



# FIRST STEPS

## THE JARGON EXPLAINED AND ILLUSTRATED — 3

**THE STEM (STIPE)** — Macroscopic characters (some terms also listed under **Cap**)

**Annulate:** bearing a ring (Fig. 1k).

**Blunt:** of the base, rounded (Fig. 7a).

**Bulbous:** of the base, ending in a bulb (Fig. 7b).

**Caespitose:** growing in loose groups or tufts (Fig. 8a).

**Cartilaginous:** firm and tough but readily bent (Fries gave various meanings, hence several interpretations. Concept of 'breaking with a snap', sometimes appended, is not held by Kuhner & Romagnesi, Josseland or Moser).

**Cavernose:** with one or several cavities (Fig. 9a).

**Cheese-like:** brittle e.g. *Russula*.

**Clavate:** club-shaped, base wider than apex (Fig. 10a) but also the opposite.

**Connate:** 2-3 or more, joined together (Fig. 8b).

**Cylindric:** of equal diameter throughout the height (Fig. 10b).

**Immarginate:** of a bulbous base, without a distinct ridge (Fig. 7b).

**Exocentric:** not at the centre of the cap (Fig. 11a).

**Fasciculate:** growing in bundles and, properly, joined together over some length (cfr caespitose) (Fig. 8c).

**Fibrous:** obviously fibrous when broken, hence not breaking cleanly (cfr cartilaginous).

**Filiform:** thread-like (Fig. 10c).

**Fusiform:** spindle-like (Fig. 10d).

**Hispid:** having more or less stiff hairs.

**Hirsute:** having long hairs.

**Hollow:** with a lumen (Fig. 3a).

**Lacunose:** of tissue with small holes (Fig. 9b).

**Lateral:** at the side of the cap (Fig. 11b).

**Marginate:** of the bulb, with a distinct ridge (Fig. 7d).

**Pilose:** covered with hairs.

**Pointed:** at the stem base (Fig. 7c).

**Radicant:** a stem base prolonged by a root-like appendage (Fig. 7e).

**Reticulate:** ornamented with a net-like pattern.

**Scrobiculate:** with a pitted surface.

**Seta** (plur.: setae): a short, stiff hair, a bristle.

**Setose:** with setae, bristly (cfr hispid).

**Solid:** filled homogeneously.

**Strigose:** with coarse hairs (= setose).

**Stuffed:** where the texture of the interior is looser than that of the cortex (Fig. 9c).

**Ventricose:** swelling out at the middle in a more pronounced way than in 'fusiform' (Fig. 10e).

**Villose:** bearing fine, soft hairs.

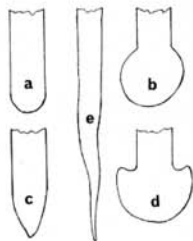


Fig. 7. Stem Base

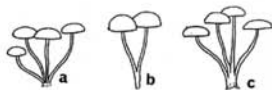


Fig. 8. Habit

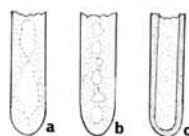


Fig. 9. Stem texture

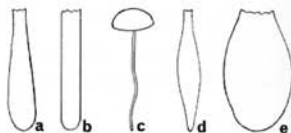


Fig. 10. Stem shape

## THE RING (ANNULUS)

**Arachnoid:** cobweb-like i.e. a cortina.

**Ascendant or Ascending:** where the free edge of the ring is above the attached edge (Fig. 12a).

**Cortina:** thin veil of fibres connecting stem to cap.

**Descendant or descending:** where the free edge of the ring is below the attached edge (Fig. 12b).

**Double:** arising from both universal and partial veils and ornamented with their remains.

**Fugacious:** short-lived i.e. may be missing from a mature specimen.

**Inferior:** positioned below mid-height.

**Membranaceous:** like a thin skin or parchment.

**Superior:** positioned above mid-height.

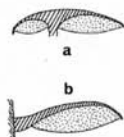


Fig. 11. Stem insertion

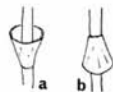


Fig. 12. Ring orientation

## THE GILLS (LAMELLAE, TUBES and SPINES) — Macroscopic characters.

**Adnate:** broadly attached (Fig. 13a).

**Adnate with tooth:** adnate with short decurrent attachment (Fig. 13c).

**Adnexed:** narrowly attached (Fig. 13b).

**Anastomosing:** joining together irregularly.

**Arcuate:** arc-like, curved concavely (Fig. 13i).

**Ascendant:** of gills whose margin rises increasingly steeply towards the point of insertion on the stem (Fig. 13j).

**Collarium:** the well developed ring of tissue to which the remote gills are attached in some species e.g. *Lepiota* (Fig. 13k) and *Marasmius* (Fig. 13l).

**Compound:** of pores, with internal subdivisions (Fig. 14a).

**Crowded:** close together (Fig. 15a).

**Decurrent:** running markedly down the stem (Fig. 13i).

**Deliquescent:** becoming liquid after maturity, autodigesting e.g. *Coprinus*.

**Distant:** widely separated (Fig. 15b).

**Emarginate:** notched near stem (Fig. 13d).

**Entire:** not dentate, denticulate or serrate.

**Fimbriate:** distinctly fringed with cystidia.

**Forking:** dividing into two or more elements.

**Free:** not attached to stem (Fig. 13e).

**Interveined:** with shallow, transversal connexions between gills.

**Mottled:** appearance conferred by the uneven ripening, in small areas, of the dark spores (Fig. 16).

**Remote:** ending at some distance from stem (Fig. 13f).

**Serrate:** edged with saw-like teeth.

**Simple:** of pores, without subdivision (Fig. 14b).

**Sinuate:** usually taken to be synonymous with emarginate but also of a gill with an abrupt narrowing near the stem (Fig. 13q), or of a waxy gill (Fig. 13h).

**Subdecurrent:** running down stem a short distance only (Fig. 13m).

**Uncinate:** hooked, emarginate with a decurrent tooth (fig. 13n).

**Ventricose:** markedly broader at the middle (Fig. 13e).

**Waxy:** lustrous because thick and watery e.g. *Hygrocybe*.

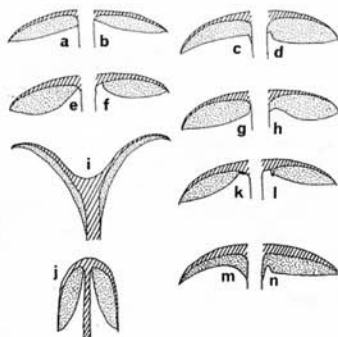


Fig. 13. Gill insertion

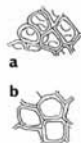


Fig. 14. Pore division

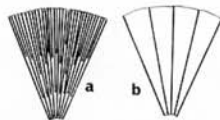


Fig. 15. Gill density



Fig. 16. Mottled gill

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