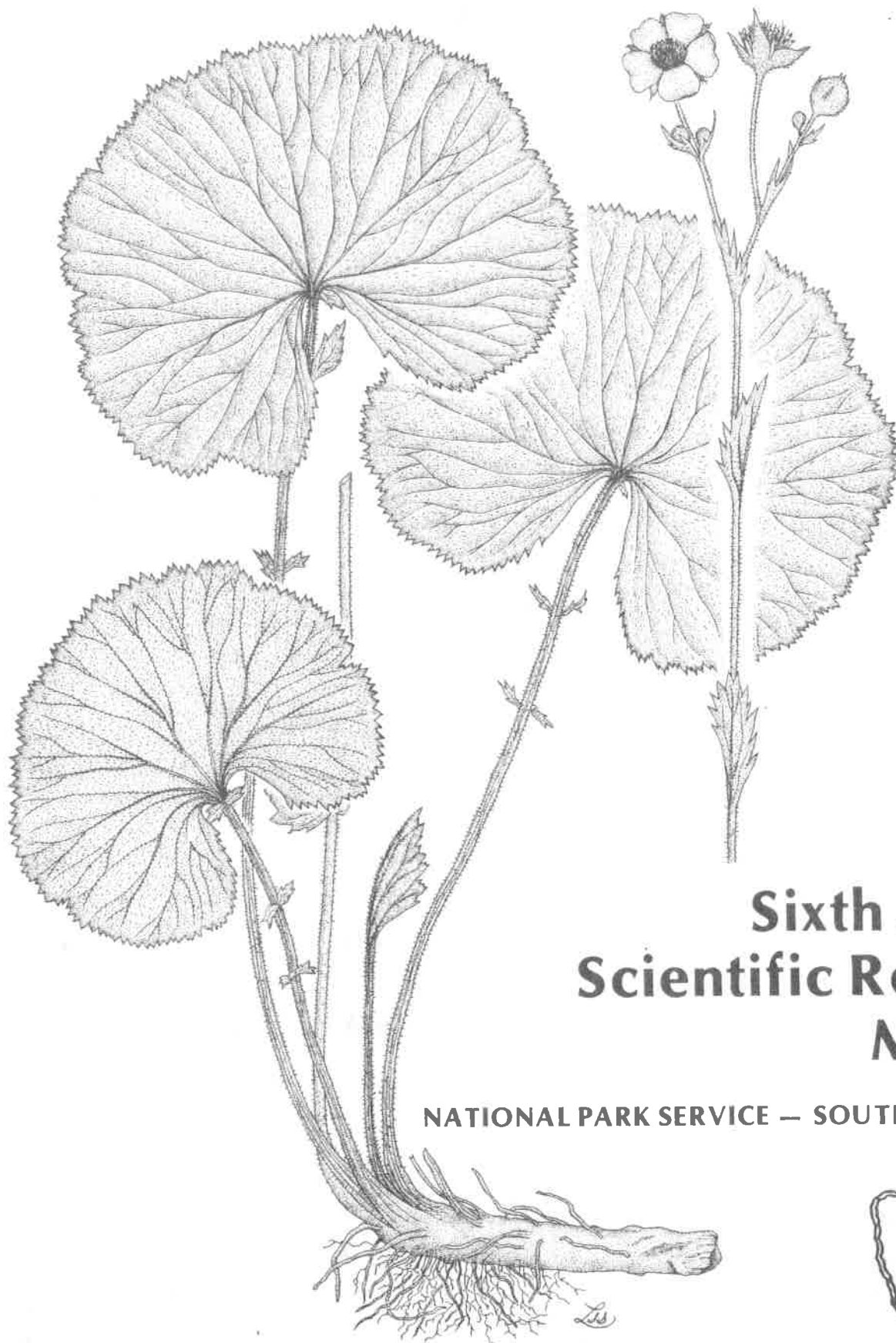




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NEW RECORDS OF RARE AND INTERESTING FUNGI RECENTLY COLLECTED FROM THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK AND SELECTED AREAS OF EAST TENNESSEE, WITH ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE OCCURRENCE OF TROPICAL TAXA

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During the course of routine but intensive mycological collecting throughout the Great Smoky Mountains National Park and environs in the last four years, a number of rare species have been found. These include: (1) species that have never been previously collected or reported from the GSMNP, Tennessee or the southeastern United States; (2) species that, although previously reported or collected from the GSMNP, are so rarely found that they deserve mention; (3) species found outside GSMNP which have never been reported from there, but undoubtedly occur due to the close geographical proximity; and (4) species previously known only from the GSMNP and recently found elsewhere. In most cases, all collections represent new locality or distribution records within or outside of the GSMNP. A few examples, grouped as above, follow: (1) *Asterostroma cervicolor* (Berk. & Curt.) Masse, *Brachysporiella setosa* (Berk. & Curt.) M.B. Ellis, *Collybia iocephala* (Berk. & Curt.) Sing., *Crepidotus cinnabarinus* Pk., *Cudoniella acicularis* (Bull. ex Fr.) Schroeter apud Cohn, *Dictyophora duplicata* (Bosc.) E. Fischer, *Didymostilbe* sp., *Doratomyces nanus* (Ehrenb. ex Link) Morton & Smith, *Everhartia lignitalis* Thaxter, *Helicoon auratum* (Ellis) Morgan, *Lasiobolus macrotrichus* Rea, *Menispora tortuosa* Corda, *Physalacria concinna* Sydow, *Polyporus radicans* Schw., *Pulveroboletus curtisii* (Berk.) Sing., *Trechispora vaga* (Fr.) Liberta, *Urnula craterium* (Schw.) Fr.; (2) *Albatrellus caeruleoporus* (Pk.) Pouzar, *Chlorosplenium chlora* (Schw.) Masee, *Hypomyces luteovirens* (Fr.) Tul., *Mycena odorifera* (Pk.) Saccardo, *Piptoporus betulinus* (Bull. ex Fr.) Karst., *Strobilurus stephanocystis* (Hora) Sing., *Xylaria tentaculata* Rav. apud Berk.; (3) *Cordyceps unilateralis* (Tul.) Sacc., *Microglossum olivaceum* (Pers. ex Fr.) Gillet; and (4) *Cordyceps smithii* Mains.

Historically, the overwhelming emphasis in this region has been on the larger, or macrofungi (with just a few notable exceptions) with little attention given to groups like the resumptive hymenomycetes, Ascomycetes and microfungi. Also, certain areas have been overcollected while other types of habitats or substrates have typically been overlooked. Three such habitats or substrates that are underrepresented in collections of fungi in this region, and from which some collections were made, include: (A) *Sphagnum* +/- *Polytrichum* bogs or swamps; (B) balds and immediately adjacent woods; and (C) dung as a substrate (coprophious fungi).

Some of the species collected are also represented in the tropics. From the above this includes: *Collybia iocephala*, *Cordyceps unilateralis* and *Physalacria concinna*, adding further to the tropical taxa previously documented in the literature for this region.

Basic inventory of the fungi of the GSMNP is still necessary, and considerable long-term effort is required to catalog and document the rare fungal taxa of the area. With a better knowledge and understanding of the species and their distributions, habitat and substrate specificity, the uniqueness of the Southern Appalachian flora will further be elucidated.