

placed gills downward on a sheet of white paper and closely covered for a short time, when removed, a print of the gilled surface will be found on the paper, if this has been previously covered with a thin coat of glue and allowed to dry, before the mushroom is placed on it, a permanent print will be obtained. If left uncovered the spores are so light that they will be scattered about or fall irregularly, and a blurred print will result.

The appearance of the *Agaricus campestris* varies greatly, depending upon the conditions surrounding its growth. Sometimes it is quite white and again quite brown, it may be smooth or rough, but the gills should always be noted, being pink, brown or black according to age. Its season is September and October, but I have found it at St. Andrews as early as July. To the brown or purple spored group belong *Agaricus arvensis*, otherwise known as the Horse or Plowed-Land Mushroom, a large and coarse species, *Agaricus plycomycus*, and *Agaricus silvicola*, the two latter grow in woods. The *silvicola* has a very thin smooth cap. *Hypholoma perplexum*, which has a yellow cap tinged with red and greenish gills, also belongs to this group.

I shall now go back to the first or white-spored group, called by all authorities *Leucosporæ*.

Among the white-spored agarics are the *Amanitas*, the earliest, most persistent, most abundant and most pernicious of all toadstools, and which should be carefully studied that their characteristics may be thoroughly learned and so one may know what to avoid. There is no rule by which one may distinguish between the harmful and harmless species, but we must learn to know them as we learn to distinguish the poisonous from other plants.

The *Amanitas* start from a mycelium, as does the *Agaricus campestris*, but the young button of the *Amanita* is entirely covered by a membrane, as well as having its cap attached to the stem by one. As the plant expands this enveloping membrane breaks away, one part remains attached to the base of the stem