Dyeing and Paper-Making with Mushrooms

Tradd Cotter Mushroom Mountain, LLC











Dye Making Supplies

- Mushrooms with Bright Colored Pores or Gills
- Boiling Water
- Mordants: Iron Sulphate, Ammonia,
 Potassium Aluminum Sulphate (ALUM)
- Metallic Bowls
- Fabric or yarn Wool, Fur, Silk work best
- Cotton Fabrics Dye more Subtle

Mordant Preparation

- Fabric or yarn is immersed in metallic salt solution and left to boil for an hour.
- Salts bond to fibers.
- Mushrooms are soaked in boiling water to extract dye
- Mordant Fibers are transferred to mushroom dye (10 minutes to 1 hour).
- Fibers are removed and dried

Mushroom Dyeing Species

- Chanterelles Mute Yellow
- Oyster Gray to green
- Agaricus Yellow-tan to gray green
- Blewit Grass Green
- Maitake Soft Yellow
- Chicken of the Woods Orange
- Purple Puffball Calvatia cyathiformis

Mushroom Dyeing Species

- Lobster Cinnamon Pink to Red
- Ganodermas Rust
- Turkey Tail Brown
- Lepiota americana pink to lavender
- Shaggy Mane Grey Green
- Cortinarius Reds, Lavenders
- Jack'O'Lantern Purple to Green
- Phaeolus Orange, Yellow, Green, Red

Cortinarius croceus + other species 1A 1B 2A 2B 3A 3B Exhausts





Cortinarius croceus









Paxillus atrotomentosa







Phaeolus schweinitzii



Phaeolus schweinitzii





Cortinarius sanguineus

Pisolithus tinctorius 1A 18 2A 2B 3A 3B Exhausts



Pisolithus tinctorius

Mushroom Paper



Paper Making Supplies

- Mushrooms
- Blender
- Bucket
- Large tray or tub several inches deep
- Screen wire, other porous materials or deckle and mould
- Newspapers, rags, towels, old sheeting, old blanket, heavy brown paper or paper towelling
- Water lots!
- Sponge Optional: Iron, duct tape, binders, decorative strings, papers, plants.

Paper Making

Step 1: Making the Stock Solution

- Chop and blend mushrooms in ample water to make a puree
- Woody and conk-like mushrooms, polypores will work best. Fragile, fleshy fungi are generally too weak to bind.
- Soak thick polypores in water to soften, change water every few days up to 3 weeks. Smash or sledge if necessary to break apart enough to chop in blender.



Phaeolus schweinitzii



Turkey Tails and other "Brackets"



Conks and other Hard, Fibrous Polypores





Paper Making

Step 2: Netting the Slurry

- Pour enough slurry for one sheet into shallow tray with water.
- The mushroom mixture will float. Use hands to separate clumps for even thickness
- Slide framed screen underneath, or place screen in first underwater.
- Lift screen gently to allow even settling of fibers onto screen and allow to drain.















http://sonic.net/~dbeebee/IMDI new/mordants.html

http://www.mushroomsforcolor.com/Cordova-Myco-Stix-Dyes-2009.htm

http://shroomworks.wordpress.com/2009/02/26/mushroom-paper/

http://www.jennydean.co.uk/wordpress/?m=200906