

# Fungus Bombs

**KEEP YOUR BOMB OUT OF  
THE SUN UNTIL PLANTING**

Fungus “Bombs” are small rounds of oak that bear many years of choice edible mushrooms which are delicious, nutritious and oftentimes medicinal. For each pound of bomb, you should expect an equivalent of years that it will “fruit” (give you mushrooms) in appropriate conditions. Unlike plants and logs above ground, you do not need to manage moisture in the bomb; since it will be planted in the ground, there will be enough moisture once it is planted

Oak trees are our primary native host of chicken and hen of the woods. A gracious host, it gives these fungi both living and dead wood to grow from. The bomb itself allows these fungi to feed on it directly, though if it is planted around oak, it has the potential to establish a relationship with the oak trees in your stand. Fungus bombs are intended to take advantage of this natural relationship, because if the bombs spread spores or mycelium into the surrounding oak, that means several years of fruiting (from the bomb itself) could turn into decades of choice mushrooms in your forest!



## Find a suitable location for your bomb

(An important step to ensure best yields)

- Find a shady location; in or along the woods is ideal if you have them, otherwise plant on the northern side of a building, along a fence, or other structures that will provide shade throughout the day. Be sure to consider the aspect and the movement of the sun throughout the day, and to a lesser extent, throughout the year.
- Avoid allelopathic trees in your area that suppress the growth of other plants, as they may negatively influence the yields from your bomb.



## Drop the bomb

- Dig a hole large enough to set the bomb into
- Remove the bomb from its bag, and reference its size with the hole, adjusting as necessary.
- Pack any leftover spawn from the bag onto the bomb as you prep it for planting
- Plant the bomb in the hole, with the top 1"- 2" above the soil surface (about width of 1-3 fingers)

## Wait Patiently

- Set a stake, rubber ducky, or other marker to identify the location for passers-by and a reminder for your annual fall check-up
- Wait for early fall to check on your location once/week; smaller bombs have been known to fruit after a summer in the ground, though it is more often typical to see fruiting the fall following planting

