



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
5th Floor, Hunt Library  
Carnegie Mellon University  
4909 Frew Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890  
Telephone: 412-268-2434  
Email: [huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu](mailto:huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu)  
Web site: [www.huntbotanical.org](http://www.huntbotanical.org)

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

#### *Usage guidelines*

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

#### *Statement on harmful and offensive content*

The Hunt Institute Archives contains hundreds of thousands of pages of historical content, writing and images, created by thousands of individuals connected to the botanical sciences. Due to the wide range of time and social context in which these materials were created, some of the collections contain material that reflect outdated, biased, offensive and possibly violent views, opinions and actions. The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation does not endorse the views expressed in these materials, which are inconsistent with our dedication to creating an inclusive, accessible and anti-discriminatory research environment. Archival records are historical documents, and the Hunt Institute keeps such records unaltered to maintain their integrity and to foster accountability for the actions and views of the collections' creators.

Many of the historical collections in the Hunt Institute Archives contain personal correspondence, notes, recollections and opinions, which may contain language, ideas or stereotypes that are offensive or harmful to others. These collections are maintained as records of the individuals involved and do not reflect the views or values of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or those of Carnegie Mellon University.

#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.



9 March 1970

Dear Bernard,

Review received. Many  
Thanks. As usual with you -- but  
as unusual with most other  
reviews I get -- the prose is  
lovely. Indeed, you almost  
make obsolete the red pencil.

Cordially

John Thuriet

R. GORDON WASSON  
42, Long Ridge Road · DANBURY, Conn., 06810  
TEL.: (203) 748:0123

12 November 1971

Professor B. Lowy  
Department of Botany and Plant Pathology  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Professor Lowy:

Your paper on the mushroom stones in the current Mycologia is a valuable contribution to our knowledge. So far as I recall it also marks the first time that a serious ethno-mycological paper has appeared in that journal. This is a progressive step for Mycologia but perhaps it diminishes the number of interested people who will see it.

Could you spare three or four reprints? I shall gladly pay for them.

Near the top of p. 984 you say that mushrooms are occasionally depicted 'in the few remaining known Maya codices'. I had not known this and would appreciate the references. At the bottom of p. 988, referring to the pottery mushroom that I own, you say that it is said to be from Tenenexpan, Vera Cruz. I had never associated this locality with it. I had known it only as of the Remojadas culture type. I had thought it came into the market of unknown provenience. Gordon Ekholm confirmed its authenticity and everyone has linked it with the Remojadas culture.

Sincerely yours,

*R. Gordon Wasson*

R. GORDON WASSON  
42, Long Ridge Road · DANBURY, Conn., 06810  
TEL.: (203) 748:0123  
19 November 1971

Professor B. Lowy  
Department of Botany and Plant  
Pathology  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Professor Lowy:

I am excited by your discoveries! I was not familiar with the Galindo codex. Where has it been written up or reproduced?

I hear you have published a paper in the Revisa Interamericana Vol. 1, No. 1, which appeared last spring. If you could send me one (or two, if there are any to spare) copy of this, I shall be much obliged.

Sincerely yours,

R Gordon Wasson

Duke University  
DURHAM  
NORTH CAROLINA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY  
AND ANTHROPOLOGY

29 December 1971  
GM Duke Station

POSTAL CODE 27706

Dear Coe,

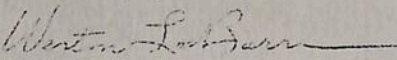
A rather stunning confirmation:

I have just received and read B. Lowy,  
"New Records of Mushroom Stones from Guatemala,"  
MYCOLOGIA, 63 #5 (Sept.-Oct. 1971) 983-993.

On page 989 is pictured a photograph  
of a mushroom stone (Fig. 6) which is a "toad  
effigy" at the base of the stipe of a mushroom-  
stone. This seems to me an authentically native  
association and awareness of the relationship of  
toad-bufotenin and mushroom-psilocybin in  
psychotropic effect.

I don't see how one could expect better  
archeological support of your thesis in the  
HORIZON article.

Sincerely yours,

  
Weston La Barre  
James B. Duke Professor  
of Anthropology

WESTON LA BARRE  
MT. SINAI RD., RT. 1  
DURHAM, N. C. 27705

23 October 1975

Dear Dr. Lowy,

Thank you for your good article  
"Notes on Mushrooms and Religion," which I read  
with great interest.

I had not known that in Tzeltal  
"yuy chayk" means thunderbolt and mushroom, and  
that in Q'iché "kaqualjá" has the same association.  
This would delight Wasson, as it does me, because  
it argues for very great antiquity of the concept.

Have you seen my long initial paper  
on "Anthropological Perspectives on Hallucination  
and Hallucinogens" (pp. 9-52) in R. E. Siegel and  
L. J. West (eds.), HALLUCINATIONS: BEHAVIOR,  
EXPERIENCE AND THEORY (New York: Wiley, 1975)?  
I regret that I got so few offprints, which were  
speedily exhausted.

My regret remains that I cannot be  
a part of the symposium, but since I had written  
you the reasons have mounted definitively.

Sincerely yours,

*Weston*  
Weston La Barre  
James B. Duke Professor  
of Anthropology



SECRETARIA  
DE  
EDUCACION PUBLICA  
SUBSECRETARIA DE  
EDUCACION MEDIA  
TECNICA Y SUPERIOR

INSTITUTO POLITECNICO NACIONAL  
ESCUELA NACIONAL DE CIENCIAS BIOLÓGICAS

Apartado Postal 26-378  
México 4, D.F.

DEPARTAMENTO DE BOTANICA  
LABORATORIO DE MICOLOGIA

October 10, 1975.

Dr. Berand Lowy  
Louisiana State University  
Department of Botany  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803  
E.U.A.

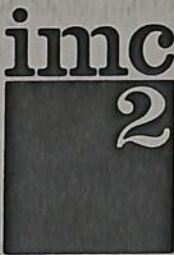
Dear Dr. Lowy:

Thank you for your letter on September 4 and for your invitation to the symposium that you are organizing for the II International Mycological Congress. For me is an honor to collaborate with you and I accept to present a contribution on the hallucinogenic fungi of Mexico ("An account on the hallucinogenic fungi of Mexico", maybe be the title).

I just finished a book on keys with illustrations for Mexican fungi that it will be published beginning next year. The book have already of 600 species. I will send you a copy.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Gastón Guzmán



second international mycological congress 1977

~~UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA~~ The New York Botanical Garden  
~~Tampa, Florida~~ Bronx, New York 10458

President: Frederick K. Sparrow

November 7, 1975

Dr. B. Lowy  
Department of Botany  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Dr. Lowy:

I have been asked by the chairman of the program committee of the Second International Mycological Congress to organize a program on neotropical fungi for the forthcoming Congress in Tampa in 1977. One of the programs which I am coordinating is a series of workshops on various groups of fungi found within the neotropics. I am attempting to do this more or less within the framework of the organization for Flora Neotropica and am contacting basically the same people who are collaborating with us in this project.

In this regard would you be able to participate in a workshop and provide a demonstration on the "Tremellales" found in the New World Tropics. If you are willing to do so, please drop me a note and I will fill you in on more of the specifics as things begin to develop. I have already made contact with several other mycologists working in this region and the idea has been very well received. In fact, many are very enthusiastic about this proposed program. I really hope that you will be able to participate in such a workshop since your treatment of the Tremellales for the Flora Neotropica certainly is one of the most important contributions to the series to date.

Many people working in the neotropics, myself certainly included, find the "jelly fungi" a very interesting and exciting group.

I am now preparing to return to the tropics myself for a field trip. If you are unable to answer my letter before December 1, my address between December 1 and February 1 will be, c/o Enrique Forero, Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Instituto de Ciencias Naturales, Bogota, Colombia.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,

K. P. Dumont  
Member, Program Committee

KPD:JT



The New York Botanical Garden  
Bronx, New York 10458  
November 18, 1975

Dr. Bernard Lowy  
Department of Botany  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Bernard:

Thank you for your letter of 13/XI/75. I am pleased to see that at least at this point you would consider participating in the workshop and truly hope that you will.

I will keep you informed of the development of the Congress and the proposed workshop as things develop and will drop you a note when I return in February or March.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "K. P. Dumont".

K. P. Dumont  
Program Committee  
Second International Mycological  
Congress

KPD/emr

FLORA CRIPTOGAMICA DE TIERRA DEL FUEGO

Auspiciada por CONICET - P.B.I.

Fecha iniciación VI/1971

Directores: S. A. Guarrera, I. Gamundi de Amos, D. Rabinovich de Halperin

La Plata, ~~xx~~November 21, ~~xx~~1975

LPS - 83/75.-

Dr. Bernardo Lowy  
Louisiana State University  
BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA, U.S.A.

Dear Bernard,

I heard from Jorge Wright that you are interested in participate in our project on the "Flora Criptogámica de Tierra del Fuego". This project started about five years ago, supported by the Consejo Nacional de Investigaciones Científicas y Técnicas - of Argentina through the International Biological Programme.

Several scientist collaborate in -- this plan, mainly from Argentina, but also a few specialist from over -- seas, as Egon Horak (Agaricales), E. Bourrelly (Chrysophyta), Aino Hensen (Cyanophitic lichens), coparticipe in it.

The project cover all The Avascu -- lar Cryptogams from Tierra del Fuego and adjacent islands East of Magallanes strait and is organized in 15 volumes, one for each Division, -- which are divided in several fascicles according to the extension of the subject.

As Co-Director of the Flora Cripto -- gámica de Tierra del Fuego, I invite you, in behalf of Dr. Guarrera and Halperin, to collaborate in this project regarding Tremellales and Dacry -- mycetales. From now onwards we can not offer you financial support, sin -- ce the grant from IBP, will be exhausted at the end of 1975, but we can give you some help regarding field transportation and logistic support in the area of study.

We shall be very glad if you can -- accept our proposition.

Since 1970 we make collecting trips to Tierra del Fuego and as result of this exploration five fascicles are published: Myxomycophyta, Pezizales, Aphylophorales p.p., Hookeriales and Jungermanniales p.p. Description of the species are based on type material as far as they are available, or on authentic material plus the personal collection made by the authors in the area of study. We are sending you a copy of Pezizales (by separate mail) as a guide for the diagrammation of the work.

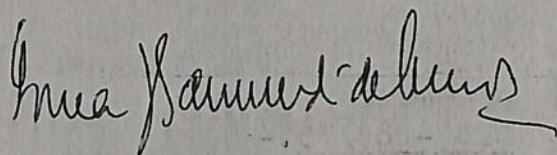
Regarding trips in Tierra del Fuego there are roads which cover part of the territory, but Isla de los Estados is an inhabited place without roads, towns or even houses. The only possibility of exploring it is by ship and camping, as we did in 1967. Weather is rather crude: cold, windy and rainy.

In the hope you could have an idea about the commonest species of Tremellales and Dacrymycetales of the andino-patagonian forest I am sending by separate mail a parcel containing 22 samples. Please, do not take in to account field determination! One of the most interesting collection is one on Noth.betuloides leaves: I have not see spores, but cruciate basidia. I am eager to know what it is, because is also very common in N.dombeyi leaves in autoum.

Any additional information you need

about our project, please let us know it.

Cordially yours.



IRA GAMUNDI DE AMOS  
JEFE DE DIVISION

IGA/lfc.-



National Museums  
Canada

Musées nationaux  
Canada

Palaeontology Division

Ottawa, Ontario  
K1A 0M8

December 16, 1975

Dr. Bernard Lowy  
Mycological Herbarium  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
U.S.A. 70803

Dear Dr. Lowy,

I have just learned from Henry Aldrich's latest circular, which I only just received (we are two months behind the rest of the world due to postal strike), that you have consented to look after ethnomycology at the 2<sup>nd</sup> IMC. I am very pleased that this aspect of mycology is receiving deserved attention and that you are in charge of the proceedings.

The reason for this letter is that in the early stages of planning of a symposium on fossil fungi I thought that palaeomycologists may have to team up with ethnomycologists to fill the bill. It now appears that palaeomycology may just fit one session and that ethnomycology is likely to spill into a second morning. During these preliminary stages of planning I approached Dr. Roy Watling of the Edinburgh Botanic Gardens and he consented to participate by presenting an interesting topic of Lycopodaceae in early Roman Britain. This, of course, is in your sphere of interest and I wondered if you would consider accommodating him in your programme. Roy, as you may know, is a very versatile and competent scientist, and an interesting and amusing speaker.

I am looking forward to meeting you in Tampa and to attending ethnomycological sessions.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

K.A. Pirozynski

512 North High St., Apartment E,  
Lancaster, Ohio 43130

December 7, 1975

Dr. B. Lowy,  
Mycology Herbarium,  
Botany Department,  
Louisiana State University,  
Baton Rouge, La. 70803

Dear Doctor Lowy:

Thanks very much for the reprints that you sent me recently. I hope that you will continue to send me reprints as your papers appear.

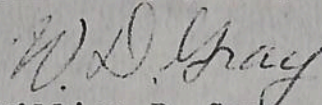
I retired from active teaching in 1972 and now devote myself to writing, a bit of consulting and the occasional guest lecture. I would get your reprints a bit faster if you would change my address to the Lancaster address above.

This is fascinating work that you are doing and I hope that you continue. Too bad that it wasn't done years ago so that I would have had something more substantial to record in my 1959 book. However, at that time, information on hallucinogenic fungi had really just started to accumulate.

I don't know if you are interested in exploring this further; in fact I don't know if it could be explored further. However, in March of 1974, while I was at Auburn University to give a lecture on mushroom poisoning and poisonous mushrooms, I learned that a group of students were using a small hallucinogenic mushroom that occurred in the vicinity. Whether or not this developed to the place where it developed into a cult status I don't know, but you might wish to pursue it a bit further.

I am enclosing a brief encyclopedia paper on the use of fungi as food. Papers on the nutrition of myxomycetes and some questions regarding this group should appear sometime this next year.

Sincerely yours,



William D. Gray,  
Adjunct Professor,  
Northern Illinois Univ.

THE NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN  
BRONX • NEW YORK 10458  212/933-9400

March 21, 1976

Dr. Bernard Lowy  
Department of Botany  
Louisiana State University  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803

Dear Bernie:

I have just returned from Colombia to see that the Garden sent you some of Dr. Prance's jellies for identification. Thanks very much for taking a look at them. I know Dr. Prance is very pleased to receive them.

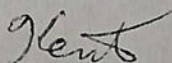
On another matter I expect to be going to the AIBS meetings in New Orleans during the last days of May and if possible would like to stop in and visit you at your laboratory. If it would not be inconvenient I would certainly appreciate seeing you and chatting with you about a number of things.

On my way back from Colombia I stopped in Gainesville and talked with Henry Aldrich about the Second International Mycological Congress. As you remember I asked you to set up a workshop on some of those jelly fungi which you have been working with. At the time you told me you would consider it but could not give me a definite answer. Things are shaping up very well and I would really be disappointed and I think it would leave a great vacuum in our program if you were not able to participate. I am sure that by virtue of the nature of the program which I have in mind and the great deal of preparation there will not be a burden on the part of the participator.

I was really pleased to see the program which you are organizing for the Congress on ethnomycology. It really looks interesting and I think it has a great deal of potential since we are going to be having a number of workshops on neotropical fungi. Let me throw out a trial balloon. What would you think about a workshop on hallucinogenic mushrooms? We might run into various kinds of problems if we publicize it as such. But perhaps we can do it in such a way that as few people as possible would be involved or whatever. I think it would be really interesting to do it since we have the world authorities there on all of these

hallucinogens and in fact we might be able to get some various kinds of artifacts as well as mushrooms put on display. Let me drop Henry Aldrich a note and see what he feels about it. Anyway if possible I would like to as I mentioned above stop in and see you and perhaps discuss this as well as other things with you. Before too long I will be sending off to you a few Colombian jellies which we recently collected. We did not collect a whole lot this time. Collecting could have been much better than it was.

Sincerely,



K. P. Dumont  
Associate Curator (Fungi)

KPD:JT