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R. Agerer (Ed.). *Colour atlas of ectomycorrhizae. Issue 11.* (Einhorn Verlag, Eduard Dietenberger GmbH, Postfach 1280, D-73502 Schwäbisch-Gmünd, Germany. 1998.)
Price: DM 135,-.

The eleventh issue of this series gives 26 sheets with coloured and/or black-and-white photographs of 11 unidentified and 16 identified species of Ectomycorrhizae. The morphology is extensively described. Several keys are given for the identification of ectomycorrhiza with respect to the tree genera *Abies*, *Alnus*, *Betula*, *Carpinus*, *Corylus*, *Cyclobalanopsis*, *Elaeocarpus*, *Eucalyptus*, *Fagus*, *Larix*, *Nothofagus*, *Pasania*, *Picea*, *Pinus*, *Populus*, *Pseudotsuga*, *Quercus*, *Salix*, *Shorea*, *Tetraberlinia*, and *Tsuga*. Again, this issue adds a lot of very useful information on the subject, and is of great value for ectomycorrhizal research.

G. Baron. *Understanding lichens.* (The Richmond Publishing Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 963, Slough SL2 3RS, England. 1999.) ISBN 085546-252-3. Pp. 92, 4 coloured pls., 49 figs.
Price: £ 9,95.

The purpose of this book, according to the author, is to arouse in the reader an interest in lichens. Something in which this popular booklet surely succeeds. It provides information on what a lichen is, the lichen thallus, growth forms, reproduction and dispersal, lichen physiology, habitat and substrate and lichen communities. Furthermore it contains chapters on the amateur study of lichens, uses of lichens, classification of lichens and references to important books and journals. All the texts are explained with line-drawings and black-and-white photographs, and 24 pictures are provided of common lichens.

M.T. Basso. *Lactarius Pers.* (Fungi Europaei, vol. 7, Mykoflora, I-17021 Alassio, Italy. 1999.) ISBN 88-87740-00-3. Pp. 844, 62 coloured pls. Bilingual: English and Italian.
Price: unknown.

The seventh volume of this impressive series Fungi Europaei is devoted to the large genus *Lactarius*. It contains an extensive introduction on the macroscopical and microscopical characters of the genus and an overview of the taxonomy of the genus. The author presents her own infrageneric classification, which is essentially based on those of Bon (1983) and Heilmann-Clausen et al. (1998), but emended and in some cases groups are transferred from one subgenus to the other. The main part of the book is devoted to detailed descriptions of each accepted species, including the original diagnosis, a translation in Italian of the original diagnosis, macroscopical and microscopical descriptions, a list of material studied, accompanied by line drawings of the microscopical characters and one or more coloured photographs. In many cases type studies are also given. The book concludes with an extensive list of references. The iconography contains not only 34 coloured plates executed

by the authors, but also reproductions of (unpublished) plates by E. Fries, stored in the Herbarium of Stockholm, which may be considered a very valuable addition. This monograph is a valuable addition to the one published by Heilmann-Clausen et al. (1998), especially for the Mediterranean taxa. It is obvious however, that still quite a few taxonomic problems remain in the genus, particularly in the subgenera *Rhysocybella* and *Russularia*.

A. Bidaud, P. Moëgne-Loccoz, P. Reumaux. *Atlas des Cortinaires. Pars IX (2)*. (Editions Fédération Mycologique Dauphiné-Savoie, 70 Rue Edison, F-69330 Meyzieu, France. 2000.) Pp. 307–409, 52 sheets with descriptions and line-drawings, col. pl. 208–260. Price: FF 580.-.

The ninth part of this series is devoted to two very different groups of *Cortinarius*, viz., sect. *Telamonia* with 10 new infrageneric taxa, and 16 new species, varieties and forms, and sect. *Phlegmacium*, with 22 infrageneric taxa, and 44 new species, varieties and forms, respectively. The publication is otherwise similar to the former in this series, with loose-leaf coloured plates and separate sheets with descriptions and line-drawings. The printing is good. This contribution will certainly be welcomed by true Cortinariologists of the French school.

G. Cacialli, V. Caroti & F. Doveri. *Contributio ad cognitionem copriniorum. Monografie di Pagine di Micologia I*. (A.M.B., Via A. Volta, 46 – 38100 Trento / Fond. Centro Studi Micologici, Vicenza. 1999.) Pp. 256, 11 text-figs., div. copies of original plates. Price: Lit. 25.000.-.

This book is the first of a series, and aims to provide information on the genus *Coprinus*. The main part of the book is occupied by an alphabetical list of species in this genus with a reference to the original publication and often the original diagnosis, accompanied by a few copies of original plates. Furthermore it comprises a list with abbreviations of the cited journals and books, a list of taxa with an enumeration of the abbreviated publications in which the taxa are treated and, in alphabetical order of the author, a list of those publications. The rest of the book contains a copy of 'Nomenclator fungorum' by W.M. Streinz (1862), containing data on *Coprinus*, a list of publications concerning *Coprinus* in Italy, distribution-maps of *Coprinus* species in Italy, and – in Italian as well as in English – a treatise of fimicolous *Coprinus* in Italy, with a dichotomous key to the species, observations and – sometimes – descriptions on species, accompanied by line-drawings. In this last part of the book comments are made on all known fimicolous species of *Coprinus* in Europe, even though they are not all included in the key.

This is a valuable book and has surely costed a lot of time and effort. Unfortunately, as nearly always, the part with the original diagnoses is not entirely complete. Some easy-to-find combinations are missing, like for example *Coprinus calvescens* (Berk.) Manjula, 1983, from others the original diagnoses were not found by the authors. It would have been advisable if the authors had contacted some libraries abroad where the missing literature might have been available. But these are minor remarks, this book is recommended for the amateur and professional who is interested in *Coprinus*, and will save a lot of time, though the author and literature references still need to be checked.

B. Ing. *The Myxomycetes of Britain and Ireland: An identification handbook*. (The Richmond Publishing Co., Ltd., P.O. Box 963, Slough, SL2 3RS England. 1999.) Pp. 374, many line drawings in the text. Price: £ 35.-.

This is the first book published on British Myxomycetes since the famous monograph of Lister in 1925. The author presents his forty years of intensive studies in the field, laboratory and herbarium with this monograph, which was among others inspired by the late Dutch myxomycetologist Mrs. E. Nannenga-Bremekamp. Introductory chapters deal with ecology, distribution, collections, culture, examination and preservation, and are clearly written and well-illustrated. Before starting with the taxonomic part the author explains how to use the keys. The dichotomic keys are written in a concise and clear style. The species are treated per genus and per family, and illustrated with simple, though informative line-drawings. The appendix contains a very useful list of derivations of the names of myxomycetes, as well as a glossary of terms, and a list of useful addresses. This book will certainly be welcomed by all interested in this groups of intriguing organisms, nowadays considered a phylum unrelated to the true fungi.

A. Montecchi & M. Sarasini. *Funghi ipogei d'Europa*. (Associazione Micologica Bresadola. Via A. Volta, 46, I-38100 Trento. 2000.) Pp. 714, many coloured photographs. In Italian and English. Price: unknown.

As a successor to the 'Atlante Fotografico di Funghi Ipogei', by Montecchi & Lazzari (1993), there is now an even more attractive and more comprehensive book than the previous one. In total 179 species of hypogeous and semi-hypogeous fungi are now depicted and described, 66 more than previous. Of each species two photographs are given, of the fruit-body and the microscopical structures, accompanied by a detailed description, and – when necessary – remarks and taxonomic notes, all in Italian and English. The photographs are of good quality. Keys to family, genus and species are provided at the beginning of each taxonomic group. Also, a glossary is included of the mycological terms used in hypogeous fungi, again both in Italian and in English. By translating all texts into English this book is more accessible to mycologists who had difficulties reading Italian.

M. Moser & W. Jülich (unter Mitarbeit von C. Furrer-Ziogas). *Farbatlas der Basidiomyceten. Lieferung 16*. (Gustav Fischer Verlag, Wollgrasweg 49, D-70599 Stuttgart. 1998.) ISBN 3-437-25686-6. Price: DM 118.-.

The sixteenth issue of this loose-leaf atlas contains pictures of species belonging to the following genera: *Rhizopogon*, *Amanita*, *Baeospora*, *Clitopilus*, *Collybia*, *Coprinus*, *Cortinarius*, *Entoloma*, *Gerronema*, *Inocybe*, *Kuehneromyces*, *Lepiota*, *Lepista*, *Leucopaxillus*, *Macrolepiota*, *Megacollybia*, *Melanoleuca*, *Merismodes*, *Myxomphalia*, *Albatrellus*, *Antrodia*, *Bankera*, *Cytidia*, *Hydnum*, *Inonotus*, *Sarcodon*.

Genus-descriptions of *Macrocystidia*, *Megacollybia*, *Myxomphalia*, *Pseudoomphalina*, *Albatrellus*, *Antrodia*, *Auriscalpium*, *Bankera*, *Bondarzewia*, *Climacocystis*, *Cytidia*, *Daedalea*, *Daedaleopsis*, *Dendropolyporus*, *Hapalopilus*, *Hydnullum*, *Hydnum*, *Inonotus*, *Laricifomes*, *Pachykytospora*, *Sarcodon*, *Trichaptum* and *Queletia* are provided, in German,

English, French and Italian, and following the same concept as in the previous issues. This issue also contains an index to species and genera covering the issues 1-16. Photographs of many rarely depicted species are included, the quality of the plates varies from moderate to good.

V.A. Mukhin & H. Knudsen (eds.). *Arctic and alpine mycology 5. Proceedings of the Fifth International Symposium on Arcto-Alpine Mycology* (Labytnangi, Russia, August 15-27, 1996). (Yekaterinburg Publishers. 1998.) ISBN 5-38464-060-9. Pp. 171, 16 coloured pls., several text-figs. Price: \$ 20,-.

Since 1980 Symposia are held every four years on arctic and alpine mycology. During the symposia scientific discussions and field work are combined. This book is the result of the fifth symposium, held in western Siberia. Seventeen contributions of 22 authors are published in this book, all dealing with aspects of arctic or alpine mycology. Relatively many Russian mycologists participated in this symposium, and 8 of the contributions deal with arctic fungi in Russia, concerning various subjects like arctic and alpine agarics from the Yamal peninsula (western Siberia), xylotrophic fungi, Myxomycetes, dryadicolous micro-fungi and Aphyllophorales from the north Ural. Other contributions refer to Lead and Cadmium contents along a mountain pass road in the Alps, arctic *Inocybe* species in Canada and western Siberia, *Hebeloma* in arctic and alpine tundra in Alaska, arctic Gasteromycetes, and *Cortinarius* subgenus *Telamonia* in Greenland.

I. Nuss. *Mykologischer Vergleich zwischen Naturschutzgebieten und Forstflächen*. (Libri botanici Band 18, IHW-Verlag, Postfach 1119, D-85378 Eching bei München. 1999.) ISBN 3-930167-37-9. Pp. 144, 62 figs., some coloured. In German. Price: unknown.

The results of a two years investigation into the relation between (macro)fungi and their environment in two protected forest areas and two comparable forestry areas are presented in this book. The main conclusions are the high correlation between the mycodiversity and the spectrum of dead wood, and the experience that the amount of Red list fungi in the protected areas is a multiple of the amount in the areas used for forestry, both not very surprising conclusions. The research has been carried out in one of the remnants of a mixed primeval forest (NSG Mittelsteighütte), the other area was situated in a very old oak forest in Bayern.

After a 19 pages introduction about the areas studied and the used methods, some remarks and results are given about the amount of dead wood and the importance for fungi. Of a number of perennial bracket fungi more detailed comparisons are made of the areas. A complete list of all the c. 560 fungi found and lists of the Red list fungi per study area are provided, followed by a discussion of the fungi which are considered important for nature conservation. As a last chapter recommendations are discussed for measures to be taken for conservation and management.

This is an interesting booklet for all who are involved in matters of nature conservation and fungi, although the research is based on the relatively short period for mycological research of only two years.

S. Onofri, A. Graniti & L. Zucconi (Eds). *Italians in the history of mycology. Proceedings of a Symposium held in the Archivio Centrale dello Stato Rome, 4-5 October 1995*. (Mycotaxon Ltd. 1999; orders at Accademia Nazionale delle Scienze, detta dei XL, Villa Lontana, Via Cassia Antica 35, I-00191 Roma, Italy.) ISBN 0-930845-09-9. Price: unknown.

This interesting book contains a collection of papers presented in the above mentioned Symposium, which was jointly organised by the Italian National Academy of Sciences and the Italian Botanical Society. The papers not only deal with famous Italian mycologists and naturalists like Micheli, De Notaris, Saccardo and Bresadola, but also provide information about less known scientists who worked in the field of mycology, like among others Aldrovandi, Inzenga, Carmignani, Arcangeli, Pellegrini, Tassi, Mattiolo, Ciferri. The book contains 14 papers, in a more or less chronological order, from Plinius the Elder (A.D. 77) until mycologists from the 20th century. Most articles concern the contributions from 1500-1900. One of the articles gives an overview of mycological illustrations, with special reference to Italian contributions, starting with what is believed to be the earliest image of a fungus (*Elaphomyces*; 512 A.D.) in a later Byzantine version of Dioskorides' 'De Natura Medica'. This article is accompanied by beautiful copies of 15 early plates, including the *Elaphomyces*. Also the article about Aldrovandi's contributions to mycology (1522-1605) is illustrated with 6 copies of his plates. This book gives a lot of new information about the role of the Italians in mycology.

C.-G. Papetti, G. Consiglio & G. Simonini. *Atlante fotografico dei Funghi d'Italia, Vol. 1*. (Associazione Micologica Bresadola, I-38100 Trento. 1999.) Pp. 511, numerous coloured photographs. In Italian. Price: unknown.

This field-guide is the first of a series of three books, which will contain photographs and descriptions of about 1500 taxa of higher fungi to be found in Italy. It is meant to be used by amateurs to assist them in the identification of fungi in the field. The first volume contains the most common and well-known fungi. The photographs are of good to excellent quality, as are the descriptions and ecological data. Indications are given as to the culinary value or toxicity of the presented fungi. This book is not only useful for Italian amateur mycologists, but gives a lot of information for all interested in this group of organisms.

M. Traverso. *Il genere Amanita in Italia*. (Editione Associazione Micologica ed Ecologica Romana, Via Sardegna, 161, I-00187 Roma, Italy. 1999.) Pp. 182, 168 col. figs. Price: unknown.

This attractively illustrated book gives an overview of the genus *Amanita* in Italy: a genus with many species which toxicity calls for a reliable identification tool. The general part gives an overview of the main characteristics of the genus, with very informative photographs and line drawings to illustrate them. The main part of the book consists of descriptions and photographs of all species known from Italy with information on ecology and the possibilities of confusion with related species. Although the author in some cases uses an outdated nomenclature and a rather narrow species concept, the book offers a good opportunity to learn more about the genus *Amanita*, especially of the species occurring in the Mediterranean.