

Mushroom collecting requires only the simplest of equipment: an ice box or flat-bottomed basket, small plastic or polystyrene boxes, a roll of waxed paper, a digging tool and a pencil and paper for notes.

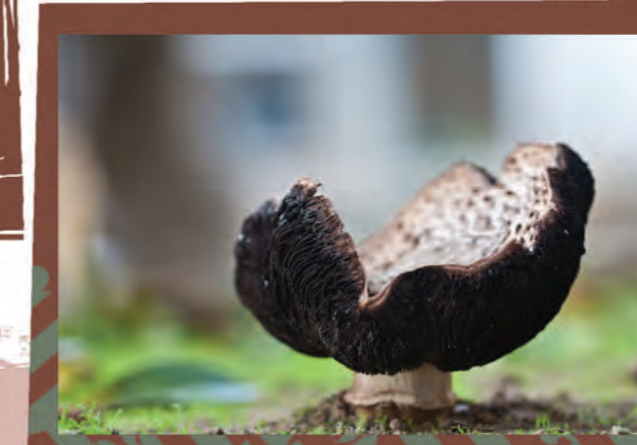
Be sure to collect the entire mushroom, including the base. Take only fresh, young specimens that are free of insect damage. Each type of mushroom should be wrapped separately in waxed paper and kept in small polystyrene boxes (not plastic wrap, which hastens decay), along with any notes you might want to make about the habitat and appearance of the mushroom. It's a good idea to note where the mushroom is growing (on wood, soil, moss); whether it is single or in clusters, the colours of the caps, gills and stem; and any other distinctive features. The more you can observe about the mushroom in the field, the easier it will be to identify at laboratory.



Individual spores are too small to be seen with the naked eye, but you can make a spore print that will show the colour of the spores in mass. This colour is an important identifying characteristic for many mushrooms, especially the gilled fungi. To make a spore print, cut the stem off the mushroom and place the cap gill-side or pore-side down on a piece of white paper for coloured spores or coloured paper for white spores. To best see the spore colour, use one sheet of black paper and one of white, taped together side-by-side. Cover with a bowl or jar. If the mushroom is at the right stage-not too young, too old or deteriorated, the spores will slowly collect on the paper. A spore print will be visible in 12 to 24 hours.



There are 109 different species which belongs to 60 different genera in North Cyprus and we think there are more and many mushrooms in North Cyprus which needs a further study.



FUNGUS



# MUSHROOMS North Cyprus



