

## Gardening



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Orange bracket fungi

## Garden Fungi

Fungi are critical decomposers that are essential to success in any garden.

A vast unseen network of fungi are found in soil to which compost, mulch, animal manure and leaf litter have been added.

Never be tempted to eat mushrooms you find in your garden - even if they look like the edible types you buy at a supermarket.

Online resources available to help you identify fungi in your garden include the Qld Mycological Society <http://qldfungi.org.au>



Red basket fungi



Dog vomit fungi



Mycera sp.



Coral fungi

They turn organic waste into compost; break down leaf litter and cause mulch and woody material to decompose.

After heavy rain these fungi produce their fruiting bodies or mycelium that we call mushrooms or toadstools.

Most are likely to be inedible or poisonous. It is not worth the risk. Be content to observe and enjoy them as fleeting curiosities.

You can also visit your local library to see if they have 'A Field Guide to Australian Fungi' by Bruce Fuhrer.



Birds nest fungi



Fleshy pore fungi



Phallus rubicundus



Trametes sp.