

## Norfolk Fungus Study Group Foray Report

**Dersingham Fen and Shutup Common. Sunday 21st June 2026.**

Fifteen of us made the journey to Dersingham in the west of the county this month to join the latest official group foray. Most of us came by car, and parked in various locations near the site - and one of us walked in.

On the southern edge of Dersingham Village are Dersingham Fen and Common. The latter is registered as Common Land under the Countryside & Rights of Way Act 2000. These sites are also part of the Dersingham Bog National Nature Reserve. Dersingham Bog National Nature Reserve is heavily protected both Nationally and Internationally. It is designated as a RAMSAR site (a wetland site of national importance), a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and is part of the Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog Special Area of Conservation. Habitats include heath, mire, reedbed, bog and woodland.



Summer locations are usually picked for their potential to have sufficient wet areas to produce fruiting bodies to keep the interest going for those attending. Yet again the dry spell which preceded the visit meant that microfungi and the more hardy brackets and crusts dominated the records for the morning. Hoop fungus and Birch Polypore were recorded on the the same dead standing trunk - this has become a quite frequent find since James Emerson asked us on Facebook to start looking last year. Bracken Map, Pocket Plum, Netted Crust as well as Oak and Birch Blackhead were also quickly found. Andy Brown showed the group a Bog Myrtle stem with *Mycoglaena myricae* on it - this is a non-lichenised fungus growing on bark. It is characterised by small, dark, pimple-like perithecia that are encircled by a distinctive silvery-white halo. One to look out for in the future! It also grows on Alder, Birch and Rowan.

The moisture in the dykes made them the best areas for finds and produced most of the discussion. There were some very small, white, branched fruiting bodies found on very rotten wood - jokingly referred to as "screaming babies" - these were later identified as Crested Coral. There was much discussion about the sphagnum moss shoots with white cauliflower like structures (check out the photographs) found by Tony L who wondered if it could be a *Bryophilus* fungus. Sadly this wasn't the case and they turned out to be caused by, as Fay had suggested, crystal deposits when Tony L. looked at them under the microscope.

As we settled down to lunch, around the only bench on the site, Mark appeared out of the dyke with some small yellow fruiting bodies, growing on wet dead wood. Again much discussion and they turned out to be *Cudoniella clavus*/Spring Pin under the microscope. These are normally white so a note was made regarding their colour. Only two gilled fungi were found in the morning - Willow Shield found by Tony M on an old log and identified at home by Jenny, and a Pale Brittlestem.

After lunch the fen, drier than usual, revealed little but there was a small, young, red waxcap with white gills found by Mark on the pathside. Taken home by Yvonne it was identified as likely to be Bog Waxcap but lacking the distinctive black flecks on the cap possibly because of it's age. The group were also entertained by some sand wasps performing on a bare patch of earth.

As we approached the cars the offer to explore the intriguingly named Dersingham Shutup Common was taken up by about half of the group. The name comes from the fact that it was historically fenced to prevent livestock from wandering away.

The stream through the woodland and the wet areas surrounding it was very productive. There was another colony of “screaming babies” as well as seven gilled fungi including Bark, Orange, Frosty and Dewdrop bonnets, and an orange Moss-cap - mostly found by Mark, a Rufous Milkcap - found by Andy, as well as a *Galerina* later identified with microscopy as *G. cinctula*. Two species of eyelash fungi were found. One large colony on the mud by the stream was identified later by Jeremy as Common Eyelash/*Scutellinia scutellata*. The other was a single example on dead wood and identified, again by Jeremy as *Scutellinia olivascens* - fairly rare for the county and only the fourth record. There was another birch trunk with the Hoof and Birch Polypore. Well worth an extension of the foray until the late afternoon

It was an excellent day out, despite the dry conditions, and it was good to meet up with some of our members from the west side of the county.

There were 38 field identifications and a final total of 55 species. When comparing the list with the current Norfolk Mycota, and the 2026 list so far, 13 species are new for the Fen site and 15 are new for the Common.

The only species new for Norfolk is the *Mycoglaena myricae* described in the preceding text. The *Galerina cinctula* is a third record for the county the others being from the 1980s

A big thanks to those who came and helped with the finds and who did the homework to create the final list.



*Laetiporus sulphureus*/Chicken of the Woods



*Cudoniella clavus*/Spring Pin



*Hygrocybe coccineocrenata*/Bog Waxcap

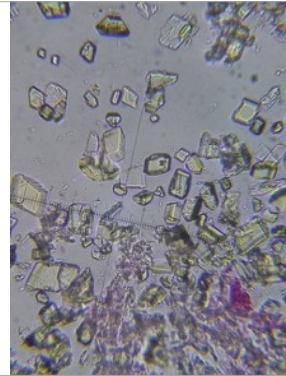


*Clavulina coralloides*/Crested Coral





Sphagnum Moss with "fungus"



Crystals



Scutellinia scutellata/Common Eyelash



Scutellinia olivascens



Heather Shieldbug



Hairy Sand Wasp

# Finds

<b>SCIENTIFIC NAME</b>	<b>COMMON NAME</b>	<b>SUBSTRATE</b>	<b>ASSOCIATED ORGANISM</b>
<i>Bulbillomyces farinosus</i>	Cous Cous Crust	Dead Branch	
<i>Byssomerulius corium</i>	Netted Crust	Dead Branch	Betula
<i>Chlorociboria aeruginascens</i>	Green Elfcup	Dead Wood	
<i>Clavulina coralloides</i>	Crested Coral	Rotten Wood	
<i>Colletotrichum gloeosporioides</i>		Live Leaf	Rhododenderon ponticum
<i>Cudoniella clavus</i>	Spring Pin	Wet Dead Wood	
<i>Daedaleopsis confragosa</i>	Blushing Bracket	Dead Log	Betula
<i>Fomes</i>	Hoof Fungus	Dead Trunk	Betula
<i>Fomitopsis</i>	Birch Woodwart	Dead Trunk	Betula
<i>Diatrypella favacea</i>	Birch Blackhead	Dead Branch	Betula
<i>Diatrypella</i>	Oak Blackhead	Dead Branch	Quercus
<i>Diplodia sapinea</i>		Dead Cone	Pinus sylvestris
<i>Erysiphe alphitoides</i>	Oak Mildew	Live Leaf	Quercus
<i>Exidia glandulosa</i>	Witches' Butter	Dead Branch	Quercus
<i>Fuligo septica</i>	Flowers of Tan	Dead Wood	
<i>Hygrocybe coccineocrenata</i>	Bog Waxcap	Damp Soil	
<i>Hypoxylon fuscum</i>	Hazel Woodwart	Dead Branch	Corylus avellana
<i>Jackrogersella multiformis</i>	Birch Woodwart	Dead Branch	Betula
<i>Lachnum apalum</i>	Rush Disco	Dead Stem	Juncus
<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>	Chicken of the Woods	Dead Trunk	Quercus
<i>Lophodermium pinastri</i>	Pine Needle Split	Dead Needles	Pinus sylvestris
<i>Mollisia cinerea</i>	Common Grey Disco	Dead Branch	
<i>Mycoglaena myricae</i>		Live Branch	Myrica gale
<i>Pluteus salicinus</i>	Willow Shield	Dead Log	

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	SUBSTRATE	ASSOCIATED ORGANISM
<i>Polyporus leptcephalus</i>	Blackfoot Polypore	Dead Branch	Quercus
<i>Psathyrella candolleana</i>	Pale Brittlestem	Soil	
<i>Puccinia punctiformis</i>	Thistle Rust	Live Leaf	Cirsium vulgare
<i>Rhopographus filicinus</i>	Bracken Map	Dead Stem	Pteridium aquilinum
<i>Scleroderma citrinum</i>	Common Earthball	Soil	
<i>Seifertia azaleae</i>	Rhododendron Bud Blast	Live Bud	Rhododendron ponticum
<i>Taphrina pruni</i>	Pocket Plum	Fruit	Prunus cerasifera
<i>Telogalla olivieri</i>		Thallus	Xanthoria parietina
<i>Trametes</i>	Turkeytail	Dead Stump	Betula
<i>Trichaptum abietinum</i>	Purplepore Bracket	Dead Trunk	Pinus sylvestris
<i>Trochila ilicina</i>	Holly Speckle	Dead Leaf	Ilex aquifolium
<i>Amanita fulva</i>	Tawny Grisette	Soil	
<i>Clavulina coralloides</i>	Crested Coral	Soil	
<i>Crepidotus cesatii</i>	Roundspored Oysterling	Dead Twig	
<i>Fomes</i>	Hoof Fungus	Dead Trunk	Betula
<i>Fomitopsis</i>	Birch Polypore	Dead Trunk	Betula
<i>Fuligo septica</i>	Flowers of Tan	Dead Wood	
<i>Galerina cinctula</i>		Soil	
<i>Ganoderma adspersum</i>	Southern Bracket	Trunk	Acer pseudoplatanus
<i>Hemimycena tortuosa</i>	Dewdrop Bonnet	Dead Twig	
<i>Lachnum</i>	Snowy Disco	Dead Twig	
<i>Lactarius rufus</i>	Rufous Milkcap	Soil	Betula
<i>Legaliana badia</i>	Bay Cup	Soil	
<i>Lycogala terrestre</i>		Dead Branch	
<i>Mycena acicula</i>	Orange Bonnet	Dead Twig	
<i>Mycena tenerrima</i>	Frosty Bonnet	Dead Twig	
<i>Ophiognomonia intermedia</i>		Dead Leaf	Betula

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	SUBSTRATE	ASSOCIATED ORGANISM
<i>Orbilia xanthostigma</i>	Common Glasscup	Dead Branch	
<i>Phloeomana speirea</i>	Bark Bonnet	Dead Twig	
<i>Podosphaera senecionis</i>		Live Leaf	Jacobaea vulgaris
<i>Polyporus leptcephalus</i>	Blackfoot Polypore	Dead Branch	
<i>Rickenella fibula</i>	Orange Moss-cap	Moss	
<i>Scutellinia olivascens</i>		Rotten Wood	
<i>Scutellinia scutellata</i>	Common Eyelash	Soil	