 22nd October CP. There have been a small handful of previous records (Fig. 4)



Fig. 4: Pinkedge Bonnet (*Mycena capillaripes*), Parkhurst Forest.

**Polyporus ciliatus*

A stalked polypore with a mottled, snake-like surface pattern on the stem. On Alder, Haseley Manor, Arreton 28th September mo. Nationally, not a rare species and presumably previously overlooked.

Psathyrella ammophila

A sand dune brittlestem growing on Marram Grass (Fig. 5). Bembridge Point, 21st November, CP. Previously recorded from St Helen's Duver.



Fig.5: *Psathyrella ammophila*, Bembridge Point.

**Schizopora radula*

A resupinate porecrust not previously recorded from the Island, but presumably overlooked. Osborne Estate 7th October mo, det. EJ.

ASCOMYCETES

Hypocrea auroviridis

Tiny greenish gelatinous blobs on rotten wood. Osborne Estate, 7th October, CP. There has been one previous record, also from Osborne in 2015.

**Peziza arvenensis*

A brown Peziza with particularly large fruit bodies (Fig. 6). Found growing on piles of woodchip at Ventnor Botanic Garden. CK, det. CP.



Fig.6



Fig.8

Fig.6 Top left

Peziza arvenensis, on wood chip, Ventnor Botanic Garden. Photo: CK.

Fig.7: Bottom left

Tarzetta cupularis, Haseley Manor.

Fig. 8: Top right

Verpa conica, Thimble Morel, Dodnor.

Fig.9: Bottom right

Acanthonitschkea tristis on mossy bark, Borthwood Copse.

Sarcoscypha austriaca

Scarlet Elf Cup

The winter fruiting Scarlet Elf Cup is found frequently in damp woodlands. Appley Park 22nd March, RH, det. CP. A previously unrecorded site.

Tarzetta cupularis

Toothed Cup

A small, short-stalked cup fungus found growing on damp ground beneath willows. Haseley Manor 28th August, CP. Two previous records; this is the first since 1999. (Fig. 7).

Verpa conica

Thimble Morel

Several specimens at Dodnor, verge of cycleway (Fig. 8). DB, det. CP. This has been a good year for fruiting of this spring morel across southern Britain. There has been one previous Island record, from Whitefield Woods in 2014.

MICROFUNGI

**Acanthonitschkea tristis*

Borthwood Copse 26th November, CP. Not rare but presumably overlooked previously. (Fig. 9).

**Hypoderma rubi*

Growing on dead bramble stems at Newchurch Field of Hope 12th November CP. Not rare nationally, but presumably overlooked previously on the Island .

Recorders

CP Colin Pope; DB David Biggs; RH Roger Herbert; EJ Eric Janke; CK Chris Kidd; HFRG Hampshire Fungus Recording Group; mo many observers (seen at a Society foray meeting).

Abbreviation: det. Determined by

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Fig.7

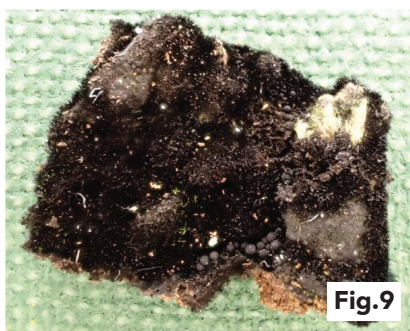


Fig.9