

What is FunDive?

It is Biodiversa+ funded project in which we work to put fungi biodiversity on the map to enhance European conservation efforts.

Why does it matter?

Fungi are generally understudied. Their global distribution patterns are not well understood. Even in Europe, where there has been centuries of fungal research, the distribution of many species remain unknown. However, this information is crucial for effective conservation practices.

Why it's worth joining?

Fungi are essential for our ecosystems but are often neglected in conservation efforts. We would like to change it.

JOIN US!



<https://fun-dive.eu/en/get-involved/>



FunDive



**Monitoring and mapping
fungal diversity for
nature conservation**

Truffle-like Russulaceae

What are truffle-like Russulaceae?

Whereas most Russulaceae (*Russula*, *Lactarius* and *Lactifluus* species) form regular mushrooms, others form enclosed fruitbodies, which can be either with or without a (reduced) stipe. These species are called truffle-like or sequestrate. Some grow completely under the soil (hypogeous), others are (partially) epigeous.



LEARN MORE ABOUT
TRUFFLE-LIKE
RUSSULACEAE FROM
OUR BOOKLET



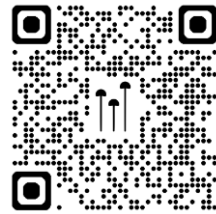
<https://fun-dive.eu/en/get-involved/current-projects/truffulales/>

Why is this genus interesting for FunDive?

Almost 30 species of these truffle-like Russulaceae have been described in Europe, but their distribution is poorly known due to their hidden lifestyle. They are possibly very rare, but more knowledge is needed to assess their conservation status. Moreover, we need samples of these rare species to understand how these unique mushrooms evolved.

By reporting your findings, you will add to the knowledge of this species group and your records will be important contributions to nature conservation.

How to engage?



<https://fun-dive.eu/get-involved/how-to-engage/>

FOLLOW DETAILED
STEP-BY-STEP
JOINING GUIDE

- ☐ Join the *Citizens for FunDive* project using the PlutoF GO app
- ☐ Take photos and notes
- ☐ Register your specimen in PlutoF GO app
- ☐ Upload it to FunDive dataportal
- ☐ Collect and dry your specimen
- ☐ Send it to country-level point of contact

How to document your findings?

- ☐ If possible, take more than one photo
- ☐ Photograph fungi in their natural habitat
- ☐ Try to take a photo of more than one fruiting body, preferentially in different growing stages
- ☐ Take a photo of the habitat in which the specimen was found
- ☐ If something cannot be documented in pictures take notes

Send us your specimens for DNA research

To improve our understanding of the ecology and distribution of any truffle-like Russulaceae, we are looking for occurrence data of these taxa. If you find any species, please report it as described on the left.

We are putting an extra focus on *Russula messapica*, *R. meridionalis*, *R. vinaceodora*, *R. ammophila* and *R. amoenolens*, which we want to use for DNA research. If you find these species, please make a good dried collection with fruitbodies from young to old and send them to us. Any dried collections you may already have of these species are also much appreciated!

More information on recognizing these species in the field is found in the booklet!