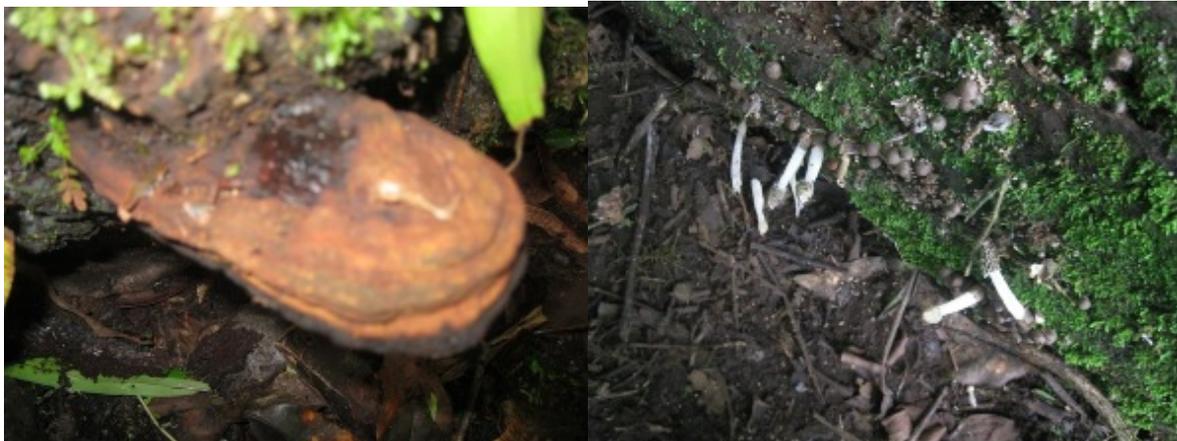


Project Update: September 2012

Ecological diversity surveys were made around the four flanks of Mount Cameroon at both low and high altitudes from June to September 2012. The aim was to record the mushroom species present during the study period and to compare it with the previous surveys. At the end, we observed that, there was a decline in some mushroom species present as compared to the previous year. The decline was noticed mostly in those species used as food and medicine (*Pleurotus* sp., *Auricularia* sp., *Ganoderma* sp.). This was greatly attributed to forest and habitat degradation due to illegal logging. Also, these edible and medicinal mushroom species were indiscriminately harvested by the local population which they either consume or sell in the local or national markets. Some mushroom species were captured during this survey such as *Oudemansiella* sp., *Pholiota* sp., *Polyporus* sp., and *Phallus* sp., to name but a few. Cultivation of indigenous species of edible and medicinal mushroom was seen as a plausible way of checking erosion of biodiversity of these mushrooms together with continuous sanitisation. Socio-economic and market surveys started in July 2012 and will end in November 2012.



Left: *Ganoderma* sp. Right: *Phallus* sp.