

which is not found in the common mushroom. The cap is from 3 to 5 inches broad, strongly convex at first, later becoming flat. The stem is 4 to 6 inches long and becomes hollow in age. This mushroom grows in the woods or along the borders.

This mushroom is very poisonous and a single plant contains enough poison to kill a whole family. The poison is muscarin and its effect may be counteracted by atropin.

The Fly Agaric has been known since

moist with sometimes a few loose scales on the top and varies in color from white to olive. The gills are white and remain so. The stem or stipe is white with a ring high up just under the gills. At the base of the stem is an abrupt bulb usually with a free rim standing up around the stem forming the so called poison cup.

The cap is from 3 to 5 inches broad and the stem 4 to 8 inches high. The plant usually grows in the woods but has been known to grow on lawns.

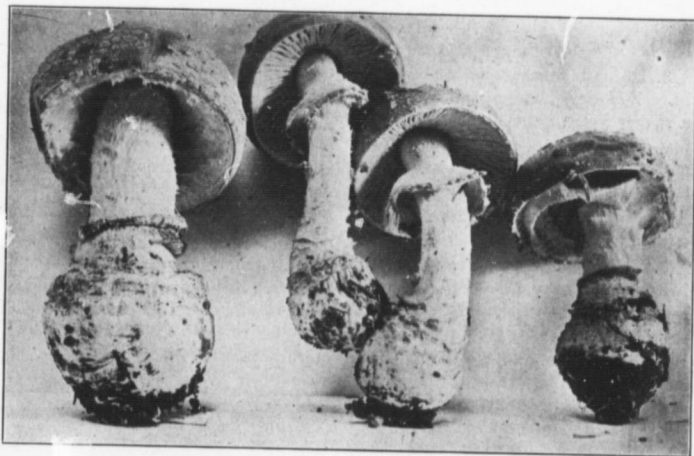


FIG. 2—THE FLY AGARIC. (*Amanita muscaria*. Linn.)

ancient times and used as a poison. It is undoubtedly with this species that Nero used to rid himself of unwelcome members of his court.

THE DEADLY AGARIC (*Amanita phalloides*, Fr.)

Another deadly poisonous mushroom occurring in this region is the Deadly Agaric. This mushroom varies very much in color, from pure white through yellow to olive color. The cap is smooth and

This plant, especially the white form, has been responsible for many cases of mushroom poisoning. The poison is phallin and there is no known antidote for it.

The two poisonous forms just described are the cause of nearly all the cases of mushroom poisoning. There are some other poisonous forms but they are less dangerous. By keeping in mind these two forms and by following the set of rules given below, there