



FUNGI

Editor

Paul A. Mistretta, BU2002



Finland – May 9, 2008

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|-------|-----|--|
| 1315a | 1? | Melting mushrooms & teardrops (Psychedelic Art) |
| 1315 | 70c | Booklet pane containing 5 different self-adhesive stamps including 1315a.
Price listed (70c) if for the day of issue. |

Korea, North – April 13, 2006

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| 4500 | 140w | Volvariella speciosa | Pluteaceae |
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Romania – January 18, 2008

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| 5012 | 1.2 1 | Lepiota rhacodes | Agaricaceae |
| 5013 | 1.4 1 | Lactarius deliciosus | Russulaceae |
| 5014 | 2.0 1 | Morchella esculenta | Morchellaceae |
| 5015 | 2.4 1 | Paxillus involutus | Paxillaceae |
| 5016 | 3.0 1 | Gyromitra esculenta | Helvellaceae |
| 5017 | 4.5 1 | Russula emetica | Russulaceae |
| 5017a | 14.5 1 | Souvenir Sheet with 1 ea of the above 6 | |

It has been a very slow six months for listings of mushrooms on stamps. So slow in fact that I am beginning to see things – or maybe not.

Not yet listed by Scott is the most recent 10-stamp sheet in the U.S. “Nature of America” series. The Great Lakes Dunes is an improbable place to go looking for fungi, and I am not very familiar with that ecosystem. However, those of you who include lichens on stamps in your collections should check this sheet out while it is still readily, or at least reasonably, available.

Remembering my preface and adding to it the fact that I am definitely not a geologist – check out the rocks in the bottom right stamp, the one with the red Admiral butterfly, and the selvedge in the lower right corner. Assuming that I am not totally misinterpreting what I am seeing, the markings on the rocks suggest to me species of *Rhizocarpon*, a genus of crustose lichens. And to make the possibility more real, my current favorite lichen reference (Brodo, I. M.; Sharnoff, S. D.; Sharnoff, S. 2001. *Lichens of North America*. New Haven, CT: Yale Univ. Press. 795 p.; incidentally the single heaviest book in my book collection) on p. 633-638 shows seven species in this genus, six of which are found in the region of the Great Lakes. While three of these are either bright yellow or yellow green the other three (*R. disporum*, *R. hochstetteri*, and *R. obscuratum*) are grey and black in color as suggested by the picture.

Y'all will have to make up your own minds as to whether this one belongs in your collection. But, for now at least, it is in mine. And I will report it by Scott number when it is published.