



An Abbreviated and Beginner-Minded Baton Rouge Edible Mushroom Species List

Nota Bene: At most, this list should be a starting point. Don't trust my descriptions alone. Consult mushroomobserver.org and/or mushroomexpert.com, and if you're really feeling ambitious, throw some money at a field guide or two. My thinking here is that by providing a list of known edible suspects, I can at least point you toward the mushrooms that a) you want to find and b) you're likely to find anyway. There are, of course, many toxic mushrooms out there, some lethally so. We have more than a couple that I commonly encounter (*Amanita bisporigera* and *Amanita magnivelaris*, most notably). The ones in this list, however, are unlikely to be mistaken for anything dangerous.

Spring and Summer

- **Chanterelles (*Cantharellus* sp.)**
 - *Cantharellus lateritius* ("smooth chanterelle"; faintly ridged to smooth hymenophore^l)
 - *Cantharellus* cf. *cibarius* (the classic chanterelle; more pronounced ridges on hymenophore, robust, color varies from egg-yolk yellow to orange-yellow; this is a species group, likely comprised of several different species)
 - *Cantharellus lewisii* (cap has yellow ground color with dark brown to dark purple scales in the center; lighter, cream colored hymenophore with conspicuous ridges)
 - *Cantharellus appalachiensis* (yellow cap with dark brown scales in center of the cap; hymenophore is yellow)
 - *Cantharellus tabernensis* (a small and fragile chanterelle with uncharacteristically thin flesh; center of the cap is darker than the margins in younger specimens; tends to associate with pines)
 - *Cantharellus texensis* (a "cinnabar" chanterelle, with a gorgeous orange red color; it's unfortunately small)
- **Boletes (*Boletus*, *Tylopilus*, *Leccinum*, *Leccinellum*, *Xanthoconium*, *Strobilomyces*, etc)**
 - *Pulchroletus rubricitrinus* (very common around town under live oaks; dull red cap, yellow pores that quickly bruise blue, smooth stem (which also stains blue) tends to have splotches of wine-red at the base of the stalk; gets quite large and is, in my opinion, an excellent edible)
 - *Boletus luridellus* (fairly common around town under live oaks; brownish-yellow cap with yellow blue-staining pore surface; yellow stipe is conspicuously reticulate^h, particularly towards its apex; also an excellent edible)
 - *Strobilomyces* sp. (the so-called "old man of the woods;" shaggy brown, black, and grey cap and stem with white pore surface that stains black; there are a few different *Strobilomyces* species that likely reside here in BR, and from what I gather, it's impossible to distinguish between them without the help of microscopy; all are pretty good edibles, despite their intimidating appearance; they are plentiful on LSU's campus under live oaks)
 - *Boletus separans* (probably the best thing we've got going for us here in the capital area bolete-wise; it is a "choice" edible, rivalling its porcini cousin; the cap surface is dimpled ("pitted") in young material and can be varying shades of brown and/or lilac; the pore surface is white at first, then yellow; the stem is a lovely lilac color and is reticulate; it does not stain and grows, in my experience, under water oaks)
 - *Boletus pseudopinophilus*: Our king: big, with fulvous to brownish to reddish cap, whitish stipe with stark reticulum that often discolors after being handled; does not stain; pore surface is white and "stuffed" when young, greenish yellow to olive in maturity. This is a superb bolete and can be found in great numbers under pines or sought for in vain for years under the pines two miles down the road.
- **Milk Caps (*Lactarius* sp.)**
 - *Lactarius indigo* (the "indigo milk cap"; this critter is gorgeous, with a light to deep blue "zonate" (having concentric circles) cap, deep blue gills, and a cartoonishly-brilliant blue milky substance ("latex") that exudes out of fresh injuries; slice the gills to make sure: it should "bleed" blue.

GULF STATES MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____ Date _____

For family membership: spouses'/significant others' name _____

Children over 18 names: _____

Address _____ Telephone () _____

Street

e-mail _____

City

State

Zip code

Primary Mycological Interests: Please indicate your interest:

Culinary (learning edible/poisonous species, recipes, cooking)

Cultivation

Photography

Taxonomic/Microscopy/Educational (learning species)

MEMBERSHIP DUES: \$15.00 - INDIVIDUAL \$20.00 - FAMILY

Membership is from January to December. A newsletter is published 3 times a year.

There are two major forays, usually one in July and the other in December.

SEND THIS APPLICATION AND CHECK PAYABLE TO GSMS to:

GSMS, 262 County Road 3062, Newton, TX 75966-7003

phone: (409) 423-3776 Email: dandplewis (@) gmail.com

Please enter the email address properly in the address line of your email.

RELEASE OF RESPONSIBILITY

In signing this form for myself and/or an adult responsible for all children under the age of 18, I understand and agree to absolve, waive, release and discharge in advance the GULF STATES MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC., all of the officers, members, organizers, and sponsors, be they individuals or organizations, singly or collectively, of all blame for injury, misadventure, harm, loss, or inconvenience suffered as a result of participation in any society activity associated with the GULF STATES MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. I represent that I am in good physical and mental condition, and that I have sufficient skill and experience to safely complete any foray or outing in which I choose to participate. I realize that in mushroom hunting, there is the possibility of accidental or other physical injury and that property damage and serious injury can occur as a result of the society's activities and from the ingestion of mushrooms that have been misidentified. I further realize that even when ingesting properly identified and commonly consumed varieties of mushrooms there is always the possibility of becoming poisoned which can take various forms from mild indigestion to fatal illnesses. Knowing the risks, I agree to assume the risks, agree to release, hold harmless, and to indemnify the GULF STATES MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY, INC. from any and all liability to the society by either myself or any third party as a result of my participation in any event involving the society.

Signature _____ Date _____

Signature _____ Date _____

NOTE: Any person signing must be 18 years or age or older. If a couple, each must sign. At least one parent must sign for each individual under 18 years of age.

Membership in the North American Mycological Association, with whom most local clubs are affiliated, may be obtained through GSMS at a discounted rate of \$25.00 - electronic newsletters and \$40.00 - hard copy newsletters.

Mail your check to: GSMS - at the address above

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See NAMA at www.namyco.org for more information