

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Introduction(s) along all my seminars</b>	<b>8</b>
Our personal and educational targets	10
A list of abbreviations	10
About terminology	10
<b>Part 1: the microscope</b>	<b>13</b>
Which microscope to choose?	14
Components of a microscope	14
Refractive index (RI)	18
Why use Immersion Oil?	20
Some elements to guide your choice	21
Our master purchase	23
Procedure for carrying out a standard observation	23
<b>Microscopy and photography</b>	<b>25</b>
Superimposing photographs	29
Photography through a micrometric eyepiece	30
Spores: drawings or photographs?	31
Tools and storage flasks	34
<b>Part 2: the basic equipment</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>First accessories</b>	<b>36</b>
Microscope glass blades (GB) and their storage	36
Immersion oil	37
Cleaning the eyepieces and objectives	37
First observation	38
<b>Observation media</b>	<b>39</b>
Fluid media	39
Viscous media	41
Types of microscopic preparations	43
Extemporaneous microscopic preparations	43
Semi-definitive preparations	43
Assembly of uncoloured parts in definitive stained media	45
Definitive preparations	45
Definitive aqueous solvent media	46
Definitive media with benzene or keto solvent	47
A personal working protocol	49
<b>Staining: limits and reality</b>	<b>50</b>
Different types of staining	50
Nature and longevity of the dyes and reagents	52
About solutions in chemistry	54
<b>Dissociation</b>	<b>55</b>
Observation of fresh material	55
Drigalski's triangle	56
Exsiccata's observation	56
Softeners	57
A new softening liquid: G.S.M.	58
<b>Protocol for performing a mycologic preparation</b>	<b>59</b>
Washing the preparations	59
Improve the readability of a preparation	60
Improve the dissociation of hard elements	61
Cleaning the glass blades	62
<b>Cuts for microscopy: a real problem</b>	<b>63</b>

Freehand cuts	63
Freehand cuts with a support guide	64
Ranvier's microtome	64
A new cutting device for Ranvier's microtome	64
Genat's microtome	65
Small automated laboratory microtomes	66
A rapid inclusion's technique in paraffin	67
Leuckart's bars	67
Using epoxy resin for inclusion	68
<b>Accidents of handling and problems with your preparations</b>	<b>77</b>
Becke's line	82
<b>Part 3: mushrooms under a microscope</b>	<b>83</b>
The secret life of a mushroom	84
<b>Ascomycetes: asci and ascospores</b>	<b>85</b>
Ascomycetes: operculated or not?	87
Reactions with iodine	88
Little drops, vacuoles and nuclei	89
Causing sporulation of an Ascomycete	92
Causing the birth of some Ascomycetes	93
<b>Basidiomycetes: basidia and basidiospores</b>	<b>95</b>
Some surprising basidia	97
Siderophilic basidia	99
A caulohymenium in the Boletales	101
About basidiospores	104
Reference models for the shape of the most common spores	105
Spore's shape and their ornamentation	106
How measuring spores?	107
Causing sporulation of a Basidiomycete	108
A protocol to observe the gills of a Basidiomycete	109
Spores and walls	110
Protocol for spore's observation	111
Repetitive spores	112
Chlamydospores	113
Basidiomycetes : other conidia	114
Spores and melzer	115
Cystidia	116
Observing hooked cystidia (on the gills of some <i>Pluteus</i> )	118
Chrysocystidia	119
Acrophysalides in <i>Amanita</i>	120
Trabecular cystidia and pseudoparaphysis	121
Cuticles	123
Protocol for the observation of a cuticular coating	131
Protocol for the observation of Basidiomycetes with partial or general veil	131
Cuticular pigments	132
Cuticular hairs	135
Hymenial sebum	136
Some special structures: acanthocytes and crystals	137
Trama of gills in the Basidiomycetes	138
<b>Protocol for observing the trama of the Basidiomycetes</b>	<b>144</b>
Types of hyphae in the Basidiomycetes	145
Protocol for observing the mushroom flesh	150
<b>Aphylophorales</b>	
Types of hyphae in the Aphylophorales	151
Microscopy of the Polypores and <i>Corticiaceae</i>	163

Boidin's A.M.A. reaction in the Aphyllophorales	168
Back to the hyphae (structure and growth)	169
Different types of clamps (clamp connections)	172
arnivorous mushrooms (toxocysts and gliosphex)	173
A special study of <i>Hohenbuehelia atrocoerulea</i>	177
<b>Special staining and observation techniques</b>	<b>178</b>
Regressive staining	179
Acid-resistant incrustations in the genus <i>Russula</i>	180
Dermatocystidia in the genus <i>Russula</i>	183
<b>Some dyes are too little used</b>	<b>185</b>
Cresyl blue	185
Cyanophilia	187
Study of the genus <i>Lepiota</i> (spores)	189
Nigrosin	191
Azo black (Chlorazol black)	193
Giemsa's mixture	94
A novelty: the little blue pills	196
<b>A double staining applied to the Basidiomycetes</b>	<b>198</b>
Congo red + phloxin B	198
Azo black + phloxin B	200
A new type of staining for <i>Morchella</i> sp.	201
<b>Ammonia, a valuable chemical and a reagent</b>	<b>202</b>
Ammonia reaction in the genera <i>Inocybe</i> and <i>Conocybe</i>	202
Crystals of calcium oxalate	203
K.K.'s reaction in the genus <i>Amanita</i>	204
<b>About Plants and Glomeromycetes: endomycorrhiza</b>	<b>206</b>
Plants and Glomeromycetes (spores)	210
Orchidoid mycorrhiza	213
<b>Parasitic fungi</b>	<b>215</b>
"Rusts" or Urediniomycetes	215
"Coals" or Ustilaginomycetes	220
Powdery mildews or Erisyphales	222
Vine has many enemies	226
Mildews	227
<b>Moulds (generalities)</b>	<b>228</b>
Moulds under a microscope	230
Moulds and growing media	232
Moulds are not always our friends	235
Yeasts	243
<b>Mycological microscopy job aid</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>Checklist for a little mycophilic chemist</b>	<b>254</b>
General bibliography	259
Addendum: some types of basidia	260