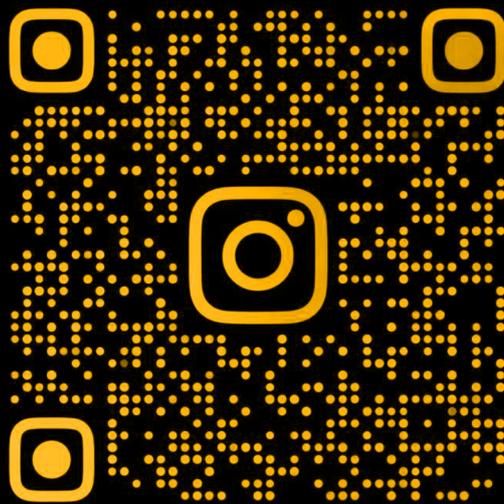




JANUARY 2026

Paja Crown

By Hyphal Mind-



HYPHAL_MIND_3

The Lineage That Whispered Back

Paja Crown is a uniquely crafted variety with roots stretching across continents. Bred by Evyatar Siani in Israel, it's a cross between the well-known Ghost lineage and the lesser-known landrace Paja Poke, which traces its origins to Brazil. Over the past several months, Paja Crown has begun to create waves across the cultivation community, primarily due to its uniquely high natural tryptamine profile for a *Psilocybe cubensis*.

For some, Paja Crown is more than just another psilocybin-containing mushroom. It's an expression of living art. Its aesthetic beauty and ever-shifting phenotypic expressions make each grow a new encounter with the unknown.

Like many extraordinary lineages, Paja Crown's story could have easily been lost to time. Yet, its brilliance caught the attention of one cultivator whose path seemed destined to intertwine with it. Drawn in by its ethereal beauty and mysterious energy, Hyphal Mind began a journey that would ensure this mushroom's survival and elevate it to legendary status within the modern cultivation scene.

Paja Crown has been one of the most beautiful mushrooms I've had the pleasure of cultivating. Its delicate mix of cream-white and blue stipes, paired with striking umbra-blue cosmic caps speckled with tiny white dots, truly sets it apart. From my very first grow of Paja Crown, I was captivated by its natural beauty, and throughout the entire fruiting process, I felt a deep connection. A pull to continue working with this mushroom. I'm extremely humbled that Paja Crown found its way to me, allowing two other passionate cultivators such as White Rabbit Mycology and J1MBUB to preserve and carry forward its unique beauty. Only a few cultivators know that this mushroom almost slipped through the cracks and might have been lost entirely if not for the preservation work, we undertook.

I received Paja Crown from Woodland Mysticz, a husband-and-wife-owned cultivation business, in the early fall of 2024. At that time, only one other cultivator, Dinospores, had this culture in their collection. Several months later, Woodland Mysticz reached out after losing their own Paja Crown culture, and I was honored to return several phenotypes to them. One of my goals with Paja Crown is to continue refining its beauty and sharing it with cultivators across the world, ensuring this remarkable lineage is never almost lost again.

For me, Paja Crown represents more than genetics. It's a symbol of what can emerge when we listen. When we honor intuition, patience, and gratitude for the living art that mushrooms offer us. Its lineage reminds us that preservation isn't just about holding on to something rare, but about cultivating continuity, ensuring the beauty, wisdom, and spirit of this organism continue to spread and inspire future generations of growers.

Paja Crown stands as a reminder that not every treasure reveals itself loudly. Some lineages whisper; subtle in presence yet profoundly powerful in what they awaken within us. This mushroom embodies resilience, beauty, and balance. The alchemy of nature and nurture, of human curiosity and the unseen intelligence of the mycelial network. Each new grow, each plate of mycelium, and each flush carries with it a story of survival and synchronicity. What began as a nearly forgotten culture now thrives across continents, connecting cultivators through shared wonder and respect.

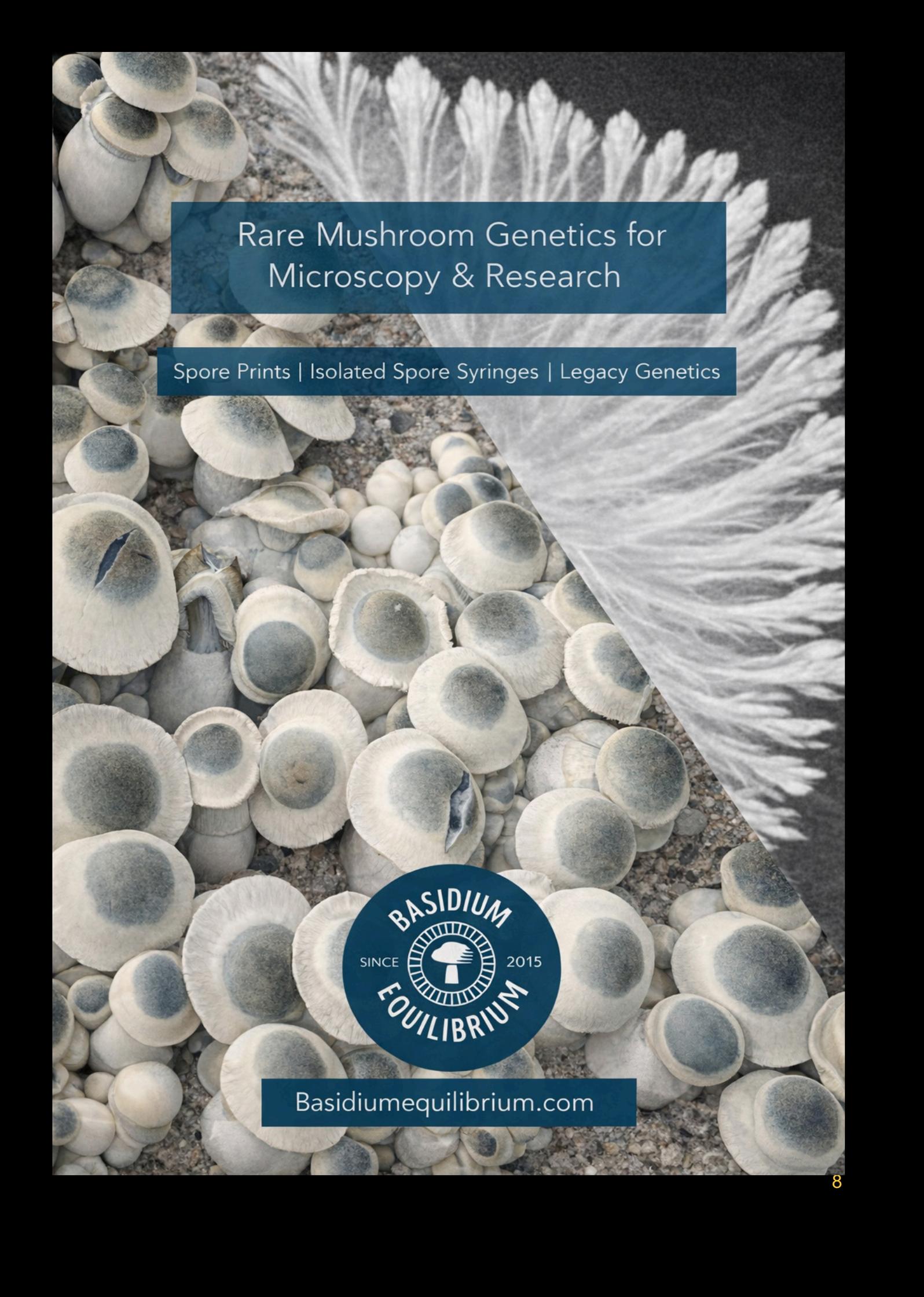
In the vast constellation of mycology, Paja Crown shines not as a monument to possession, but as a living reminder: that every culture we nurture is, in truth, nurturing us back.











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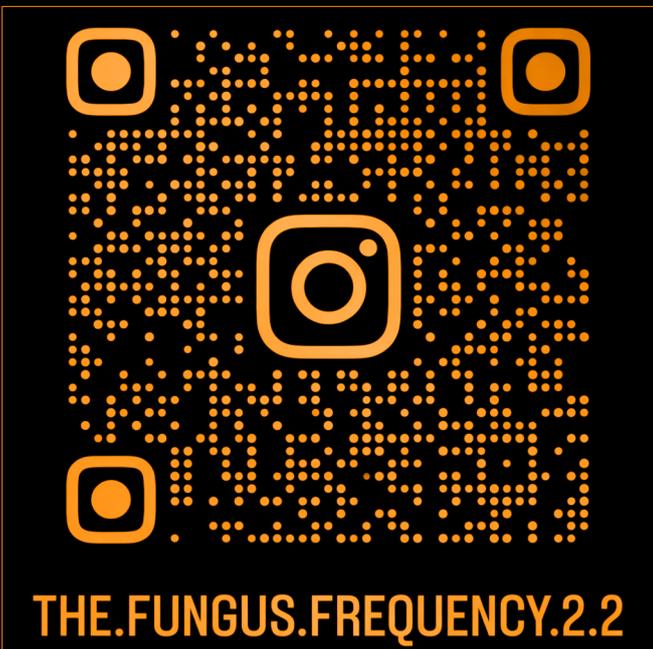
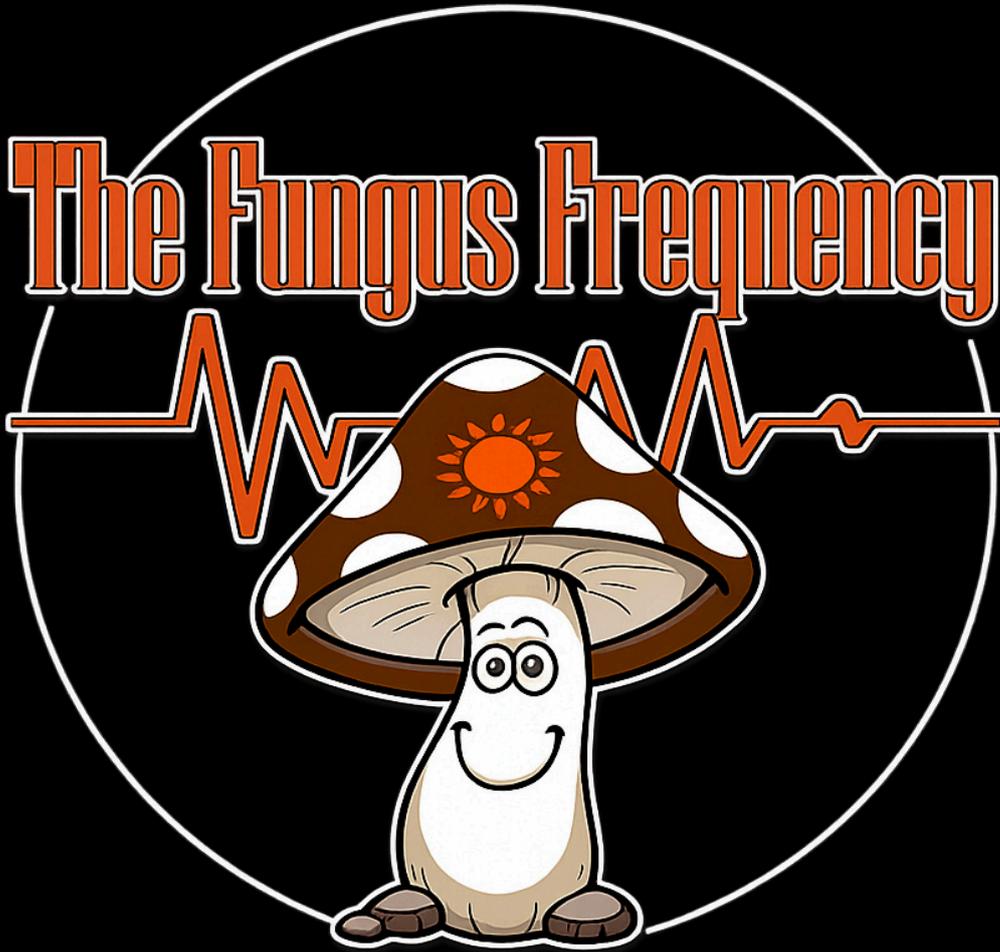
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El Dragon

By The Fungus Frequency



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El Dragōn comes from a cross of an El Choco monokaryon and a dikaryon of Ghidorah (PE isolation). The initial fruiting and the F1 produced some fruits similar to Ghidorah, only more tame. Then after awhile of keeping the F2 spores going on agar an albino plin popped up. I of course ran that and the multi spore culture as well. Both produced gnarly albino fruits with curled caps and very dark spots in the middle of the caps. The F3 spores continued with the same expression only.







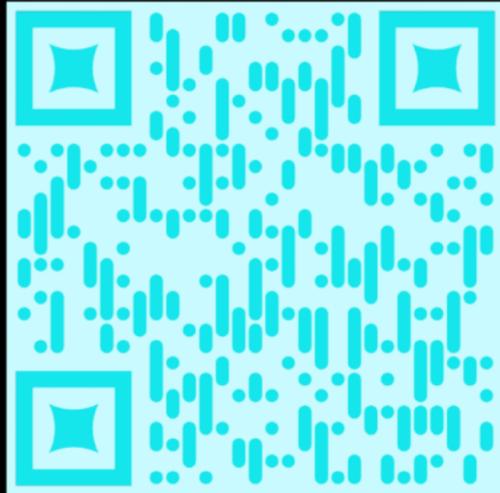


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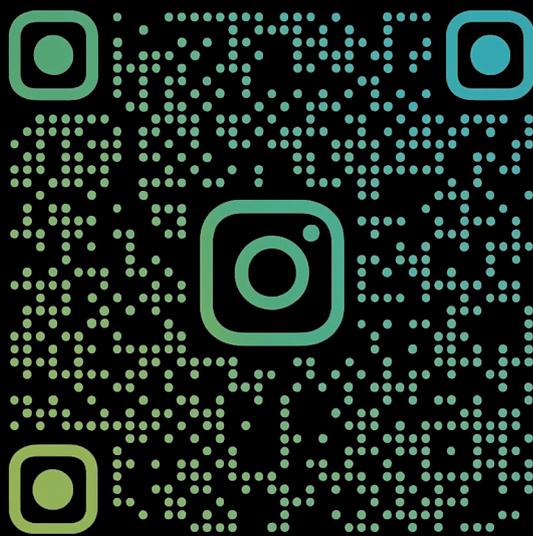
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SCAN TO CONNECT - OTP CONSULTATIONS



Bloberry

-BY MichaeLogical(aka-MyCSeE)



MICHAEOLOGICAL

I moved to CO from NJ in 2023, specifically because of the benefits of Prop 122. It took me about a year to get my bearings here in the state and get my lab setup to start cultivating. Bloberry was my very first grow here in the state in my new lab and it started out as an unlabeled LC Syringe.

I was told that it was SNAPE.

The curator was a local Colorado Springs gourmet mushroom cultivator who is no longer in business. The source of his SNAPE genetic was unknown.

Cultivating in Colorado was certainly different and there was a bit of a learning curve, because relative humidity is an issue here. What I ended up with in the first flush was a mutation, what I called Bloberry. I imagine this was the result of my inexperience with the climate here in Colorado. We know that genetic mutations are somewhat in part due to environmental factors. I have a few set theories about those contributing factors, like spawn to sub ratio too high, and overcompensating for low relative humidity.

I knew that bloberry was special because of how blue it turned when it was oxidized.

So, I send it to be tested in Magic Myco's cultivar cup. It came out in 5th place at 2.12%. COA included.

The problem with it was that it was difficult to harvest, and nobody wants a mouthful of vermiculate. So, I continued to grow it out until I was able to clone a revert.

The revert was tested in Tryptomics 2025 Colorado Psychedelic Cup where it won a Gold for most textbook redline example of full spectrum cubensis at 1.55% total alkaloids.

So, the data concluded that although it became easier to harvest in its full form, the potency had suffered some.

This led me and others to the theory that most of the total active alkaloids are developed early on in the growth cycle. That the fruiting body gained in volume, but the potency had not followed suit.









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Psychedelic Therapy and PTSD: Veterans Seek Healing Beyond Conventional Medicine

Published in the Educational Articles section of Psy Times Magazine

Originally inspired by reporting from CPR News (2025)

Introduction

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) remains one of the most challenging conditions faced by U.S. veterans. Conventional treatments—such as antidepressants, talk therapy, and exposure techniques—often reduce symptoms but fail to bring full emotional healing. Many veterans report feeling detached or “numb” while on standard medications, leading researchers to explore more transformative approaches.

The Rise of Psychedelic-Assisted Therapy

In recent years, psychedelics like psilocybin, the active compound in certain mushrooms, have captured scientific attention for their potential to interrupt traumatic thought patterns. Psilocybin appears to temporarily quiet the brain’s default mode network, allowing patients to process memories without overwhelming fear or shame. Early clinical studies conducted at Johns Hopkins University and the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) show encouraging results: participants report long-lasting reductions in anxiety, depression, and PTSD symptoms after only one or two guided sessions.

Veterans Leading the Conversation

Veterans such as David Lyons (Vietnam War) and Matthew Butler (Iraq and Afghanistan) have spoken publicly about their journeys through trauma, addiction, and recovery. Many describe psychedelic-assisted therapy as the first treatment that helped them truly reconnect—with family, community, and a sense of self-forgiveness. Because the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has yet to authorize psychedelic treatment, many veterans must travel abroad or join private studies to access this care. This creates disparities in safety, guidance, and affordability, leaving some vulnerable to unregulated programs.

Scientific Promise and Caution

While media enthusiasm has grown, researchers emphasize that psychedelic therapy is not a cure-all. Proper screening, psychological preparation, and post-session integration are crucial to positive outcomes. Ongoing Phase II and Phase III trials will determine whether psilocybin

can gain FDA approval for PTSD and treatment-resistant depression. Still, early evidence points toward a paradigm shift—one that treats trauma not as a permanent wound but as a condition that can be re-patterned through guided neuroplasticity and self-awareness.

The Call for Research Access

Advocates argue that U.S. veterans should not be “left behind” as psychedelic medicine advances. They urge the VA and other federal agencies to expand participation in ongoing clinical research, ensuring that therapies shown to improve mental-health outcomes become available to those most affected by trauma.

Image Caption (optional): A veteran participates in a guided psilocybin therapy session focused on trauma processing and emotional reintegration.

Adapted summary based on reporting by CPR News (2025).

“Early Studies Suggest Psilocybin Can Help People with PTSD — But the VA Doesn’t Allow It.”

Original article available at cpr.org.

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The Psychedelic Renaissance: What the Latest Psilocybin Research Reveals (Fall 2025)

In recent months, psilocybin - the psychoactive compound found in 'magic mushrooms' - has once again captured global scientific attention. From groundbreaking aging studies to long-term mental health benefits, the past few months have yielded compelling evidence that psilocybin's potential reaches far beyond its countercultural history.

1. Psilocybin Shows Potential Anti-Aging Effects

In June 2025, researchers published the first experimental evidence that psilocin, psilocybin's active metabolite, may extend cellular lifespan and delay aging in animal models. The study demonstrated that psilocin promotes mitochondrial health and longevity in mice, hinting at novel geroprotective properties. While still early-stage, the results suggest a new frontier in the field of psychopharmacology and aging.

Source: PubMed (2025), Earth.com

2. Lasting Relief for Cancer Patients

A major Phase 2 clinical trial found that psilocybin-assisted therapy offers long-term relief from depression and anxiety among cancer patients. Follow-up assessments at two years post-treatment revealed that nearly half of participants maintained full remission of depressive symptoms after a single psilocybin session combined with guided psychotherapy.

Source: ScienceDaily (2025)

3. Expanding Clinical Horizons

- Chronic Pain: UCSF trials are exploring psilocybin's influence on pain perception and somatic awareness.
- End-of-Life Care: UCLA's triple-blind studies examine psilocybin's ability to ease existential distress in palliative care patients.
- Parkinson's Disease: Recent Nature publications highlight psilocybin's potential to improve mood and cognition in neurodegenerative conditions.

Sources: UCSF Clinical Trials, Nature (2025)

4. Caution: Risks and Ethical Challenges

Not all findings are encouraging. A new case report in BMC Psychiatry detailed prolonged side effects, including sleep disturbances and suicidal ideation, following repeated high-dose psilocybin use. Researchers

stress that therapeutic use must remain within strict clinical settings under professional supervision.

Source: BMC Psychiatry (2024)

5. Public Use and Health Trends

Recent national surveys indicate that psilocybin use has increased by 20% in the U.S. since 2019. However,

poison control data also show a rise in misuse and accidental ingestion reports. These findings underscore

the importance of public education and regulation as psilocybin enters mainstream research and decriminalization efforts.

Source: Annals of Internal Medicine (2025)

Conclusion

The last few months have solidified psilocybin's position as one of the most intriguing compounds in modern

neuroscience. From longevity studies to psychiatric care, its potential continues to expand - but so do the ethical and regulatory challenges. As research deepens, the global conversation around psilocybin is shifting

from stigma to science - and Psy Times Magazine will be following every step of that transformation



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William Dylan Smith aka “The Spore Daddy”

William Dylan Smith, also known as The Spore Daddy, is a mycologist based on the east coast of the United States. He began his journey into mycology in the summer of 2024 and has remained consistent ever since.

Over the past year and a half, he has worked day and night producing grains, substrate, agar, and all-in-one grow bags, while also creating mycology video content. He emphasizes that trial and error is the name of the game when getting into the hobby.

In June 2025, he was featured on the Mycopreneurs Spotify podcast, where he discussed leaving his 9-to-5 job to pursue mycology full time.

Spore Daddy is also known for his TikTok channel with over 10,000 followers, where he hosts weekly live sessions and creates educational content for mushroom growers of all experience levels. He runs monthly giveaways and manages an active presence on Instagram, Facebook, and Discord.

In November 2025, Spore Daddy completed his first vending event at the Entheogen Expo in Los Angeles, California, and plans to attend many more events throughout 2026. He has stated that 2025 was dedicated to perfecting his growing supplies, while 2026 will focus on genetics.



Website: sporedaddy.net

TikTok: @thesporedaddy

Instagram: @thesporedaddy2.0



Mushrooms for dogs?

-By Dennis Walker

Most people in the mushroom community are familiar with Terence McKenna's famed 'Stoned Ape Theory', but what if the vitalizing and elevating potential of psilocybin mushrooms extend to other animal species that call this planet home?

The connection between animals and mushrooms is ancient and largely understudied. On a recent trip to the Bwindi Impenetrable Forest of Uganda, I learned that the critically endangered mountain gorillas that live in the park intentionally seek out various wild mushrooms during the rainy season. In the Issa Valley of neighboring Tanzania, recent research into 'Mycophagy' (fungi consumption) among primates found that three different species of primates in the region buttress their diets with wild mushrooms when they're available, with fungi accounting for up to 17% of the rainy season diet for baboons. White-tailed deer, squirrels, birds, rodents and many insects all eat mushrooms in the wild.

Closer to home, functional mushrooms for pets has emerged as a \$500 million dollar market, with a growing number of brands providing specially formulated Reishi, Turkey Tail, Lion's Mane and various other functional mushrooms into pet health supplements.

And while the subject is still taboo, there is a growing interest in the potential of microdosing psilocybin mushrooms for pet health.

One holistic veterinarian is pairing up with a highly respected member of the mushroom advocacy and entrepreneur community to launch a pilot study on the therapeutic potential of microdosing psilocybin for dogs.

"Pets are part of our family, and we really go out of our way to provide them with the same kinds of benefits we give to the other members of our family" says Dr. Rob Silver on a recent episode of Mycopreneur Podcast. "Doc Rob" is Chief Veterinary Officer for mushroom industry heavyweights Real Mushrooms and designer of mushroom supplement products for pets.



Doc Rob has teamed up with James McConchie of Haight Street Shroom Shoppe to formally measure the effects of microdosing on dogs, though the study is in an early preliminary phase.

"The safety of the pets is of the utmost importance, so we have to be extremely careful about how we go about this research," says the holistic veterinarian Silver.

Beyond rigorously vetted (no pun intended!) research, there are many anecdotal stories of people's dogs getting into their stash of mushrooms or even eating wild psilocybes that they seek out themselves.

In a July 2024 edition of the newsletter U.C. Berkeley Center for the Science of Psychedelics affiliated newsletter The Microdose, veterinarian Carlo Syracuse shares that "There are anecdotal reports of psilocybin use with hunting dogs — some Indigenous peoples in South America use it to enhance the sensory faculties of the dog. There are also similar reports in Italy, where they've used dogs to sniff for truffles."

A two year old Reddit thread titled 'Psilocybin For Dogs?' kicks off with the poster stating that they watched a veterinarian speaking as part of an online Pet Anxiety Summit and stating that microdosing psilocybin may be beneficial for fear-reactive dogs. A commenter on the thread shares that they've been microdosing their nine year old Australian Cattle Dog for 3 years, claiming that "He reacted very well to the first very tiny dose so I kept going. The key is once I notice him perk up we hit the trails and he eats it up. He's more eager to train, focused, calm and is 180 of a dog compared to when I got him."

There has actually already been a pilot study done on microdosing dogs with 1-cp-LSD, a derivative of LSD, where the drug "proved to be safe and exerted the desired effect on the animal's behavior, significantly reducing the patient's anxiety."

In the psychonaut community, there are numerous stories of people's pets who got into their owners stash of cubensis or found the mushroom gummies, generally with hilarious narrative arcs to them.

A recent TikTok video I viewed featured a dog with a thousand yard stare sitting shotgun in a car, with the presumed owner of the dog recording her and claiming that she goes off in search of the psychoactive mushrooms intentionally while they're out foraging and is no stranger to the effects.

A research paper titled "Behavioural Investigations of Psilocybin in Animals 1962-2021: A Scoping Review" found 77 different research studies across almost 60 years that investigated the effects of psilocybin on various animals, concluding that "Overall psilocybin presents a unique and strong safety profile with no evidence of biological toxicity, is characterized by unique time and dose-dependent effects, and its pattern of drug action is significantly context and training-sensitive. Data suggest putative effects of psilocybin include acute arousal, dose-dependent sedation, reductions in fear conditioning at low doses, reduced aggression, improved valence, acute disruption of working memory, the rescuing of deficits from chronic stress, and improved learning when combined with repeated environmental exposure after resolution of drug effect."

As the western world continues to wake up to the extraordinary benefit of psilocybin and functional mushrooms, our family pets stand to gain tremendous life enhancement from adopting the same vital adaptogenic support that these powerful mushrooms provide to us humans. But before you go dosing your little Pomeranian before the bowling tournament this weekend - it's important to be extremely cautious with this type of potential therapeutic regiment, and to always consult your veterinarian before getting any big - or microdose sized - ideas.

Author bio: Dennis Walker is a multimedia producer and journalist covering global mushroom entrepreneurship and culture. As the host of Mycopreneur, "<https://mycopreneur.beehiiv.com/>" he has interviewed over 300 mushroom entrepreneurs from 50 countries and his work has been featured in Rolling Stone, Forbes, Wired, Vice, The Los Angeles Times, High Times, The Independent, and many other international outlets.

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