

PROTOCOL FOR MUSHROOM & LICHEN GATHERERS BASED IN GRAN CANARIA

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO EFFICIENTLY GATHER, PROCESS AND STORE THE COLLECTED FUNGI

An important result of the symposium is a color sample ring of the dye mushrooms from the area. Each symposium participant takes home a sample ring, and at the same time, workshops using the fungi will be carried out throughout the week. For these purposes we need to have enough correctly gathered mushrooms and lichens.

Gran Canaria's diverse climate produces a great variety of mushrooms and lichens, although not all are abundant. The unpredictable climate means that there is no regularity in the appearance of fungi. For conservation reasons, we prefer to focus the symposium on the use of those found most frequently. Some kinds of mushrooms are more effective for dyeing when they are fresh; these we will specify in the WhatsApp group and wait to collect just before the symposium date.

The idea is that each volunteer gathers, processes and stores the mushrooms they find.

When collecting mushrooms be careful not to break the root system (mycelium or hyphae) that extends underground. Do not collect all the specimens present in an area, but rather leave some so the harvest returns the following year. Lichens should only be collected when found in abundance on broken branches or stems. We will not collect them directly from a tree or rock. Common sense and an understanding of the environment are important when harvesting.

Once collected, the mushrooms and lichens must be dried or frozen to preserve them. It is important that the drying or freezing is done on the day of harvest. Volunteers who cannot dedicate time for this processing should let us know before picking the mushrooms so we can arrange delivery to someone who can process them.

Volunteers will coordinate through a WhatsApp group, which will periodically meet to deliver the processed mushrooms. All the mushrooms collected will be preserved in a "pantry" located in Las Palmas.

For more information on dye mushrooms in Gran Canaria, feel free to consult the guide "Dye Fungi of Gran Canaria" by Nilia Bañares published by the FEDAC, which can be found online [here](#).

Unfortunately, helping us gather mushrooms does not guarantee a place at the symposium. For this reason, this call to search and collect is aimed especially at those who already go out into the countryside, or live in different areas of the island in such a way as to make the most of the resources. With this network of careful volunteers we hope to make this gathering efficient and effective. If you want to be included in the WhatsApp group, please write an email to hongostintoreosES@gmail.com with your phone number and the subject: WhatsApp group.

We thank you in advance for your collaboration.

AWARD FOR ABUNDANT COLLECTION

During the inauguration, three prizes will be awarded to the people who have contributed the most.