

## FUNGUS JARGON AND CRYPTIC ACRONYMS

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The literature of field mycology and fungi often contains technical terms and abbreviations that may be mysterious jargon to those striving to take a deeper interest.

At the suggestion of our Editor, the accompanying list has been compiled of abbreviations and acronyms that may occur in fungus recording and field mycology literature.

It was not the aim to provide encyclopaedic definitions but rather to give sufficient basic information to enable further enquiry on the Internet.

Suggestions for additions to the list would be welcomed.

± or +/-	more or less. Used (more precisely) in terms of accuracy eg 3 ± 0.5 mm.
μ or μm	micron: one-thousandth of a millimetre (0.001 mm.) used in microscopy.
off.	<i>affinis</i> : Latin meaning: affinity with, similar to or related to, but not necessarily identical with.
agg.	aggregate species: a group of two or more very similar spp.
Agonomycetales	An order of imperfect fungi in which there is apparently no specialized reproductive structure of any kind (i.e. no sexually produced spores, conidia, etc), reproducing only by fragmentation of mycelium. (of spores and hyphae) turning greyish, bluish or blackish violet when stained with Melzer's iodine solution; see also dextrinoid.
amyloid	only 'imperfect' asexual spores produced (conidia), or spores absent.
anamorph, abbreviated as A in recording.	area of outstanding natural beauty.
ACONB	Fungi of Switzerland book series 1-4, by Breitenbach & Kränzlin.
B&K	British Mycological Society
BMS	BMS Fungal Records Database, the earlier name and version of FRDBI.
BMSFRD	British National Grid used on Ordnance Survey maps.
BNG	stains red the walls of spores and hyphae in contrast to the blue liquid (to demonstrate a metachromic reaction).
Brilliant cresyl blue stain	Botanical Society of the British Isles
BSBI	Commonwealth Agricultural Bureaux International.
CABI	Checklist of the British and Irish Basidiomycota.
CBIB	compare with (when likely to be the same as).
cf.	Commonwealth Mycological Institute, now merged with CABI.
CMI	(Specimen) collected or observed by
Coll	(Specimen) confirmed by
Conf	stains red the walls of certain spores and hyphae. An alkaline stain.
Congo red stain	see Lactophenol cotton blue.
cyanophilic	(Specimen) determined by
Det	(of spores and hyphae) stained yellow-brown to red-brown or ruby red by Melzer's iodine solution; see also amyloid.
dextrinoid	A system to convert grid references to tetrad data by assigning a letter code to each tetrad within a 10km square (= hectad).
DINTY	Ellis & Ellis, authors of several fungus identification handbooks.
E&E	form
f.	<i>forma specialis</i> : Latin meaning: a special form, a temporary category pending further taxonomic research.
f. sp.	iron sulphate
FeSO <sub>4</sub>	<i>formae speciales</i> : Latin meaning: special forms.
ff. spp.	<i>Field Mycology</i> , a quarterly magazine published for the BMS, providing articles about fungi.
FM	Funga Nordica, a publication by Knudsen & Vesterholt of descriptions and keys of Basidiomycetes in Northern Europe
FN	The Fungal Records Database of Britain and Ireland.
FRDBI	Global Biodiversity Information Facility.
GBIF	gram: thousandth part of a kilogram
gm	grid reference: a map reference system used on OS maps to identify the position of any feature.
GR	sulphuric acid
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	hydrochloric acid
HCl	Herefordshire Fungus Survey Group
HFSG	nitric acid
HNO <sub>3</sub>	= T + A, both sexual and asexual spores produced.
holomorph, abbreviated as H in recording.	

ICBN	International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.
ICN	International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants.
IF	Index Fungorum: an international project to index all formal names (scientific names) in the Fungus Kingdom.
IMI	Imperial Mycological Institute
incertae sedis (inc. sed.)	of uncertain taxonomic position, of uncertain affinities, usually applied to family and generic names.
J+ and/or I+	chemical symbol for amyloid positive iodine stain reaction, see amyloid.
KOH	potassium hydroxide
Lactophenol cotton blue (Aniline blue) stain	stains blue hyaline spores and hyphae (to demonstrate a cyanophilic reaction). An acidic stain.
Lugol's iodine solution	An iodine stain used in the study of lichens formulated without the clearing agent chloral hydrate
Melzer's (iodine solution) stain	iodine stain, see amyloid and dextrinoid.
metachromic	see Brilliant cresyl blue.
mm	millimetre
morph (or form) (in the context of recording)	a category determined by the type of spores a fungus produces or by their absence, see teleomorph; anamorph; & holomorph.
Mycelia sterilia	sterile mycelia, alternative name for Agonomycetales.
Mycobank	an online database, documenting new mycological names and combinations.
NaOH	sodium hydroxide
NBN	National Biodiversity Network
NCC ecosystem code	a habitat-type designation code used in recording, accessed in FRDBI by drop-down menu.
NH <sub>3</sub>	ammonia
OS	Ordnance Survey
p.	page number
<i>p.p.</i>	<i>pro parte</i> : Latin meaning: in part.
pleomorph	one fungus that may produce several sorts of spores; see also synamorph.
pp.	page numbers (plural)
pseudamyloid	see dextrinoid.
<i>q.v.</i>	<i>quod vide</i> : Latin meaning: which see elsewhere, usually within the same document or book.
RDL	Red Data List: a list of nearly extinct fungi having scheduled legal protection against picking or damaging.
RGB Edinburgh	Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh
RGB Kew	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Rust fungi stage 0 (zero) (Haploid)	pycnia bearing spermatia in the life cycle of Rust fungi (Pucciniales).
Rust fungi stage I (Haploid)	aecia bearing aeciospores in the life cycle of Rust fungi (Pucciniales).
Rust fungi stage II (Diploid)	uredinia bearing uredospores in the life cycle of Rust fungi (Pucciniales).
Rust fungi stage III (Diploid)	telia bearing teliospores in the life cycle of Rust fungi (Pucciniales).
Rust fungi stage IV (Haploid)	promycelia bearing basidiospores in the life cycle of Rust fungi (Pucciniales)
Rust fungi stages 0 - IV	Roman numerals denoting the five stages in the life cycle of Rust fungi (Pucciniales, previously Uredinales) <i>q.v.</i>
<i>s.l.</i>	<i>senso lato</i> : Latin meaning: in a broad sense.
<i>s.s.</i>	<i>senso stricto</i> : Latin meaning: in a strict sense.
SBA	sulphobenzaldehyde, a staining reagent.
<i>sensu</i>	Latin meaning: in the sense of (a quoted author or authors).
SF	Species Fungorum: an RBG Kew coordinated initiative delivering the fungal component of the Species 2000 project.
SFG	Shropshire Fungus Group
sp.	species (singular)
spp.	species (plural)
ssp.	subspecies (singular)
sspp.	subspecies (plural)
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
synamorph	applied to any one of two or more anamorphs which have the same teleomorph.
teleomorph, abbreviated as T in recording.	only 'perfect' sexual spores produced.
tetrad	a collection of four 1km squares arranged into 2km x 2km squares used to record locations.
UKSI	UK Species Inventory at the Natural History Museum, London.
<i>v.s.</i>	<i>vide siccam</i> : Latin meaning: dried specimen seen by the author.
<i>v.v.</i>	<i>vide vivam</i> : Latin meaning: living specimen seen by the author.
var.	variety (of a species).
VC	Vice-county. A standard geographical area used for county-based biological recording in the UK.
VC36	Herefordshire vice-county; the boundary differs slightly from that of the L. A. administrative county.
VC40	Shropshire vice-county; the boundary differs slightly from that of the L. A. administrative county.