

Preliminary annotated checklist of Gasteromycetes in Panama

by

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Abstract: Based on 18 recently collected specimens, 12 herbarium specimens and extensive literature research, a preliminary checklist of the Gasteromycetes of Panama is presented. Nine species are reported for the first time for Panama: *Bovista oblongispora*, *Calostoma cinnabarinum*, *Calvatia rosacea*, *Crucibulum laeve*, *Cyathus limbatus*, *Morganella velutina*, *Mutinus argentinus*, *Radiigera taylorii* and *Sphaerobolus stellatus*. In addition, an unknown species related to *Radiigera* is recorded. Known locations and descriptions of 33 species currently known for Panama are given, together with taxonomical and nomenclatural discussions, where necessary.

Key words: tropical mycology, *Basidiomycota*.

Introduction

Despite of their abundance, often striking appearance and important ecological roles of tropical fungi, the knowledge of their diversity and distribution is far from being complete. This is especially true for Gasteromycetes, since their often problematic taxonomy and nomenclature, as well as scarce general works on the topic, make this group harder to approach than many other groups of *Basidiomycota*.

For Panama, the present knowledge on fungi including Gasteromycetes has been listed by Piepenbring (2006). Garner (1956) presented the only work dealing exclusively with Panamanian and Costa Rican Gasteromycetes so far. However, detailed descriptions and localities were not presented there. Further records of Panamanian Gasteromycetes are included in fungus-floristic studies of other countries (e.g. Dennis 1970), or monographs of certain genera (e.g. Kreisel & Dring 1967, Guzmán 1970).