



Tutorial on Spore prints of mushrooms

JASVEEN DUA

READ REVIEWS

WRITE A REVIEW

CORRESPONDENCE:
surinder1027@gmail.com

DATE RECEIVED:
December 10, 2018

© dua This article is distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and redistribution in any medium, provided that the original author and source are credited.



Spore prints – These are made by the many microscopic spores falling from the mushroom, leaving a photographic impression.

Significance – Each mushroom forms a characteristic pattern, so useful in identification and also a source of obtaining clean and homogenous spores for mushroom cultivation.



Methodology:

1. Pick out a mature mushroom
2. Remove the stem so that only the cap remains
3. Place the cap on a piece of paper with the spore side down
4. Cover the mushroom with glass bowl
5. Keep it undisturbed for a day or so
6. Remove the bowl and view your print.

[gallery columns="4" ids="97523,97522,97521,97520"]

Some important points to remember for making perfect spore prints:

- Spore prints vary in size and depend on the size of the mushroom cap that drops the spores
- Spore size depends on the species of mushrooms
- Species with small caps leave small spore prints
- Use a mature mushroom as it has more spores to print.
- A freshly picked mushroom is more likely to have live spores than a store-bought one
- Avoid using mushrooms that are shriveled, bruised or appear old.
- Flat mushrooms create the best prints