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/

biodiversa+ European Biodiversity Partnership

Co-funded by the European Union

FunDive

Monitoring and mapping fungal diversity for nature conservation

Paxillus

What is *Paxillus?*

The genus represents a gilled member of the order Boletales that is easily distinguished in the field. Members of the genus form ectomycorrhizae with trees from various taxa.

The characteristic sporomata are in the shades of brown, caps typically convex to depressed and with a rolled rim, especially when young, and decurrent lamellae.

In humans, eating *Paxillus* sporomata can lead to severe gastrointestinal distress and, in some cases, immunohemolytic anemia due to the presence of toxic compounds.

***Paxillus obscurisporus* (photo by Vello Liiv)**

LEARN MORE ABOUT *PAXILLUS*

https://fun-dive.eu/en/get-involved/current-projects/paxillus/

Why is this genus interesting for FunDive?

Traditionally, only 2 species were recognised in the genus – *P. involutus* and *P. rubicundulus* (=*P. filamentosus*), both of which represent species complexes. Recent studies have introduced several new species from Europe that can be distinguished using DNA barcoding but not always through their morphology.

Therefore, we call to pay attention and collect sporocarps of *Paxillus* with diverse outlook and habitat origin while trying to avoid piling up collections of *P. involutus*, rather common with *Betula* spp. in acidic (damp) woodlands.

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?

- ❑ 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

FOLLOW DETAILED STEP-BY-STEP JOINING GUIDE

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

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
- ❑ Photograph the specimen from multiple angles to visualise all details that can be relevant for morphological identification
- ❑ Take a photo of the habitat in which the specimen was found
- ❑ If possible try to use scale for size reference
- ❑ If something cannot be documented in pictures take notes

Send us your specimens for DNA barcoding

These fungi are easy to recognise to genus level, but to confirm species-level identification we ask you, to send your specimens for DNA barcoding.

To do so, please dry your specimens, pack them individually to paper bags, and send to your country-level point of contact

Track the status of your specimen and get its DNA sequence from FunDive data portal

https://fun-dive.eu/dataportal/