

# Pembrokeshire Fungus Recorder

## Issue 1/2026

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### Introduction

In this issue we continue with Adam's exploration into the world of *Inocybe* with his article on *Inocybe subrimosa*, previously unrecognised in Britain.

We also highlight two recent papers which report on *Gliophorus* (a genus in the waxcap family) and *Entoloma* (Pink-gill) respectively – both of particular interest to waxcap-grassland enthusiasts.

We have been advised that the British Mycological Society (BMS) is replacing the current group public liability insurance arrangement. Affiliated BMS groups (such as ours) were covered by a Zurich policy directly funded by the BMS. In future we will need to purchase our own insurance but will receive an annual grant from the BMS of up to £120 towards the costs.

David Harries, March 2026

#### Useful website links

<https://www.pembsfungi.org.uk/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/PembsFungi>

**West Wales Biodiversity Information Centre**  
<https://www.wwbic.org.uk/>

**LERC Wales Biodiversity Information & Reporting Database (ADERYN)**  
<https://aderyn.lercwales.org.uk/>

**British Mycological Society (BMS)**  
<https://www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/>

**Fungus Records Database of Britain and Ireland (FRDBI)** maintained by the (BMS)  
<https://www.frdbi.org.uk/>

## Interesting Finds

### Late (or early?) season Pinkgills

Two of our members reported new year appearances of *Entoloma conferendum* (Star Pinkgill). Jane Hodges noted a collection in her lawn in Johnston, and Mike Karpaty reported on a collection from a front lawn in Saundersfoot.

This is a widespread species in unfertilised grassland with a brown conical or bonnet-shaped cap, often with radial striations. The species gets its common name from the stellate (star-like) shape of its spores. A useful field character is the stem which is smooth, slender, and conspicuously silvery striate. Unlike most Pink-gills, fruit-bodies can occur at any time of the year provided conditions are frost-free and there is sufficient moisture (hardly a problem this winter!)



Photos: © Mike Karpaty

### *Teloschistes chrysophthalmos* (Golden-eye Lichen)

In our last newsletter we mentioned the discovery of the lichen *Teloschistes chrysophthalmos* in Pembrokeshire. Nigel Lee has added to the tally with a record from Lawrenny on the 1st February.

It seems that this species is making a speedy recovery in the UK and, according to Jon Hudson and Sam Bosanquet, has now moved from being Critically Endangered to one of Least Concern.

Photo: © Nigel Lee.



***Inocybe subrimosa* – New to Britain! (Adam Pollard-Powell)**

Whilst walking the coast path at Littlehaven, close to where the bluebell woods are, I came across this odd-looking mushroom that initially had me stumped due to its white gills (figure 1). After being left overnight in the fridge, the gills had darkened and produced a spore drop unmistakably *Inocybe*-like. I was unable to key it out using either Outen & Cullington (2015) or Stangl (2011).



Figure 2: Microscopy showing cheilocystidia and nodulose spores.

**Collection details**

**Date:** 29th September 2025

**Location:** Littlehaven coast path, Pembrokeshire. Grid reference SM848123

**DNA Sequence (ITS) - GenBank:** PX741064

**Habitat:** On soil with *Quercus* and *Corylus* on coast path

**Cap:** Two fruitbodies, 10 and 40 mm diameter respectively, bell-shaped, straw-yellow darkening with age, a few scales that are hard to see, very finely fibrillose, slightly tacky when collected.

**Gills:** Adnate, medium-spaced, pure white turning grey-brown overnight. Metuloid edge and gill cystidia present with a mix of round and truncate bases.

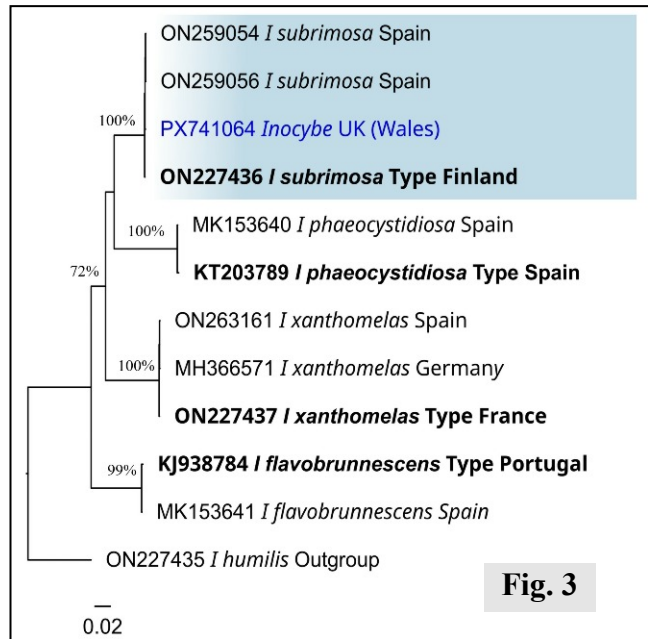
**Stipe:** Dry, ivory. Clavate. FB1: 30mm x 12mm at base. FB2: 20mm x 2.5mm. Caulocystidia present at the top and bottom of stipe.

**Smell:** Weakly spermiatic.

**Spores:** Spores nodulose 7-8 nodules, 7.8-8.8 x 5.1-7.1µm -average 8.3 x 6.1 µm, Qav 1.38

DNA was extracted from a fragment of dried material and sequenced at Aberystwyth University. The resulting sequence was compared with sequences on the GenBank database and found to be a close match to collections labelled as *I. subrimosa* or *I. xanthomelas*. Further study of a recent research paper (Esteve-Raventos, 2022) revealed that my collection matched a sequence from type material of *I. subrimosa*. Figure 3 shows the relationship between *I. rimosa* and close relatives based on ITS DNA sequences.

I contacted Dr. Ditte Bandini, one of the foremost authorities on *Inocybe*, who inspected a portion of the voucher material and confirmed the identification. This species is rare across Europe, known from Spain, France, Sweden and Finland.



**Fig. 3**

### Acknowledgements

Thanks are due to the British Mycological Society for its support for DNA sequencing programs run by local groups.

### **References:**

- Outen, A.R. & Cullington, P., (2015). Keys to British species of *Inocybe*. Privately published.
- Stangl, J., Braddock, A., & Cullington, P. (2011). The genus *Inocybe* in Bavaria. NuAge Print and Copy.
- Esteve-Raventos, F. et al.. (2022). *Inocybe vaurasii* (Agaricales, Inocybaceae), a new species of the *I. xanthomelas* group and similar European species with asteriform spores. *Phytotaxa*, 566(2), 171-188.

### ***Gliophorus alboviscidus* - a new Waxcap described from the UK (DJH)**

January 2026 saw the publication of a paper describing a new waxcap from the UK: *Gliophorus alboviscidus*.

The story began in 2021 with a Pembrokeshire collection of white/buff-white glutinous waxcaps which did not fit well with any published descriptions with the nearest match being the grey or grey-brown *G. irrigatus*. A DNA barcode confirmed the species as belonging to the genus *Gliophorus* but distinct from other known members.

In 2022 I attended a conference at Cranfield University where Clare Blencowe, also a waxcap



grassland enthusiast, included a photograph of an “unknown” glutinous white waxcap in her presentation. A DNA barcode was obtained and proved identical to that obtained on the first collection, showing that the species was present in Sussex and Pembrokeshire.

Armed with this new information we approached Prof. Gareth Griffith at Aberystwyth to seek help in describing a new species. Gareth kindly agreed to this and, in the ensuing period, developed an extensive paper which incorporated the results of his environmental DNA (eDNA) in soil analyses along with substantive input from researchers in the United States which introduced three additional new species from North America.

#### References:

Harries, D. J., Blencowe, C. M., Leal-Dutra, C. A., Lodge, D. J., Harrington, A. H., Bye, R., ... & Griffith, G. W. (2026). Revisions to the *Gliophorus irrigatus* complex (Agaricales, Hygrophoraceae, *Gliophorus*, section Unguinosa) including four new species, one new combination and comparisons of basidiome vs. eDNA distributions. *Mycology*, 127, 307.

#### DNA barcoding reveals an interesting coral fungus under conifers (DJH)

An early November visit to Honeyborough cemetery revealed a collection of a pale ochraceous coral fungus on needles and debris beneath a conifer.



Attempts to key out the collection to a known UK species were not convincing so a DNA sequence was obtained on a sample. A GenBank search revealed that this sequence was consistent with a recently described species, *Phaeoclavulina coniferarum*. This species was described in 2020 by Franchi and Marchetti (Franchi & M. Marchetti, *Index Fungorum* 457: 3, 2020) and is part of a complex group of fungi formerly classified under the genus *Ramaria*. Collections are visually similar to another UK species, *P. abietina* (the green-staining coral).

Armed with a species identification, a search on the internet for more information came up with a Facebook post from Helen Baker in which she reported finding this species in October 2022 at a site in NE Scotland. This collection was also identified through DNA sequencing.

It seems likely that these two records represent the first confirmed reports of this species from the UK.

## Big Blue Pinkgills – the mists begin to clear (DJH)

In recent years there has been a major programme, spearheaded by Machiel Noordeloos, to tackle the rather large group of fungi that make up the *Entoloma* genus. The most recent paper (Noordeloos et al. 2025) helps to resolve the “*madida*” section which includes some of the largest grassland members of the genus including *Entoloma bloxamii* – the Big Blue Pinkgill.

This latest publication, coupled with earlier papers (e.g. Morgado et al. 2013, Ainsworth et al. 2018), aids our understanding of the section and provides a basis for extending our studies on their distribution in Pembrokeshire. Further information is anticipated when volume 5(c) in the substantive series of Fungi Europaei *Entoloma* volumes is published later this year.

Noordeloos identifies seven European clades in the “*madida*” section tabulated below (Table 1): all are known from the UK and four have been recorded in Pembrokeshire (Figure 1). They are described as “...species usually with a tricholomatoid, rarely mycenoid habit, a tapering stipe, frequently with yellow tinges at the base, some with bright lilac blue tinges, and relatively small, iso- or subisodiametrical spores with pronounced angles.”

Current name	VC45	Notes
<i>E. luteobasis</i>	Yes	Previously recorded as <i>E. ochreoprunuloides</i> . Cap usually grey or brown-grey but violet/blue-grey and pink forms are known. Sp. 5.9–7.1 × 5.7–7.2 µm
<i>E. inopiliforme</i>	No	Reported from grasslands and mixed forest on calcareous soil. Cap dark sepia brown, grey brown, or with a purple tinge. Sp. 7.0–10.0 × 6.0–8.0 µm
<i>E. bloxamii</i>	No	Cap pale greyish blue, sometimes with slight brown tinge. Some early records should now be considered doubtful. Sp. 7.4–9.4(–10.8) × 6.7–9.7 µm
<i>E. prunuloides</i>	Yes	Description similar to <i>E. inopiliforme</i> but awaits <i>Entoloma</i> vol. 5(c) for details. Cap dark brown, weathering paler in VC45 collection. Sp. 6.5–8.0(–9) × 6.5–8.0 µm [6.5–7.5 × 6.0–7.0 in VC45 colln.]
<i>E. weiriorum</i>	No	Recently described from UK. Cap dark violaceous/blue-grey becoming more brownish at maturity. Sp. 7.0–9.0 × 6.5–8.5 µm
<i>E. atromadidum</i>	Yes	Cap indigo to dark greyish blue sometimes with violaceous tones (darker than <i>E. madidum</i> ). Sp. 6.2–8.3 × 6.4–8.0 µm
<i>E. madidum</i>	Yes	Cap deep blue with a violaceous tinge. Spores 5.9–7.6 × 5.8–7.5 µm

Table 1: European section “*madida*” species and key features.

### Conservation status

The IUCN Global Fungal Red List currently shows *E. bloxamii* and *E. prunuloides* as Vulnerable. However, their assessments predate the latest taxonomic information so it seems likely they will need to be revisited with the likelihood that other members of the “*madida*” section will join the list.

In Wales, *E. bloxamii* is included in “Section 7 – list of the living organisms of principal importance for the purpose of maintaining and enhancing biodiversity in relation to Wales. [The Environment (Wales) Act 2016]” As with the IUCN list, this seems likely to require revision in the light of recent publications.



*E. luteobasis*

*E. prunuloides*

*E. atromadidum*

*E. madidum*

*E. luteobasis* (violet form)

*E. luteobasis* (pink form)

Figure 1: Four "madida" section species recorded in Pembrokeshire together with colour forms of *E. luteobasis*

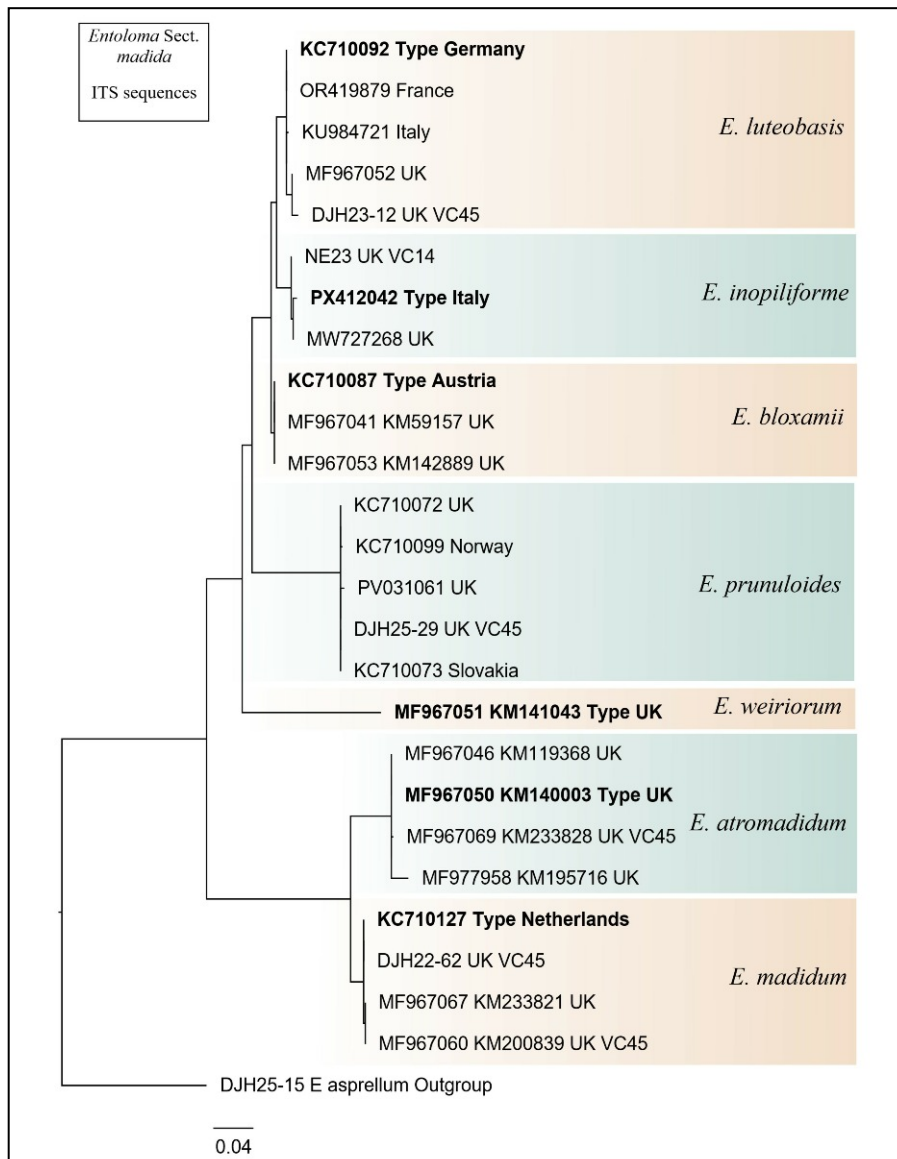


Figure 2: Phylogenetic tree showing UK members of section "*madida*" known from the UK. Tree based on ITS sequences.

### References:

Ainsworth, A. M., et al. (2018). Big Blue Pinkgills formerly known as *Entoloma bloxamii* in Britain: *E. bloxamii* s. str., *E. madidum*, *E. ochreoprunuloides* forma *hyacinthinum* and *E. atromadidum* sp. nov. *Field Mycology*, 19(1), 5-14.

Morgado, L. N., et al. (2013). Multi-gene phylogenetic analyses reveal species limits, phylogeographic patterns, and evolutionary histories of key morphological traits in *Entoloma* (Agaricales, Basidiomycota). *Persoonia-Molecular Phylogeny and Evolution of Fungi*, 31(1), 159-178.

Noordeloos, M. E., et al. (2025). The genus *Entoloma* (Basidiomycota, Agaricales) in Europe: new taxa and amended species concepts in a phylogenetic context; neo-, lecto- and epitypifications of classical names. *Persoonia-Molecular Phylogeny and Evolution of Fungi*.