

GUIDE TO SURVEYING FUNGI IN AUSTRALIA

Below is a comprehensive list to the supplies you should bring with you on your fungal survey. For more information, please contact Fungimap at info@fungimap.org.au, www.fungimap.org.au

Have a safe and enjoyable survey!

Supplies

Equipment that you should carry with you:

To Make Collections

1. Wax paper bags (full sandwich size) or brown paper bags and a roll of aluminum or wax paper for larger specimens (fungi are placed inside with the two ends twisted around like a Christmas cracker). Plastic containers - old take-away or ice-cream containers work well.
2. Trowel or large knife to dig up the base of fruit bodies
3. 4-prong garden cultivator/rake to turn over leaf matter; ensure the handle is at least 1-meter and mark it legibly to make a built-in measuring tool (a garden stake could also be used)
4. Sharp knife/ razor blade (a cheese knife works well)
5. Specimen field tags (jeweler's tags are inexpensive and work well)
6. Flagging and permanent tags to mark collection sites
7. Basket or bucket to carry collected specimens

General Equipment

8. Survey data forms and fungal description forms
9. GPS unit, compass, and maps
10. Digital camera
11. An 18% grey card and/or a white balance card to take photos with appropriate exposure and colour balance. (See section *Photographing in the Field* in Chapter 4 for an explanation.)
12. Permanent marking pens
13. Field guides (such as *Fungi Down Under*, and others recommended at the end of this *Guide*)
14. 10x or 5x hand lens
15. A small mirror
16. Waterproof notebooks (such as *Rite in the Rain*® brand products), pencils, OR pocket voice recorder
17. Pin markers and/or flagging tape if needed to mark out plot boundaries
18. Tape measure

For Comfort and Safety

19. Waterproof clothing
 20. Boots or wellies and a change of socks
 21. Lunch, water, and warm drinks
 22. First aid kit
 23. Emergency space blanket (used to treat shock, and their reflective foil can help you be seen through the trees if you require rescue.)
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24. Whistle (to summon help if needed)
25. A small canister of salt for leeches
26. Waterproof matches
27. Sunscreen
28. Sun hat
29. Insect repellent
30. Pressure bandages for snakebites as well as sprains
31. Appropriate anti-*Phytophthora* equipment (70% methylated spirits and brushes/spray bottles to wipe boots, hats, equipment, and car wheels.)

Back at the Base

32. PC or laptop computer, preferably with internet access
 33. Thumb drive to back up data
 34. Colour charts for describing colours accurately
 35. Dryer/dehydrator
 36. Fridge for keeping specimens fresh before they go into the driers (depending on the specimen they may keep for up to three days)
 37. Polypropylene bags to store dried collections
 38. Silica gel to store with collections to keep them from rehydrating
 39. Microscope (*if you have one!* This is not absolutely necessary.)
 40. Ruler, caliper for measuring fruit bodies
 41. Archival quality (acid-free) paper for descriptions and spore prints
 42. Pencils
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