

ui/ux | app design concept

process book

rhye pirie | spring 2022

idea generation

10 square

Garden Planner

- Layout/design space by scanning yard with camera or entering dimensions
- Get suggestions based on gardening skill/upkeep difficulty, region, season, and soil type.
- plant care instructions that sync with calendar to remind you when to water, repot, fertilize or trim specific plants.

Drink/Brew Recipe Socials

- log recipes with the ability to rate, mark flavor profiles, and difficulty, etc.
- Connect with family/friends to share favorites (or least favorites)
- Log cafes, roasters, favorite beans, etc. and where to find
- Sync with smart brew gear, ie: fellow, acaia, for easier tracking of recipes and brew times.
-

All Health Data + Records

- manage all health records/data/prescriptions from one central hub
- easily + securely send records to new/requesting physicians
- expand emergency info available on lock screen in emergency for specific conditions
- reminders for prescriptions that require advanced notice on refill
- health calendar + reminders for medications, symptom tracking, etc

Tabletop & Board Game Socials

- calendar/map for local board + tabletop game shops hosting events
- social check-in
- in app achievements/profile badges for attending events/supporting shops
- track game specific events in a specified region
- connect w/ friends and share event schedules

3Rs Guide

- Identify ways to reuse typically single-use packages
 - or alternative options to replace single use containers with more sustainable solutions
- Scan item in store to check sustainability of packaging and production process
- Identify if a non-reusable package can be recycled, and give instructions on how to properly sort and dispose.

Fungi Identifier

- use AI to match Fungi to database identification
- Log finds with images, info, location
- easily access to database for additional information, or information on where to find specific fungi
- guide to best practices for mushroom hunting and being respectful of the environment + natural habitats
- safety guide for handling and edibility, or if a species is poisonous or toxic
- guide for taking spore prints + photo log

Study Buddy

- match w/ other students to study based on preferred environment + study style
- match w/ students from related but not same major to share ideas/get feedback (ie: design + marketing, product engineering + human resources/psychology)
- add friends to notify when looking for a study buddy

Virtual Postcards/Letters

- send virtual postcards to friends
- option to have digital card printed + send physically for small fee + postage
- collect unique art by sending/receiving physical + virtual cards
- join as an artist to make small commission on stamps/cards when purchased digitally or sent physically
- option to schedule a card for later delivery, ie: birthday, holiday, event

Pin & Sticker Trade

- provide collectors and artists with a platform to trade or purchase unique pins
- provide convenient + centralized trade space for art pins
- directly connect artists + collectors

Local Arts + Culture

- promote local arts + culture events
- provide convenient way to check what local events are happening
- incentivize community members to be more involved
- social check-in/share

creative brief

concept.01 mycology & foraging

Client

International Mycology Association & Mycobank

The International Mycological Association, founded in 1971, represents the interests of over 30,000 mycologists worldwide. It is a none for profit organization, the purpose of which is the encouragement of mycology in all its branches. This implies that the IMA should strive to promote mycology in its widest sense. For its four year term until the IMC congress in Amsterdam, The Netherlands in 2022, the Executive Committee and the Officers of the IMA will strive to:

- Provide useful information and links on the website, to strengthen mycological integration and collaboration;
- Promote open access of mycological journals and books, and support the flagship journals of our science to be more competitive with those of other sciences;
- Establish online repositories under the auspices and management of the IMA, to which members can contribute and own;
- Establish a promotional platform for all aspects of mycology in the IMA, which would enhance the visibility of our science.

MycoBank is the on-line repository and nomenclatural registry provided in collaboration between the International Mycological Association and the Westerdijk Fungal Biodiversity Institute. It provides a free service to the mycological and scientific society by databasing mycological nomenclatural novelties (new names and combinations) and associated data, such as descriptions, illustrations and DNA barcodes. Nomenclatural novelties are each allocated a unique MycoBank number to be cited in the publication where the nomenclatural novelty is introduced, to conform with the requirements of the International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi and plants.

Objectives and Priorities

To provide an easy to use resource that quickly and accurately identifies mushrooms, lichen and other fungi, along with related human and environmental safety, while allowing for the expansion of information on difficult to identify species, and personal logs for both professional and amateur reference. Logs will be capable of storing images, spore prints, seasonal and sighting location, and observational/quantitative notes in addition to database information at the user's discretion.

Target Audience

Amateur/hobbyists looking to expand their knowledge and safety practices related to mycology, primary age range late 20s-50s. Additionally, professionals looking to either assist or expand in the identification of unknown/difficult to identify species.

Situational analysis

Due to the massive quantity of identified and unidentified mycological organisms, it can be difficult for hobbyists to identify and keep track of found fungi. While there are many useful books and other documentation related to mycological identification, the app would be able to provide a faster way to access and log information along with instant feedback on possible/common misidentifications and safety warnings.

Call to action

An easy to use and frequently updated database and tracker for both the budding and experienced mycologically interested.

Competitors

Mushroom Identifier (AnnapurnApp Technologies UG haftungsbeschränkt) iOS
Shroomify (Simon Grogan) iOS, Android
Picture Mushroom (Next Vision Limited) iOS, Android

Deliverables

Fully redesigned interface
Invision prototype
Presentation sample for screens

Mandatories

Company Logo
Brand specific formatting

Metrics of Success

Metrics of success will be gauged by user activity and feedback. Regular use, retained users, and feedback indicating satisfaction (ie: 4* + reviews, direct contact, or support session messages) will indicate success.

creative brief

concept.02 brew social

Client

Specialty Coffee Association (SCA)

The Specialty Coffee Association (SCA) is a trade association built on foundations of openness, inclusivity, and the power of shared knowledge. SCA's purpose is to foster global coffee communities to support activities to make coffee a more sustainable, equitable, and thriving activity for the whole value chain. From coffee farmers to baristas and roasters, our membership spans the globe, encompassing every element of the coffee value chain. The SCA acts as a unifying force within the specialty coffee industry and works to make coffee better by raising standards worldwide through a collaborative and progressive approach. Dedicated to building an industry that is fair, sustainable, and nurturing for all, the SCA draws on years of insights and inspiration from the specialty coffee community.

Objectives and Priorities

To give non-alcoholic beverage enthusiasts a convenient and cohesive way to record, evaluate, and share their recipes, preferences, and brew methodology. Through an easily accessed and organized system, users will be able to log, rate, and share coffee and tea beverages made at home and from their preferred cafes. Additionally, recipes/brew logs will be compatible with smart-feature (bluetooth and wifi) brewing equipment for seamless weight-ratio and flow-rate logging.

Target Audience

The audience for this service will be coffee and tea enthusiasts who enjoy the craft both personally and socially, with the target age range being 25 to 45 years of age. .

Situational analysis

Coffee & Tea lovers tend to be very passionate about the intricacies of brewing and sourcing their ingredients. The app would provide an easy-to-use way to log their finds and preferences for later reference, and to share them with friends/family with similar interests.s.

Call to action

A clean and convenient app design that allows enthusiasts to record and share their favorite recipes and cafe menu items with friends and family who share their interests.

Competitors

Filtru Coffee
Brew Timer
Beanconqueror
Coffee Book
Companies
Acaia
Aeropress

Deliverables

Fully redesigned interface
Invision prototype
Presentation sample for screens

Mandatories

Company Logo
Brand specific formatting

Metrics of Success

Metrics of success will be gauged by user activity. Increase in user sign-up, active use, and regular frequency of content being shared between users and to other platforms will be considered a success.

creative brief

concept.03 pin and sticker exchange

Client

The International Sticker Exchange

A small non-profit project that oversees an international mail-in random sticker exchange, for the cost of postage. Their website expresses interest to expand the options of choice and an improved/interactive website, which could make them a good candidate.

Objectives and Priorities

To provide collectors and artists with a platform to trade and/or purchase pins and stickers that allows for users to discover & obtain unique and high-quality pins and stickers.

Target Audience

Service audience will be hobbyists, collectors and artist/craftspeople in the market for small (contemporary) collectible accessories, with the primary target age range being late teens to early 30s.

Situational analysis

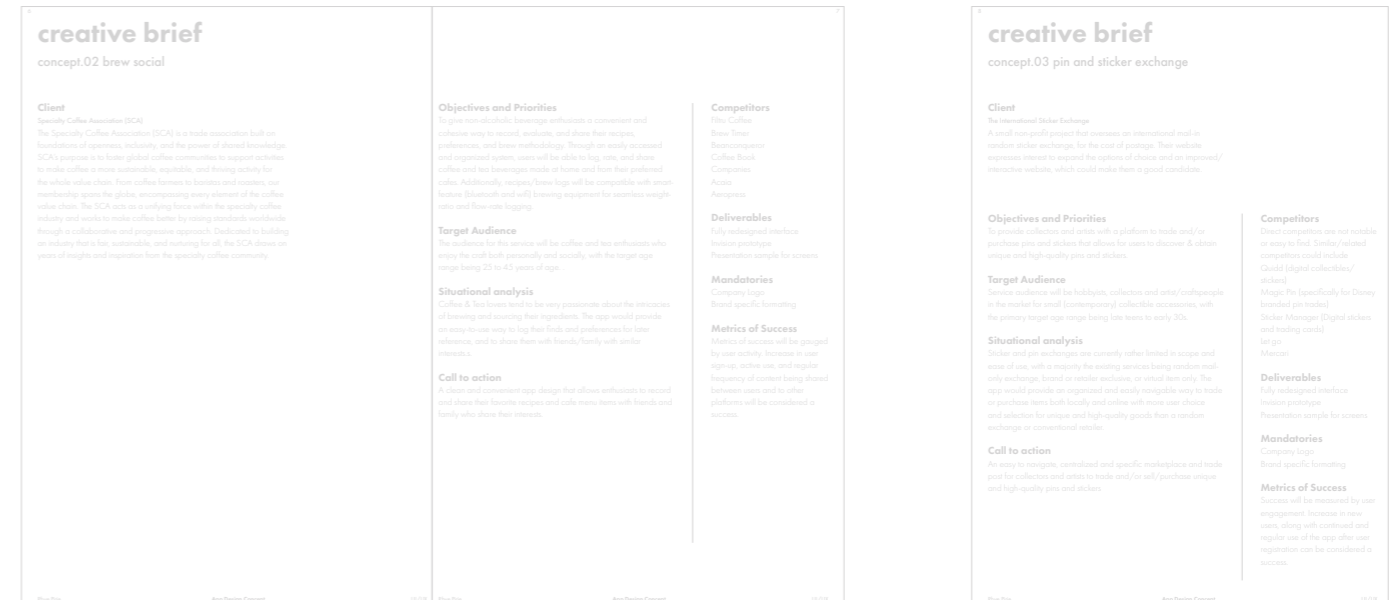
Sticker and pin exchanges are currently rather limited in scope and ease of use, with a majority the existing services being random mail-only exchange, brand or retailer exclusive, or virtual item only. The app would provide an organized and easily navigable way to trade or purchase items both locally and online with more user choice and selection for unique and high-quality goods than a random exchange or conventional retailer.

Call to action

An easy to navigate, centralized and specific marketplace and trade post for collectors and artists to trade and/or sell/purchase unique and high-quality pins and stickers

concept selection

concept.01 mycology & foraging



Competitors

Direct competitors are not notable or easy to find. Similar/related competitors could include Quidd (digital collectibles/stickers)

Magic Pin (specifically for Disney branded pin trades)
Sticker Manager (Digital stickers and trading cards)

Let go

Mercari

Deliverables

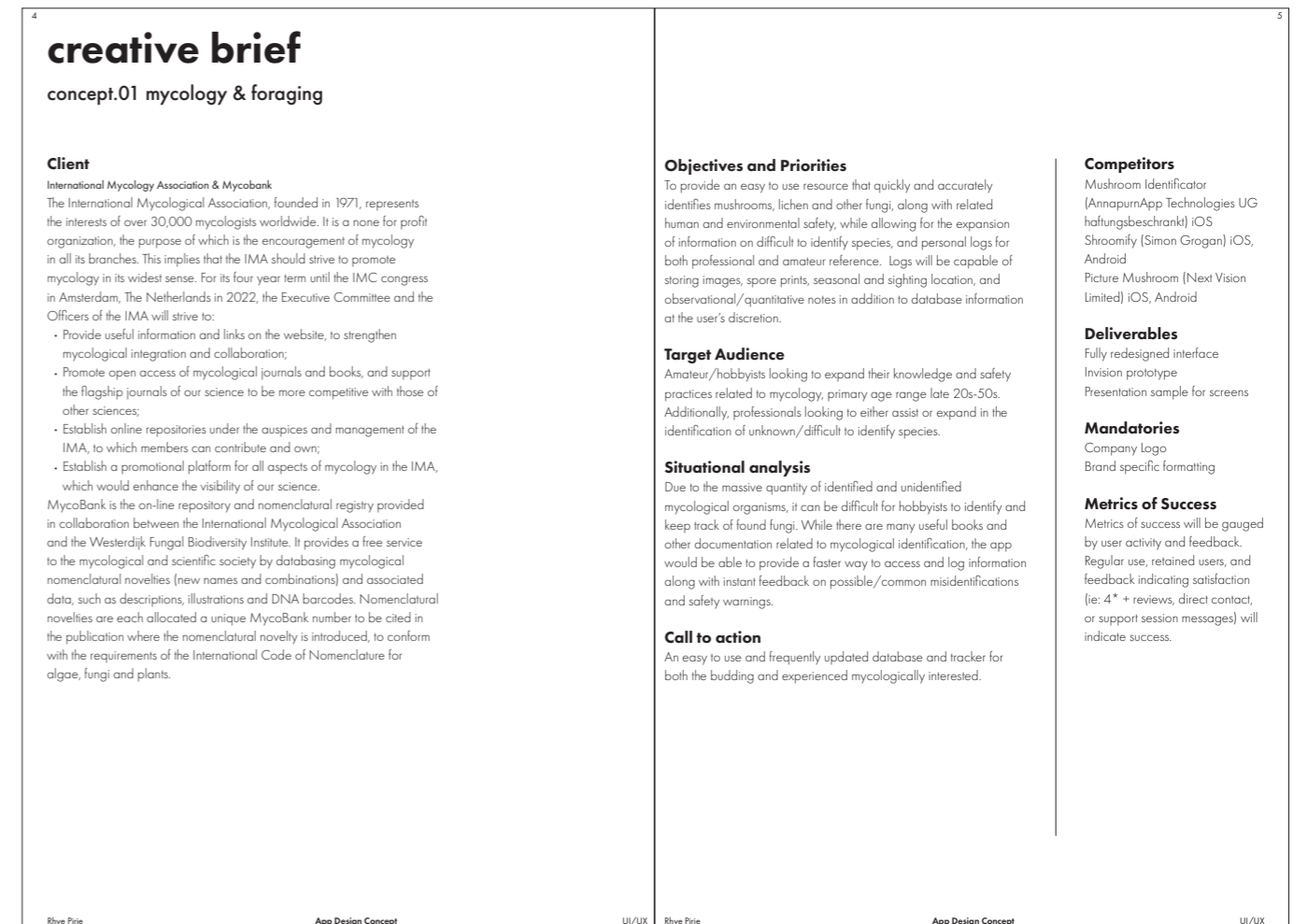
Fully redesigned interface
Invision prototype
Presentation sample for screens

Mandatories

Company Logo
Brand specific formatting

Metrics of Success

Success will be measured by user engagement. Increase in new users, along with continued and regular use of the app after user registration can be considered a success.



competitor research

mushroom identifier



publisher description

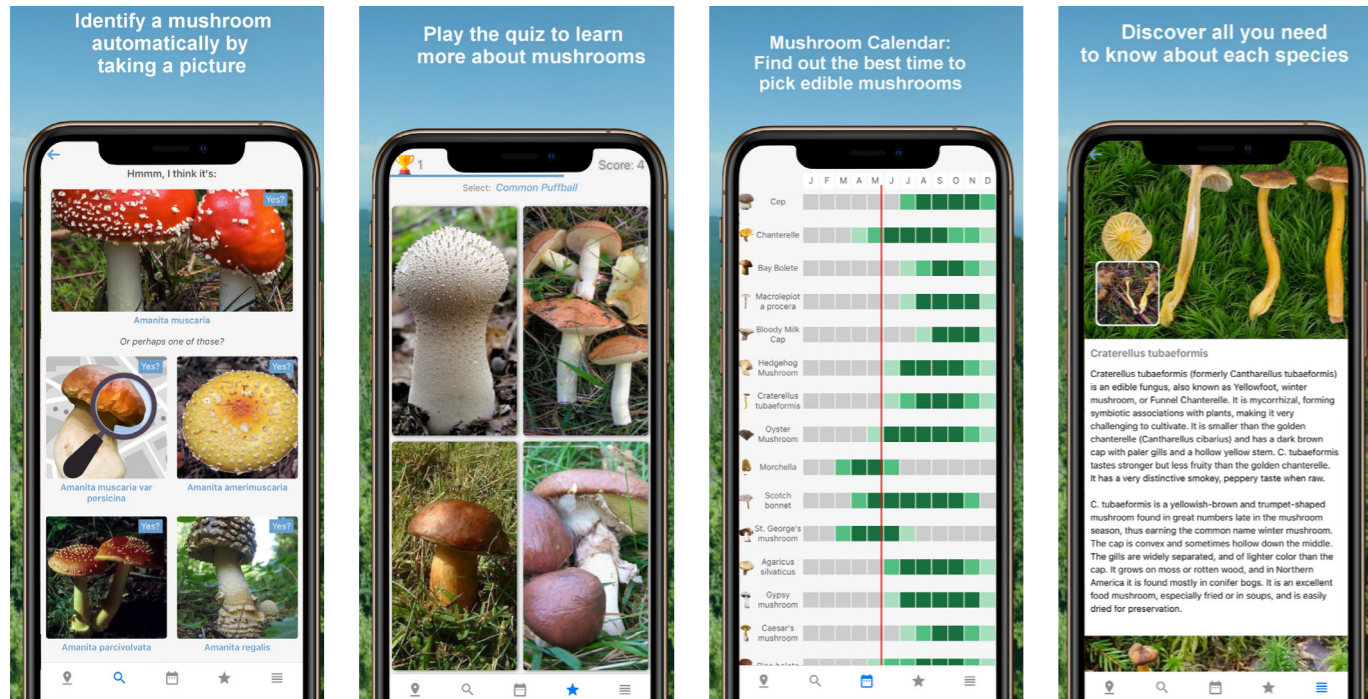
"[mushroom identifier] allows you to identify automatically the species of a mushroom from a picture. Take a photo or upload directly from your gallery, and get an answer instantly! Also included is a list of the most common edible mushrooms. For now it recognises more than 900 types of mushrooms. You can also save on a map the place where you found ceps, chanterelles, etc. Do you think you're a mushroom expert? Then take our quiz!"

reviews

app comes recommended on forums and other online sites, and has an average rating of 4.7/5 across 1.3k reviews. a relatively small data pool overall, but seems to be very well received.

relevance + evaluation

application appears to have a decent amount of relevant information on the individual mushrooms in their recognizable list. however, 900 is fairly small pool in relationship to the thousands of identified mushrooms in scientific databases. quiz feature, although a bit gimmicky, is an engaging way to test surface-level knowledge, although it raises some concerns about creating a false sense of security when there are many look-a-like species where one is safe and another may be highly toxic. layout is by no means atrocious, but could use some work in overall aesthetics, ie; margins, typography, navigation bar. on a more positive note the photos are of good quality and variety.



shroomify



publisher description

"Quick and easy to use, you simply select the characteristics of the fungi you would like to identify and the in-app algorithms work out the most likely matching mushrooms. You can also view the 'Top 20' of the month which lists all the common Fungi you can find in the month you are in. If you are a keen mushroom forager / hunter then there's lots of useful info, including the edibility of all mushrooms listed and a list of good edible mushrooms that grow in your country. The app comes pre-loaded with over 400 common Fungi and over 1000 images."

reviews

overall good reviews, although review pool is relatively small. notable average to negative reviews cite lack of look-a-like and hit-or-miss identification.

relevance + evaluation

seasonal and location information is excellent for foragers, however, given the reviews noting concern for misidentification and no lookalike information or warnings is a major safety concern, particularly for amateur foragers. although overall information needs expansion, that which is included has reference links and is still useful, such as size, color, and multiple images per specimen. the aesthetics and layout both could be improved. overall aesthetics are outdated and poorly design and layout is inconsistent.



picture mushroom



publisher description

“Instantly identify mushrooms!
Simply take or upload a picture of a mushroom.”

reviews

app has overall positive reviews, with an average of 4.7/5, and a larger review pool than other similar apps. subscriber reviews are generally more positive than the free user ones, which often list pop-up ads and lack of important info such as common medicinal or culinary uses and lookalikes for reasons of poor rating.

relevance + evaluation

the app has overall good aesthetics, clean and easy-to-use layout. information on identification is useful, if slightly lacking, but features multiple photos at various stages of growth which is beneficial. safety, lookalike, and use info is either limited or occasionally incorrect/misleading.

garden answers plant id



publisher description

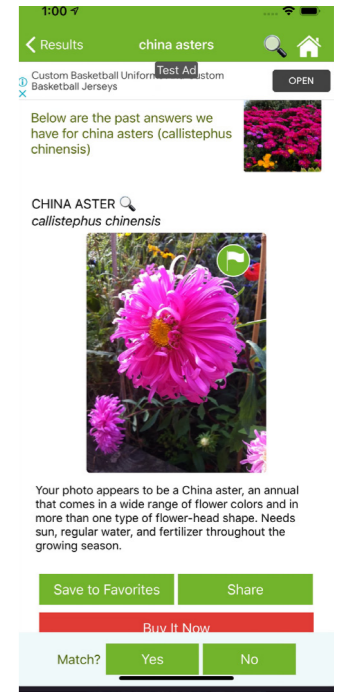
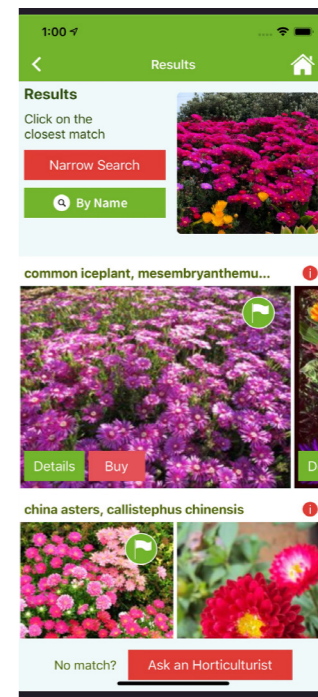
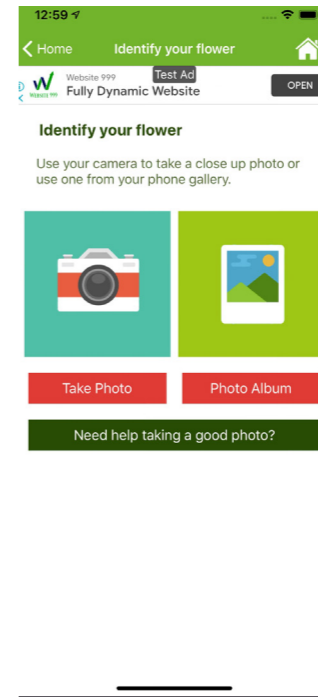
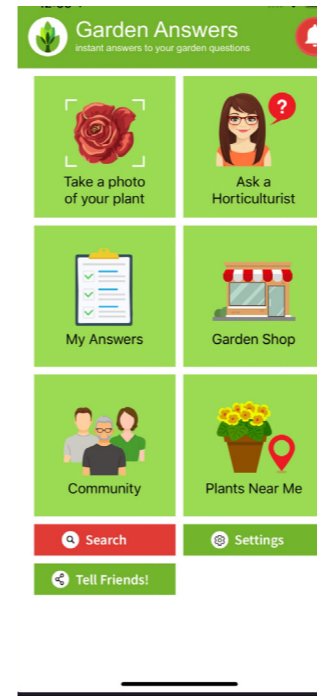
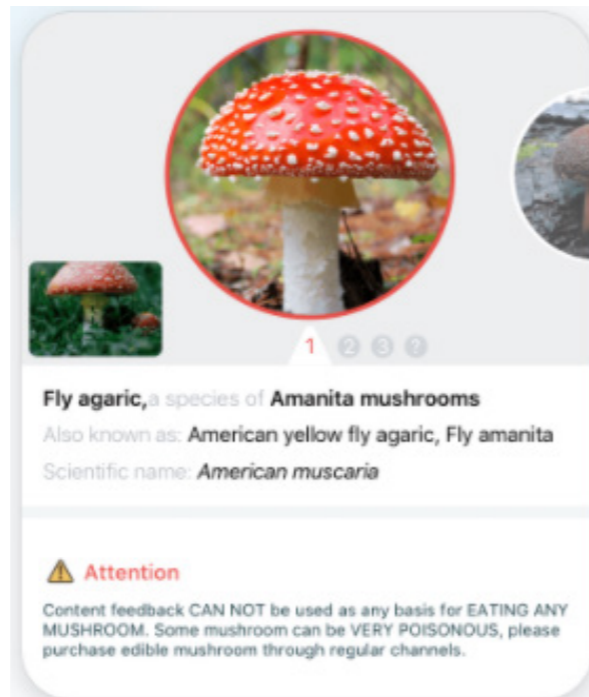
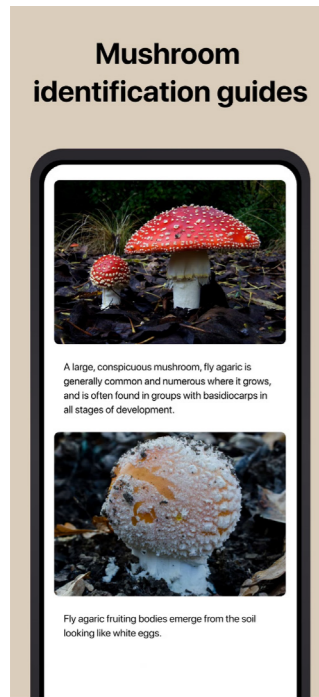
“Have you ever wanted to easily identify a flower or plant? Now you can with my Garden Answers Plant Identification app. Just snap a picture, tap submit and instantly you will get the accurate identity of the plant and detailed information about it by garden and horticulture experts! Our advanced image recognition technology can instantly identify over 20,000 plants. And if you’re concerned about a plant disease or insect infestation, you can use the keyword search feature within Garden Answers. It contains answers to over 200,000 commonly asked plant questions.”

reviews

app has decent reviews with 4/5 stars, again, a relatively small data pool. positive reviews cite consistent identification and good support from trained botanists. poor reviews cite failure to identify common/easily identifiable plants

relevance + evaluation

overall poor/outdated aesthetics, and irritating/poor ad placement, although the latter is somewhat unavoidable with apps funded by ad revenue. professional identification help is an excellent feature.



leafsnap



publisher description

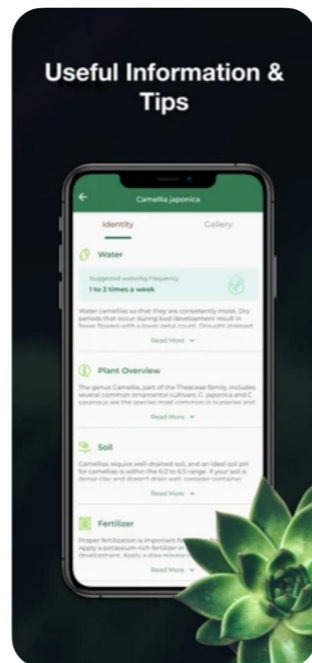
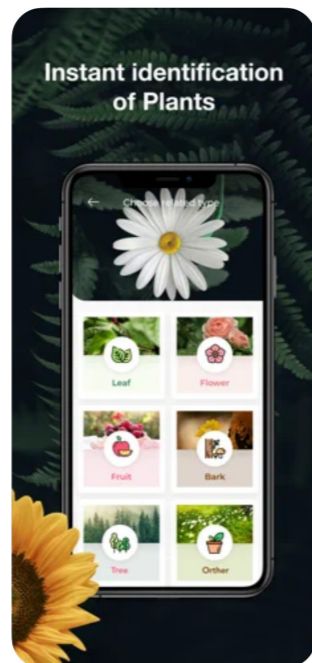
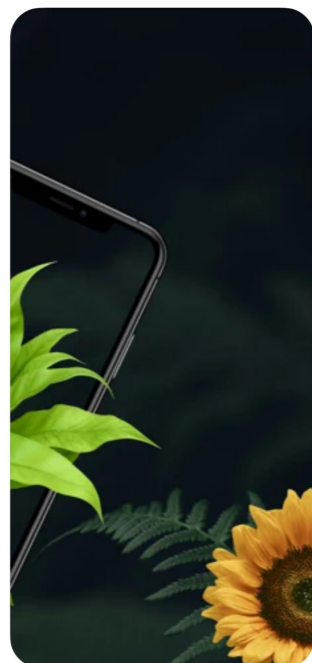
"Instantly identify plants around you and learn how to care for them. When you discover a beautiful wildflower or unusual-looking shrub, and you struggle to discern its genus. Instead of wasting time trawling through websites or asking your gardener friends, why not simply take a snap and have an app do the work for you? Plant Identification can currently recognize 90% of all known species of plants and trees, covering most of the species you will encounter in every country on Earth."

reviews

app has overall positive reviews and a small, but still notably larger review pool than other related apps. negative reviews mention persistent requests for reviews or scammy ads.

relevance + evaluation

layout and interface have a clean design, tips and information are relevant. however, 90% identification of all plants and trees is likely an exaggerated claim.



plantsnap pro



publisher description

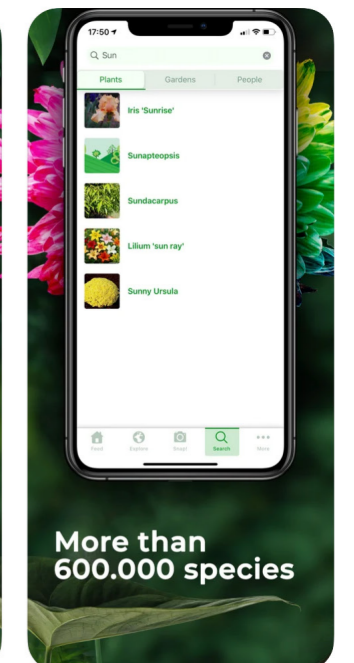
"Instantly identify over 600,000 types of plants: flowers, trees, succulents, mushrooms, cacti and more with PlantSnap!"

reviews

app has overall positive ratings, but a fair amount of critical or negative review content; appears as though ratings are regularly updated with higher stars after developer response. critical reviews note poor identification accuracy, failure to properly identify multiple plants that should be easily recognized, or frequent need to send images for identification as the database fails to recognize them. reviews also mention poor customer support for a more expensive app, which in reading dev responses seems to be an accurate statement. dev responses are typically professional on positive reviews, but not so much on average to negative ones, blaming user error or other reasons for poor user experience rather than using feedback to improve.

relevance + evaluation

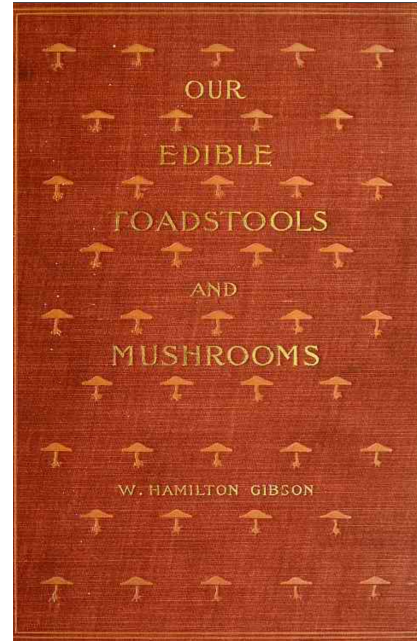
overall aesthetics & community/social aspects are clean and uncluttered, but feel a bit inconsistent stylistically between tabs. database/identification appears to need work still, based on user reviews.



comparative research

our edible toadstools and mushrooms

W. HAMILTON GIBSON



summary

an overview of 30 mycological species and how to identify them, along with uses, safety, and ecological conservation and best practices.

relevance

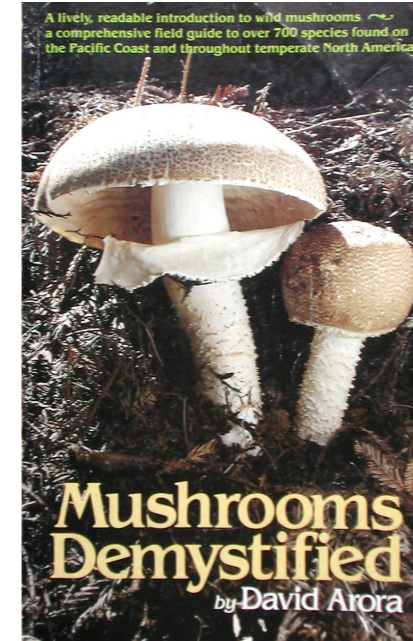
guidebook is aimed at a general and non-professional audience, and while a bit outdated, provides useful information on a variety of relevant topics. additionally addresses its own limitations, and is rich with cited information. addresses some cultural/political context about the "distrust" of fungi and mushrooms in the united states as well.

useful take-aways

- cater to audience knowledge level, and appropriately word/provide information so that it is both comprehensive and understandable.
- address proper/safe AND improper/unsafe ways to identify species and their toxicity
- general and specific information on habitat and identification

mushrooms demystified

DAVID ARORA



summary

"includes descriptions and keys to more than 2,000 species of mushrooms, with more than 950 photographs. Mushroom authority David Arora provides a beginner's checklist of the 70 most distinctive and common mushrooms, plus detailed chapters on terminology, classification, habitats, mushroom cookery, mushroom toxins, and the meanings of scientific mushroom names. Beginning and experienced mushroom hunters everywhere will find MUSHROOMS DEMYSTIFIED a delightful, informative, and indispensable companion."

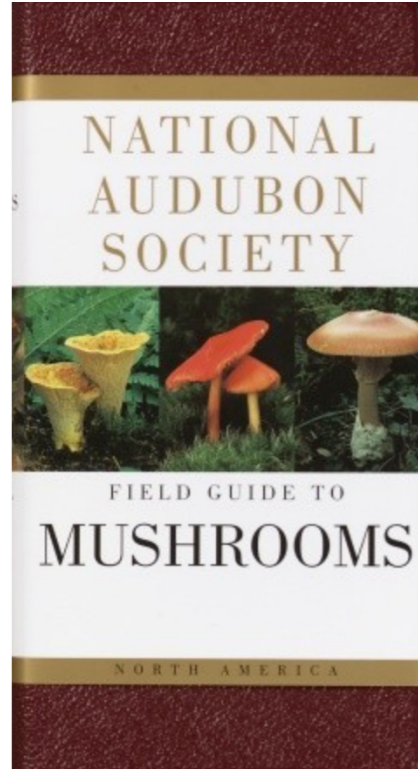
relevance

guidebook provides content and information across multiple levels of knowledge and experience. .

useful take-aways

- allow for more advanced information to be accessible to the user should they desire it
- meanings of scientific naming structures
- explanation and use of dichotomous identification.

The Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms



summary

"guide to north american mushrooms, with over 700 full-color identification photographs organized visually by color and shape, the National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Mushrooms is the perfect companion for any mushroom hunting expedition. Each species is accompanied by a detailed physical description, information on edibility, season, habitat, range, look-alikes, alternative names, and facts on edible and poisonous species, uses, and folklore. A supplementary section on cooking and eating wild mushrooms, and illustrations identifying the parts of a mushroom, round out this essential guide."

relevance

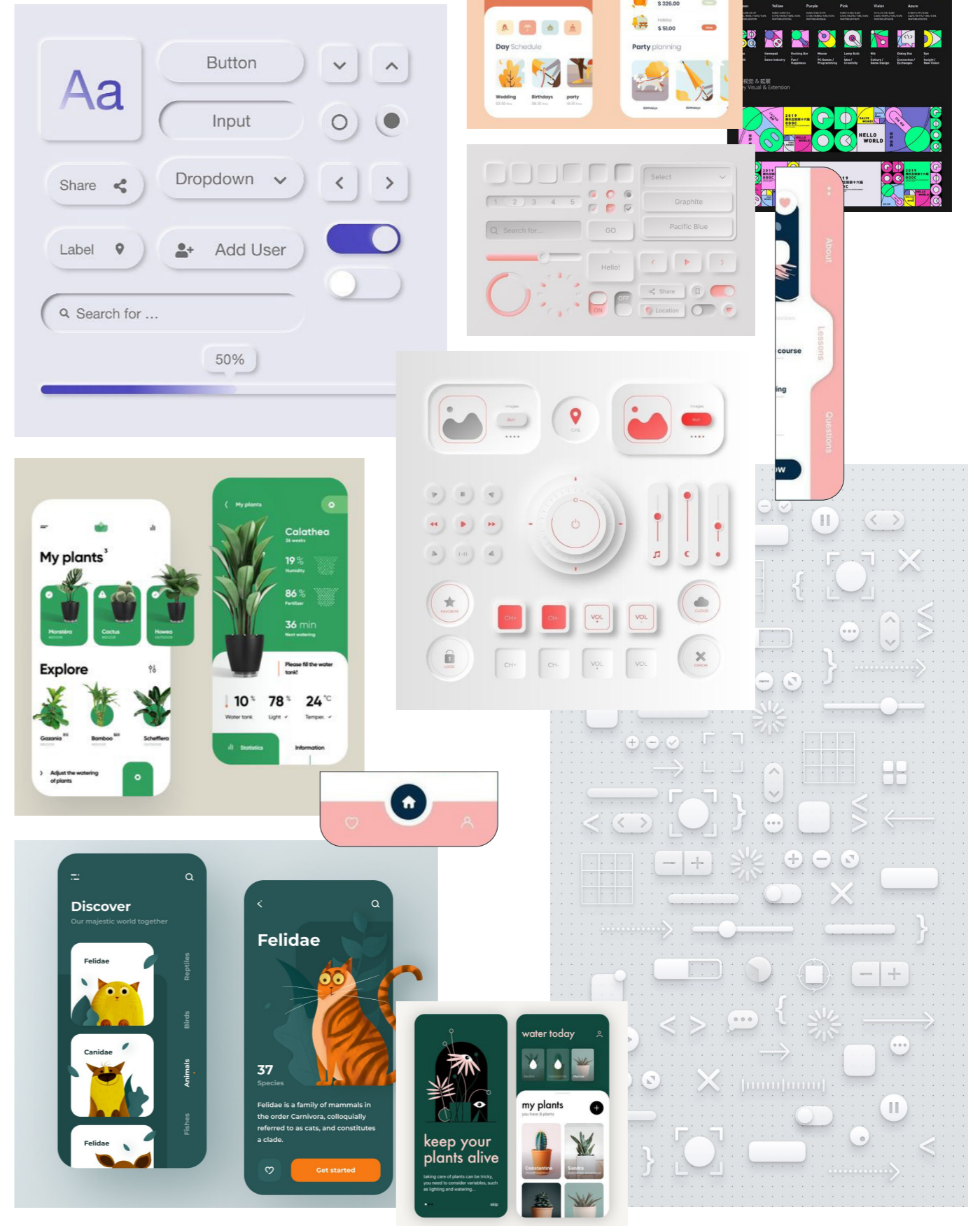
less comprehensive than Arora's Demystifying Mushrooms, but has a more specific and larger number of color images. Useful as a daypack guidebook, specifically for identification, although there are some sections on uses as well.

useful take-aways

- color images, as well as quantity and quality of images is important
- organization of guide by color and shape of fungi parts is easier for user navigation

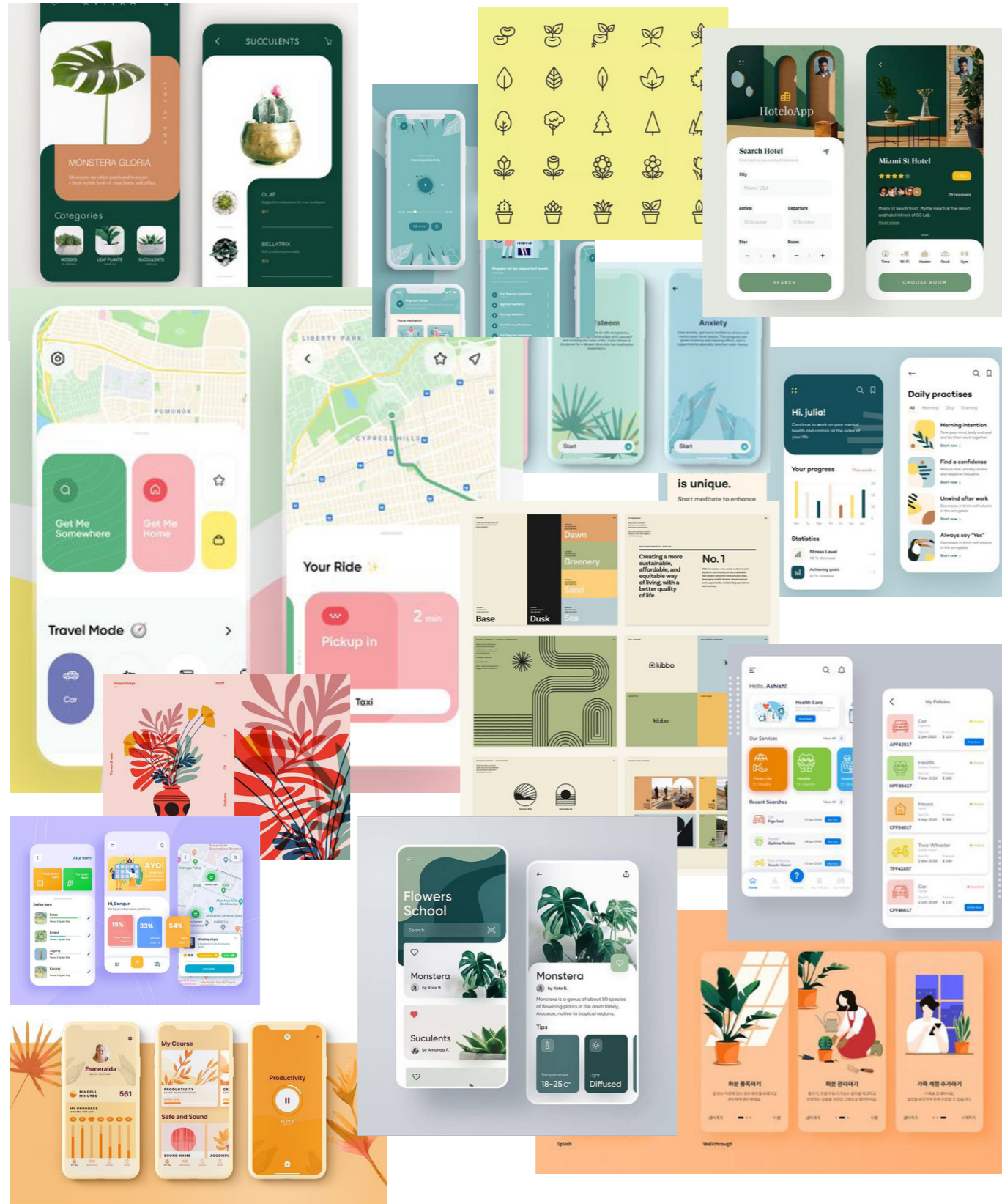
moodboard

buttons, navigation, sliders



moodboard

graphics + image styling



user research

concept proposal

01

app objectives

to provide an easy to use resource that quickly and accurately identifies mushrooms, lichen and other fungi, along with related human and environmental safety, while allowing for the expansion of information on difficult to identify species, and personal logs for both professional and amateur reference. logs will be capable of storing images, spore prints, seasonal and sighting location, and observational/quantitative notes in addition to database information at the user's discretion.

02

content overview

content and features to be included, this list is in no particular order.

- ◇ embedded information from database, that updates with when new or revised information is recognized. searchable by:
 - name (common)
 - name (scientific)
 - visual cues/identifying features (color, size, cap/stem shape, etc.)
 - region
 - type or family
- ◇ personal user log/journal
 - found/identified species
 - searching for
 - cultivation
- ◇ general guides
 - best practices/general foraging
 - cultivation
 - environmental courtesy
 - seasonal/regional availability
 - classifications and identification
 - common misidentifications + safety warning
- ◇ user account (optional)
 - required only for data backups and forum use
- ◇ forum
 - for help with difficult identifications
 - sharing finds/cultivations

questionnaire

01. what is your level of knowledge regarding mycology?

- none, what's mycology?
- basic. mushroom study?
- general, i could identify a mushroom in the grocery store without the signs if i had to
- enthusiast, i am interested in mycology, and have a strong understanding of nomenclature and standard identification techniques, and/or additionally have had success in cultivation
- professional, i have studied or career in mycology or a related academic field

02. are you interested in expanding your knowledge?

- yes
- no

03. have you foraged or gone mushroom hunting before?

- no
- no, but i am interested
- yes, but only once or twice
- yes, i forage on occasion
- yes, often!

04. would you be interested in an app to assist in foraging and identification?

- yes
- no
- no, i prefer physical guidebooks or other tools

05. would you benefit from any of the following features?

- seasonal guides
- region-based guides
- sporeprint-related information

other, (please write-in) _____

user profiles

data results from user research questionnaire

user profile.01

demographics

age.....31
 region.....pacific northwest
 occupation..... forest engineering,
 resources and
 management

responses

01. what is your level of knowledge regarding mycology?
 none basic **general**
 enthusiast professional

02. are you interested in expanding your knowledge?
yes no

03. have you foraged or gone mushroom hunting before?
 no no but am interested
yes, once or twice
 yes, occasionally yes, often

04. would you be interested in an app to assist?
yes no no, prefer other tools

05. would you benefit from any of the following?
seasonal guides region-based guides
spore-print related info
other (write in):
 • how poisonous the lookalikes are
 • what young vs. old mushrooms look like

user profile.02

demographics

age.....61
 region.....pacific northwest
 occupation.....trauma resources
 and therapy

responses

what is your level of knowledge regarding mycology?
 none basic **general** enthusiast
 professional

are you interested in expanding your knowledge?
yes no

have you foraged or gone mushroom hunting before?
 no **no but am interested** yes, once or twice
 yes, occasionally yes, often

would you be interested in an app to assist?
yes no no, prefer other tools

would you benefit from any of the following?
seasonal guides region-based guides
spore-print related info
other (write in):
 • photos of spore/gill; stem; cap;
 • lookalikes or mushrooms that can be mistaken for other species

user profile.03

demographics

age.....22
region.....pacific northwest
occupation.....barista

responses

- 01. what is your level of knowledge regarding mycology?
none basic **general** enthusiast professional
- 02. are you interested in expanding your knowledge?
yes no
- 03. have you foraged or gone mushroom hunting before?
no no but am interested **yes, once or twice**
yes, occasionally yes, often
- 04. would you be interested in an app to assist?
yes no no, prefer other tools
- 05. would you benefit from any of the following?
seasonal guides region-based guides
spore-print related info
other (write in):
• lookalike information

user profile.04

demographics

age.....24
region.....northeast ohio
occupation.....veterinary technician

responses

- 01. what is your level of knowledge regarding mycology?
none **basic** general enthusiast professional
- 02. are you interested in expanding your knowledge?
yes **no**
- 03. have you foraged or gone mushroom hunting before?
no no but am interested
yes, once or twice
yes, occasionally yes, often
- 04. would you be interested in an app to assist?
yes **no** no, prefer other tools
- 05. would you benefit from any of the following?
seasonal guides region-based guides spore-print related info
other (write in):

user profiles

data results from user research questionnaire

user profile.05

demographics

age.....30
region.....northeast ohio
occupation.....retail

responses

- 01. what is your level of knowledge regarding mycology?
none basic general enthusiast professional
- 02. are you interested in expanding your knowledge?
yes **no**
- 03. have you foraged or gone mushroom hunting before?
no **no but am interested**
yes, once or twice
yes, occasionally yes, often
- 04. would you be interested in an app to assist?
yes **no** no, prefer other tools
- 05. would you benefit from any of the following?
seasonal guides region-based guides spore-print related info
other (write in):

app identity

possible color themes

theme.01



primary
bg color
button text

secondary
buttons
alt section color

paragraphs +
headers

accent.01

accent.02

accent.03

theme.02



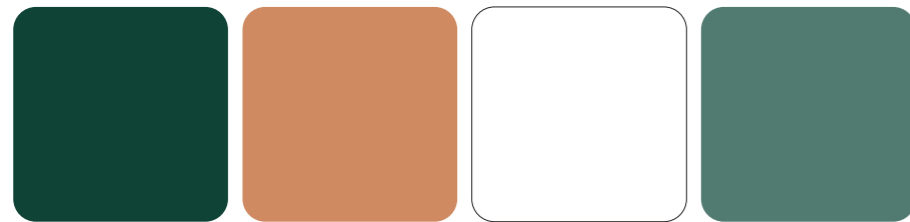
primary
bg
button text

secondary
buttons
alt section color

paragraph +
headers

accent color

theme.03



primary
bg color
button text

secondary
buttons
alt section color

tertiary
text color.01
alt section color

accent.01
text color.02

theme.04



primary
bg color
section color.01
button text.01

secondary
button color.01
button color.02

tertiary
accent.01
section color.02

accent.02

accent.03
accent.04

theme.05 light mode



primary
bg color

secondary
buttons
alt section color

paragraphs
headers
button text

accent.01

accent.02

theme.05 dark mode



primary
bg color
button text

secondary
buttons
paragraphs +
headers

accent.01

accent.02

accent.03

theme.06 light mode



primary
bg color
button text.01

secondary
headers
paragraph
button text.02

tertiary
buttons.01
accent.01

buttons.02
paragraph.02

accent.02

accent.03

theme.06 dark mode



primary
bg color
button text

secondary
paragraph.01
section color.01

tertiary
buttons
headers

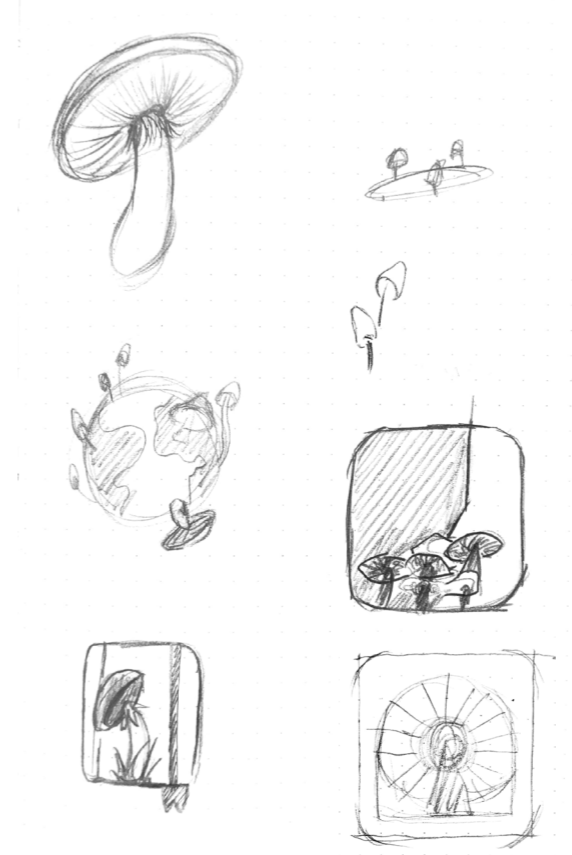
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theme selection + logo mark

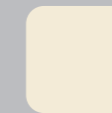


forager
forager
forager



forager

forager



poppins regular

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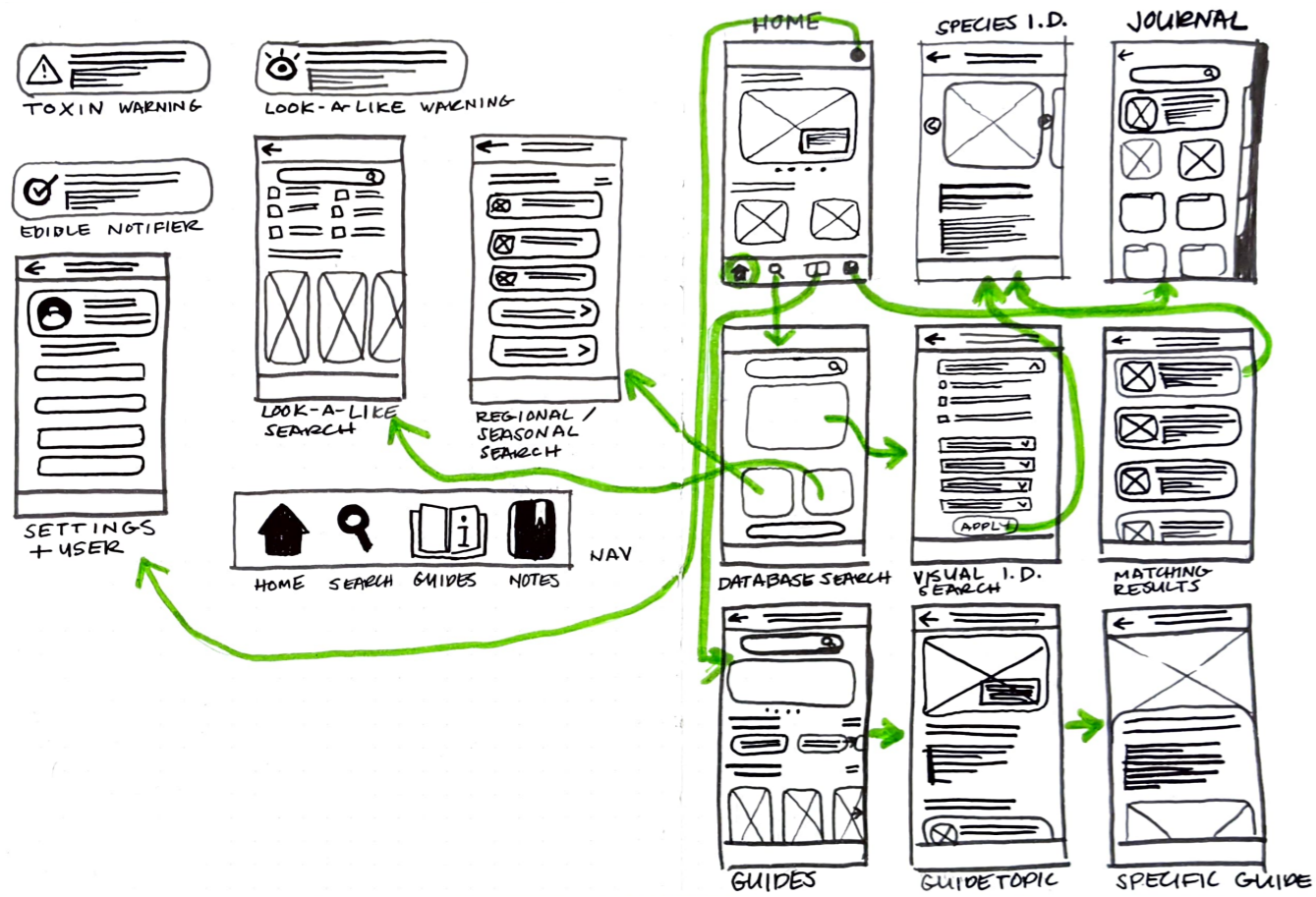
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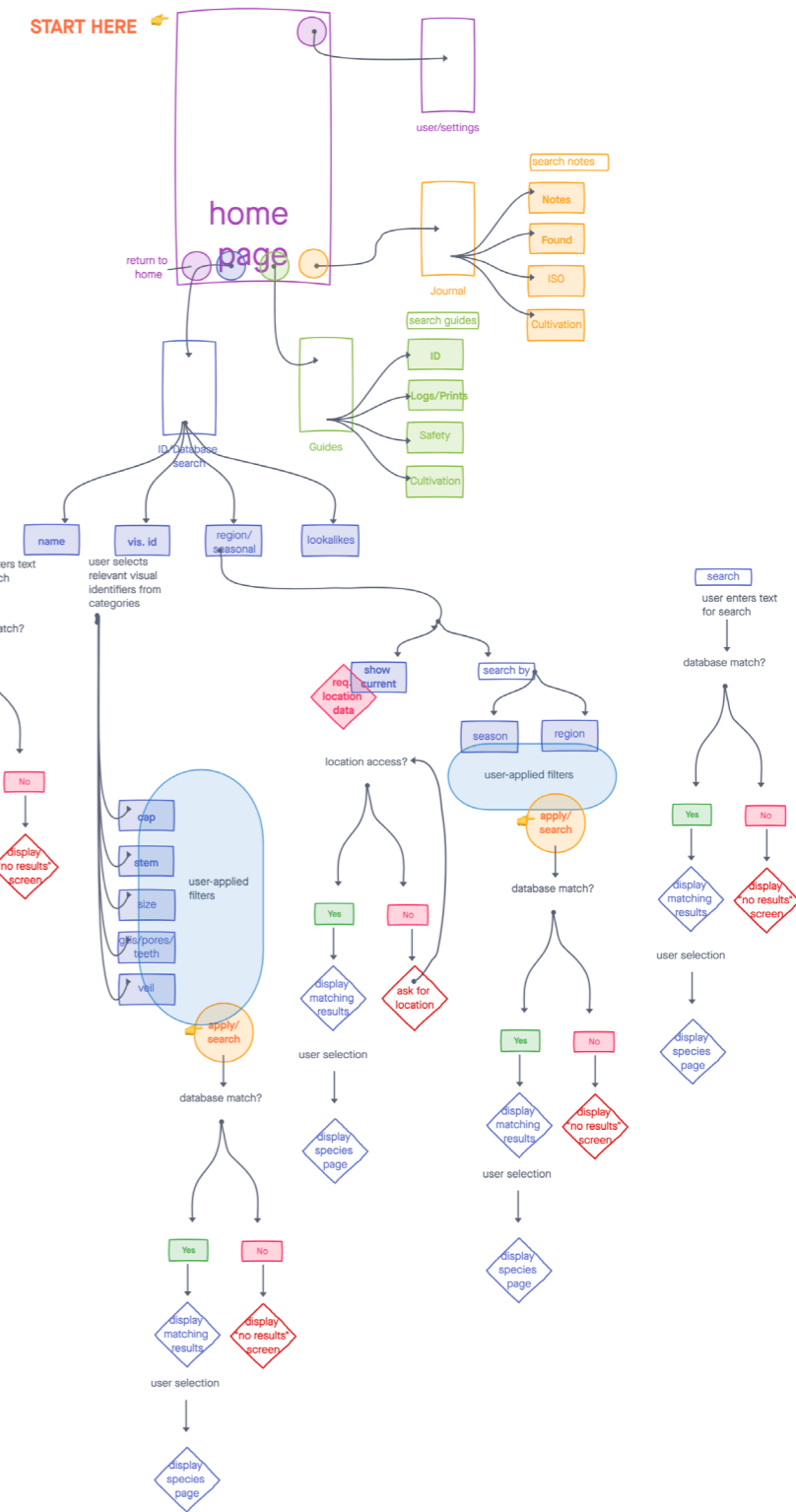
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wireframes

sketches

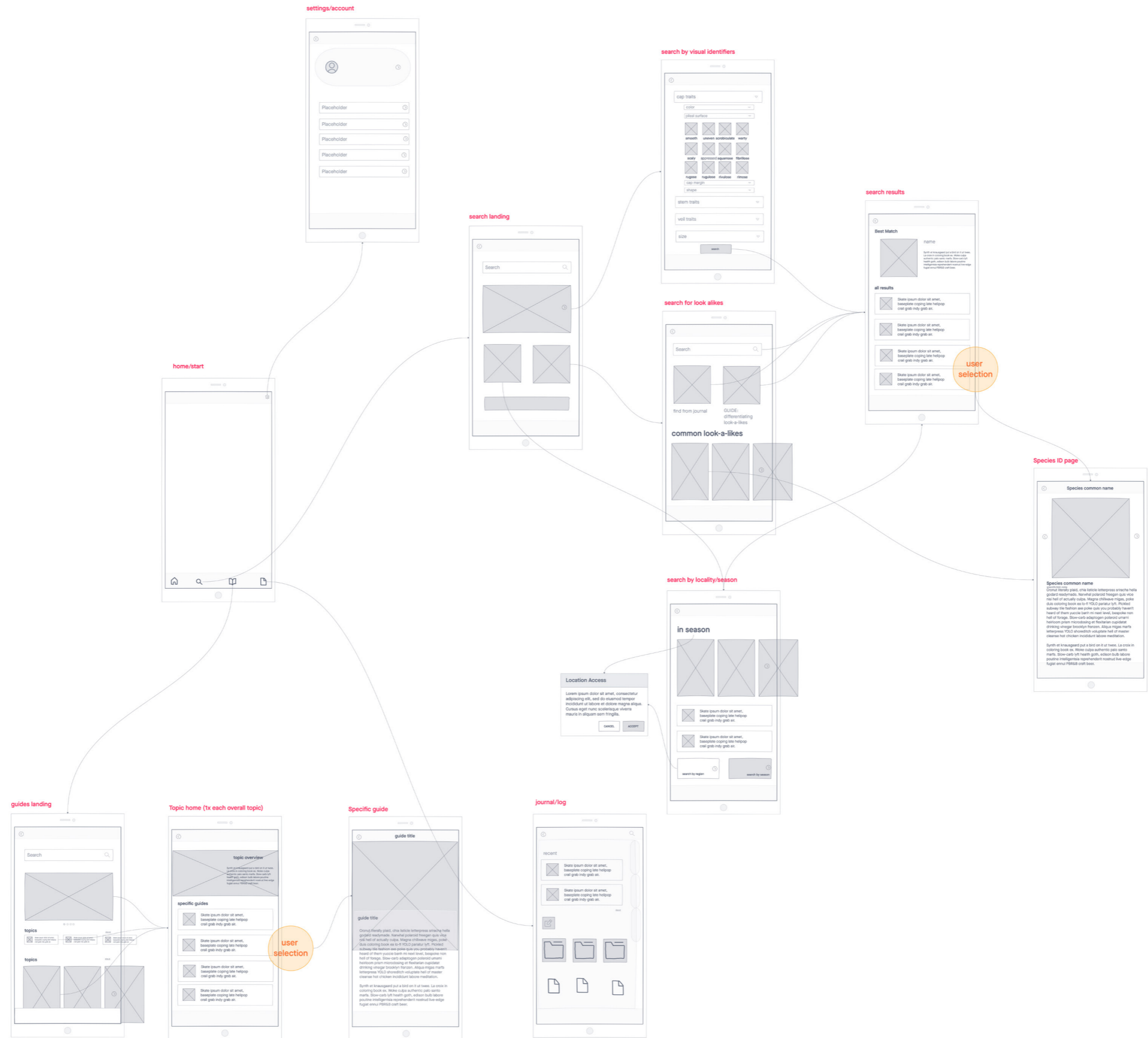


invision flow-chart



wireframes

invision sketch + flow



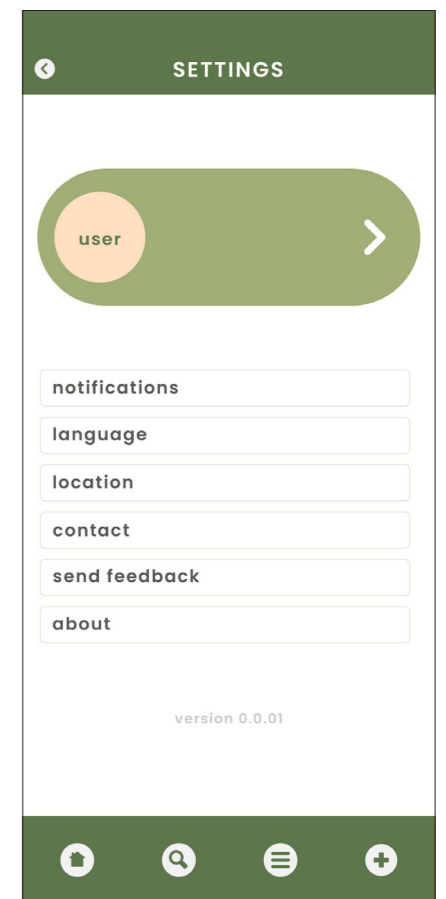
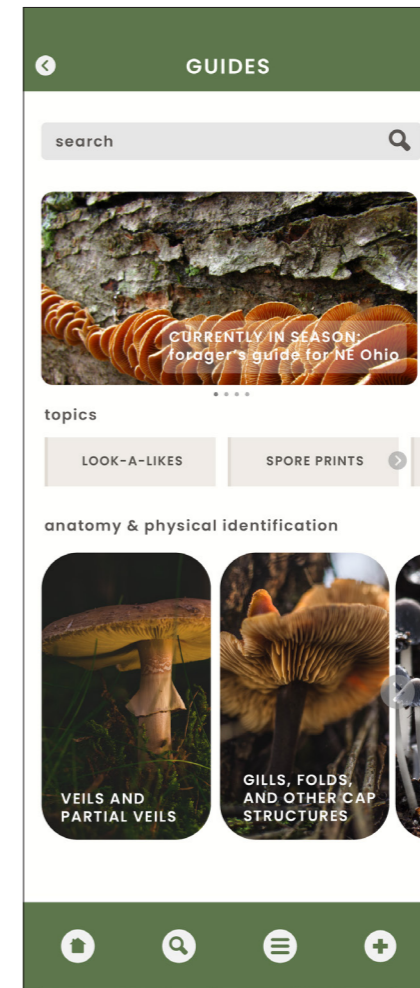
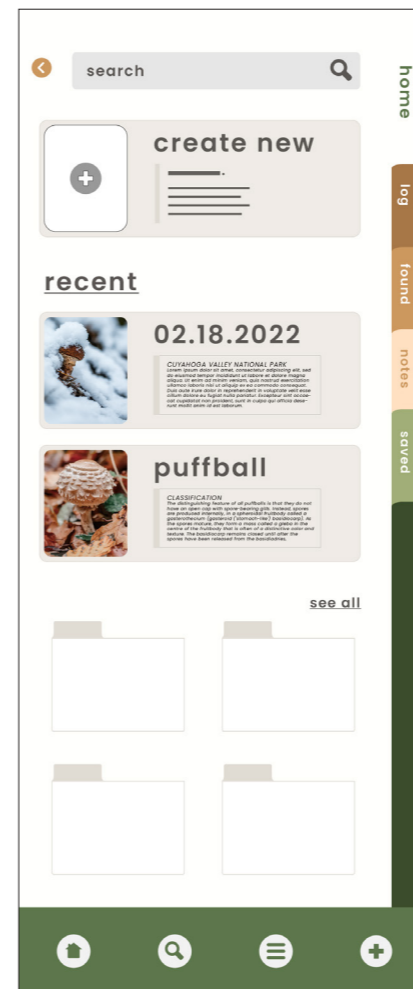
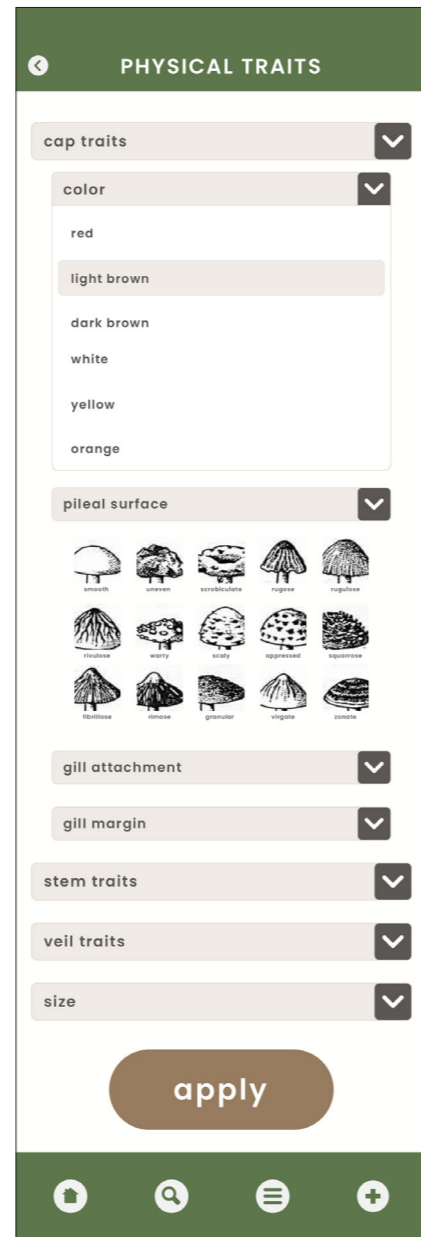
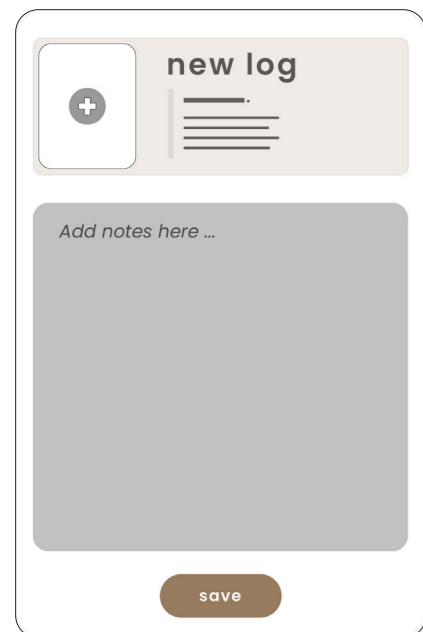
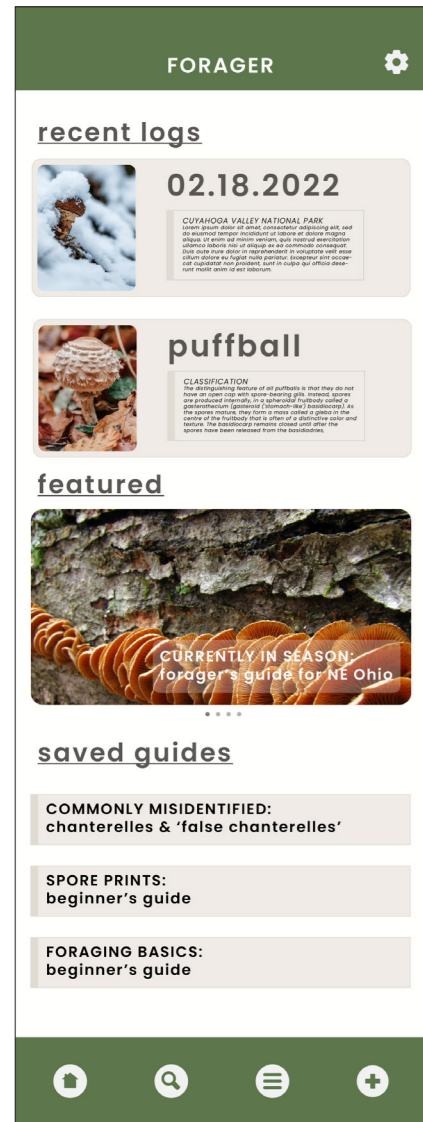
wireframes

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screens

full flush version.01





GUIDES

LOOK-A-LIKES

chanterelles & 'false chanterelles'

Chanterelles are a commonly foraged mushroom for culinary use. While these fungi would make an excellent find, there are several inedible look-a-likes that are easily mistaken for their tasty counterparts. This guide outlines key differences and ways to tell a true Chanterelle from a false one. That being said...

We do have a couple of **WARNINGS**

Side effects from consuming inedible fungi can range from mild indigestion to severe cramps and diarrhea, and while consuming a look-a-like mushroom is not often fatal, it is also not impossible to be severely poisoned.

Never consume foraged mushrooms unless you are 100% certain of identification. It is highly recommended to gain your bearings with identification before attempting to collect edible mushrooms for culinary use. Check with your local mycological clubs or associations to see if they offer classes, or if they have members willing to guide new foragers.



Pacific Northwest Golden Chanterelle
Cantharellus cibarius

The most common, and generally regarded 'best' way to differentiate between Chanterelles and look-a-likes is from the gill structure.

True Chanterelles have 'false gills', which are a structure that looks like folds or intertwining wrinkles on the underside of the mushroom cap. The false gills on Chanterelles are decurrent, meaning that they run down onto the stem, rather than being contained to the cap area. Additionally, false gills may have a melting appearance, and cannot be easily separated from the cap without ripping or damaging the flesh.

False Chanterelles (*Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca*) and Jack-O-Lantern Mushrooms, two of the most commonly mistaken look-a-likes, both have 'true gills'. True gills are thin or blade-like in appearance, and are individual structures not connected to each other. Unlike the false gills found on a true Chanterelle, they can be separated from the cap with relative ease. The false Chanterelle has a forked gill, which is part of what makes the identification process difficult. However, they are still a true gill structure, where each gill is individual rather than folded or connected to another. Take a look at the image of a false chanterelle below, and a true one above to see how a forked true-gill and a false gill may look similar at first glance, but are structurally different.

If you're having a hard time visualizing true gills, think button mushrooms or portobellos that you would find in the grocery store. Both have a true gill structure.



False Chanterelle
Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca

Look-a-likes can also be differentiated from true Chanterelles by color, although this can be less definitive than gill structure. It is best practice to use as many methods as possible to attain accurate identification.

Chanterelles are typically a light to medium yellow, with fairly consistent coloring throughout. This means that barring bruising or other damage, a Chanterelle will not have rings, spots, or graded areas of color present.

False Chanterelles are more orange with little to no color in yellow ranges. They are often graded in color with a deeper tone at the center of the cap than on the edges. Additionally, the stem is typically a deeper orange, unlike the more uniform coloring of a true Chanterelle.

SOURCES

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AMANITA MUSCARIA



CAUTION: TOXICITY; NEUROTOXIN.
While death on consumption is rare, poisoning has occurred in young children and adults upon consumption.
TAP BANNER TO JUMP TO SECTION

LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING
Although typically not deadly, some conditions such as age of growth, and weather effects can produce look-a-like aesthetic properties in *amanita muscaria*, which has caused mis-identification for edible species.
TAP BANNER FOR MORE INFO & IMAGES

Amanita Muscaria
Common names: Fly Agaric, Fly Amanita

OVERVIEW
Amanita muscaria is characterized by a brightly colored cap with whitish warts, white gills, membranous ring, and volva consisting of a series of scaly concentric rings above the basal bulb. Cap color can vary from red to orange, and shades of yellow or tan to white depending on weather, growing conditions, and variety, and may change with age throughout the life of the mushroom.

SUBGENUS Amanita

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND IDENTIFIERS

CAP	5-30(40)cm across, spherical becoming convex then flat to slightly depressed; 1) bright red to blood-red, scarlet-red or orange-red often fading to orange, yellow-orange or paler (var. <i>flavivolvata</i> [southern and western North America]); 2) can be bright yellow-orange to yellow fading (var. <i>formosa</i> - most common variety in eastern North America but found in Pacific Northwest as well); 3) white to buff to silvery-grayish-white (var. <i>alba</i> - northern); covered at first with pyramidal warts (which are whitish to pale yellowish tan (var. <i>flavivolvata</i>), pallid or tan to yellow (var. <i>formosa</i>)), buff or tan (var. <i>alba</i>); warts flattened when old, often wearing away or washed off by rain, cap viscid when moist, margin usually at least somewhat striate.
FLESH	thick, firm when young, soft when old; white
GILLS	adnate or adnexed to free, broad, close; white, free or slightly attached, crowded, broad, whitish
STEM	5-20(30)cm x 1-3(4)cm at top, widening downward or equal with a basal bulb up to 6cm wide; white to whitish or somewhat discolored when old, smooth or with ragged scales below ring, 5-18cm x 0.3-3cm
VOLVA	consists of series of scaly concentric rings (usually 2-4) at top of basal bulb, seen as concentric rings or patches of creamy to yellowish tan tissue around an enlarged base,
VEIL	membranous, usually forming a thin, persistent, median to superior, skirt-like ring that may collapse when old; ring white or with yellow patches, margin often torn or toothed, (Arora), ring membranous, median to superior, white with yellowish edge, often falling away
ODOR	faint
EDIBILITY	NOT for culinary use. see: TOXICITY
HABITAT	single or scattered to densely gregarious or in large fairy rings, "in forests and at their edges, also with planted trees", on the ground, under Pinus (pine), Picea (spruce), and Betula (birch), also live oak and madrone in California, fruits in June to October, in California during winter, summer, fall, winter
SPORE DEPOSIT	white
MICROSCOPIC	spores 9-13 x 6.5-8 microns, elliptic, smooth, amyloid, spores (7.5)9.1-12.8(9.0) x (5.5)6.6-8.8(11.5) microns, (Lindgren), spores 9.2-11.6 x 6.4-9.5 microns, nearly round to broadly elliptic, smooth; basidia 4-spored, 40-50 x 10-13 microns, clavate, occasionally with basal clamp; pleurocystidia not seen, marginal cells basidiole-like to cystodiole-like; cap cuticle consisting of perichinal hyphae 1-4.5 microns across, strongly gelatinized, occasional septa with clamps

SOURCES

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CHANTERELLES

LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING
Mushrooms in the Chanterelle family are edible and often used in culinary applications. However, the false Chanterelle and Jack-O-Lantern mushroom are toxic and easily mistaken for Chanterelles.
TAP THIS BANNER FOR MORE INFO & IMAGES

Cantharellus Varieties
Common family name: Chanterelle

OVERVIEW
The "Chanterelle" can refer to several species of edible mushroom, which at one time were thought to be the same, but have now been found to be a related group of individual species through DNA analysis. They have a cupped or funnel-shaped cap with a thick tapered stem, and can be white, yellow, or pale orange depending on the variety. Popular for their culinary uses, they have a 'meaty' or thick but soft flesh texture.

SUBGENUS Cantharellus

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND IDENTIFIERS

CAP	Size may range from 4cm-14cm across, depending upon variety. Typically white, light to medium yellow, or golden in color, with little to no variation between cap and stem coloration. Cupped or funnel-like in shape, and fairly smooth in texture
FLESH	Raw/fresh flesh is firm and fibrous, often referred to as 'meaty'. Bruising characteristics vary between species, but overall relative resistance to bruising is noted. When bruised, the damaged areas may darken from light to dark yellow over time, and older specimens may be more easily or likely to bruise than younger ones. Interior flesh typically whitish in color.
GILLS	Under-cap structure is folded, wrinkled or ridged, often referred to as 'false gills', and runs down from cap edge onto the stem. False gill structure may be forked near edge of cap, but always presents as wrinkles or ridges, rather than individual gills. No individual gills present.
STEM	Thick-stemmed, which tapers slightly towards the base continuing the funnel shape of the cap. Smooth in texture, with no bulb around the base. Stem has solid internal structure, not hollow.
VEIL	No remnants of universal veil
ODOR	Often described as apricot-like or faintly fruity in scent
EDIBILITY	EDIBLE, both raw and cooked
HABITAT	Woodlands and forested areas. Typically near bases of trees, typically hardwoods, i.e. maple, poplar, oak. Prefers moisture and shaded areas. May also grow in other low-lying damp areas; near streams, downhill run-off areas.

SOURCES

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HYGROPHOROPSIS AURANTIACA

LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING
Mushrooms in the Chanterelle family are edible and often used in culinary applications. However, the false Chanterelle and Jack-O-Lantern mushroom are toxic and easily mistaken for Chanterelles.
TAP THIS BANNER FOR MORE INFO & IMAGES

CAUTION: INEDIBLE; TOXICITY.
While death on consumption is rare, eating false chanterelles is known to cause severe digestive reactions.
TAP BANNER TO JUMP TO SECTION

Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca
Common name: False Chanterelle

OVERVIEW
The "Chanterelle" can refer to several species of edible mushroom, which at one time were thought to be the same, but have now been found to be a related group of individual species through DNA analysis. They have a cupped or funnel-shaped cap with a thick tapered stem, and can be white, yellow, or pale orange depending on the variety. Popular for their culinary uses, they have a 'meaty' or thick but soft flesh texture.

SUBGENUS Hygrophoropsidaceae

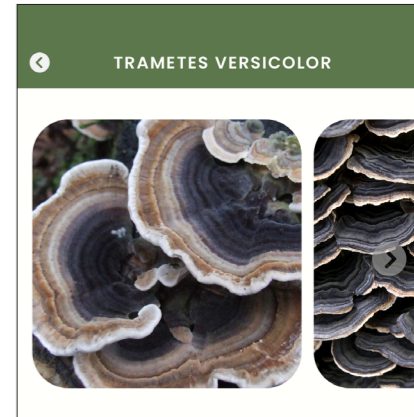
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND IDENTIFIERS

CAP	Up to 8cm across Yellow to dark orange in color, often graded from light cap edge to dark center. Flat or shallowly depressed shape; may be broadly convex.
FLESH	Flesh soft and firm in structure. Easily bruised.
GILLS	Gill structure is thin and forked near cap edge. Gills may run onto stem, but are a distinct blade-shape, not forked or ridged like the 'false gills' found on edible Chanterelles.
STEM	Thin, uniform stem. Can be darker in color than cap, but often similar to gill color.
VEIL	No remnants of universal veil
EDIBILITY	NOT EDIBLE, considered poisonous. Known to cause severe digestive problems. Contains high levels of arabinol. Symptoms may include acute stomach cramping, vomiting, and diarrhea.
HABITAT	Woodland and other damp, shaded areas. Occasionally found in landscaping materials such as woodchips.

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TRAMETES VERSICOLOR

LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING
It is not uncommon for misidentifications to be made between Turkey Tail, False Turkey Tail, and the Multicolor Gill Polypores.
TAP THIS BANNER FOR MORE INFO & IMAGES

QUESTIONABLE EDIBILITY
Not typically used in culinary applications, but some medicinal or supplemental have had notable side-effects, and no proven benefit.
TAP BANNER TO JUMP TO SECTION

Trametes versicolor
Common name: Turkey Tail

OVERVIEW
Named for their multicolored concentric patterning similar to that of wild turkeys, the turkey tail mushroom is a shelf-like fungus commonly found on trees.

GENUS Trametes

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND IDENTIFIERS

CAP	Shelf formation that is roughly kidney- or shell-like in shape, 2-8cm across long direction, 1-4cm across short direction, and 1-2mm in thickness. Zonate coloring, with concentric rings of earthy tones in orange, brown, greys and occasional greenish-hues. Fuzzy/velvety, with fine hair-like surface texture.
FLESH	Thin and flexible.
PORES	Under-cap which to light grey in color and structure has a visible pore formation, typically 3-8 pores per mm.
STEM	No visible stem, grows in 'shelf' formation.
VEIL	No remnants of universal veil
EDIBILITY	Questionable edibility. Not typically used in culinary applications. Some medicinal or therapeutic uses have been noted, however there is no evidence supporting claims of benefit from consumption; this fungi is classified as 'not generally recognized as safe' by the FDA. Sometimes sold in an extracted form as "PSK Supplement", which has been reported to cause effects of diarrhea and change in fingernail color.
HABITAT	North American woodlands and forested areas. Typically on dead and/or decomposing hardwoods.

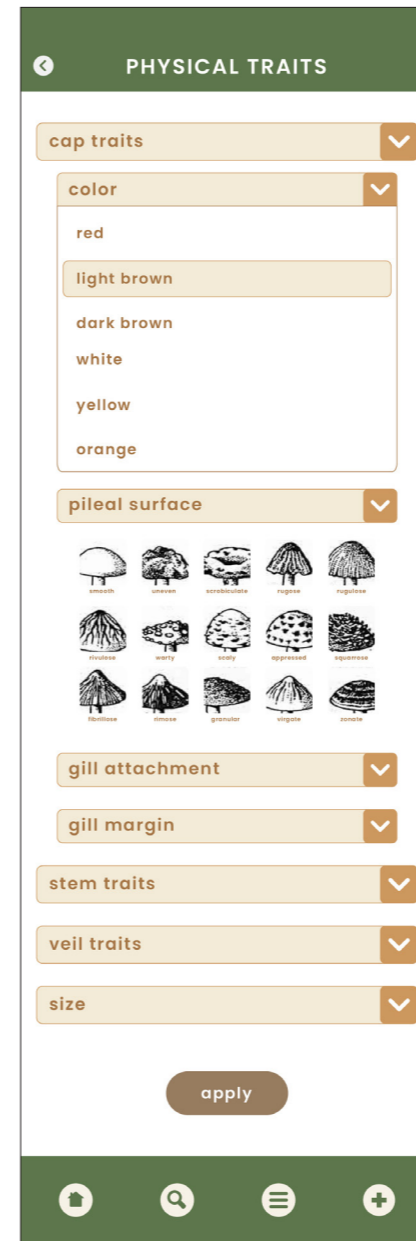
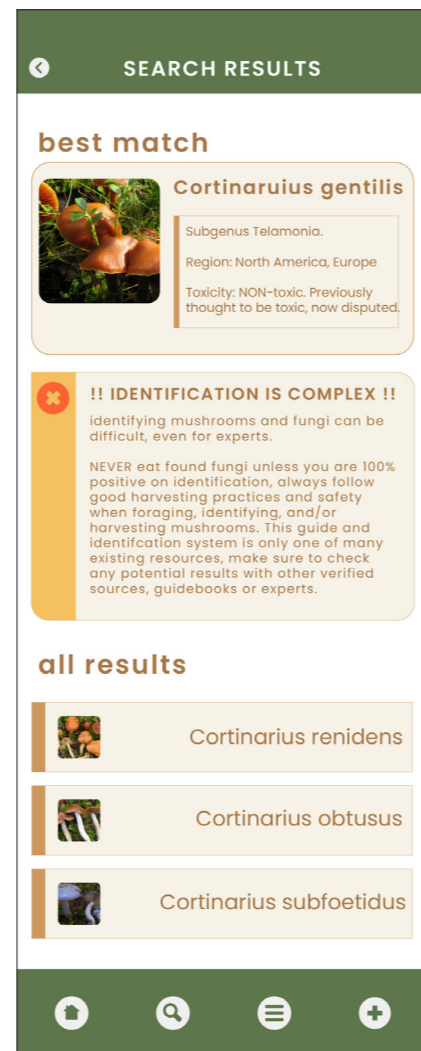
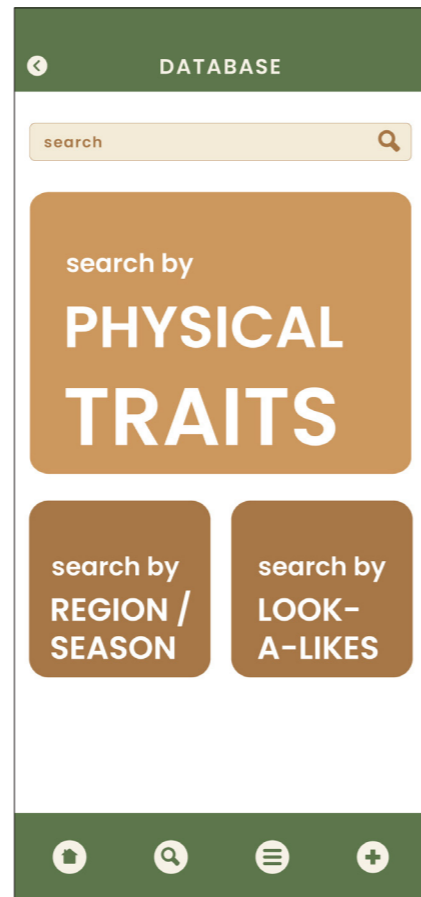
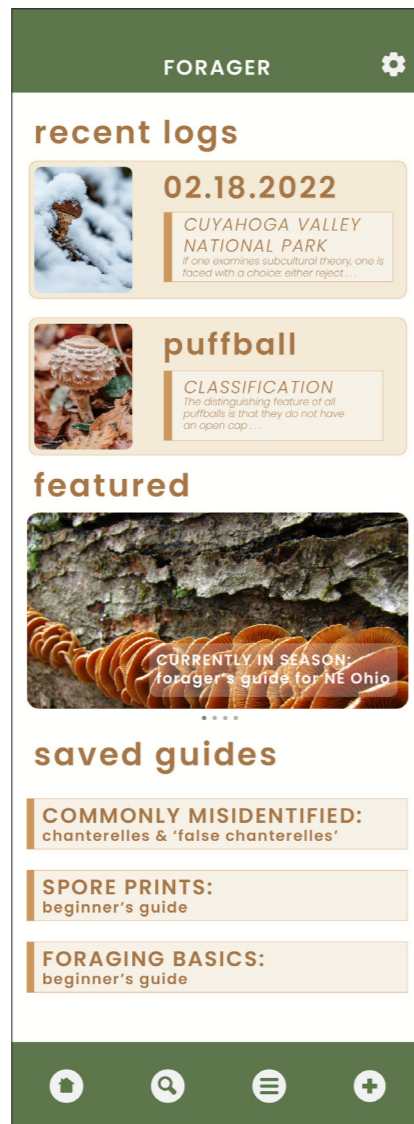
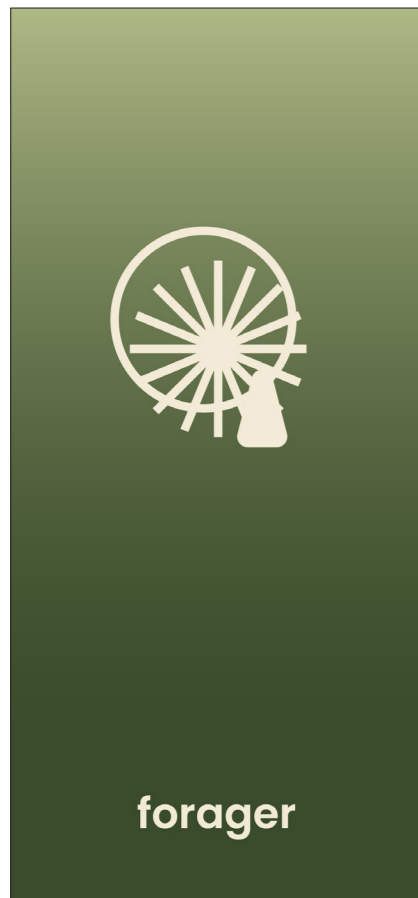
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final screens

flats



GUIDES




LOOK-A-LIKES
chanterelles & 'false chanterelles'

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Pacific Northwest Golden Chanterelle
Cantharellus cibarius


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False Chanterelle
Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca

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new log

GUIDE
Common look-a-likes chanterelles & false chanterelles

Add notes here ...

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look-a-likes overview

telling look-a-likes apart is vital building skills for proper identification, and keeping yourself safe during foraging.

these guides may require some knowledge of anatomy and habitat conditions.

close

CHANTERELLES



LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING
Mushrooms in the Chanterelle family are edible and often used in culinary applications. However, the False Chanterelle and Jack-O-Lantern mushroom are toxic and easily mistaken for Chanterelles.

Cantharellus Varieties
Common family name: Chanterelle

OVERVIEW
The "Chanterelle" can refer to several species of edible mushroom, which at one time were thought to be the same, but have now been found to be a related group of individual species through DNA analysis. They have a cupped or funnel-shaped cap with a thick tapered stem, and can be white, yellow, or pale orange depending on the variety. Popular for their culinary uses, they have a 'meaty' or thick but soft flesh texture.

SUBGENUS Cantharellus

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES & IDENTIFIERS

CAP
Size may range from 4cm-14cm across, depending upon variety.

Typically white, light to medium yellow, or golden in color, with little to no variation between cap and stem coloration.

Cupped or Funnel-like in shape, and fairly smooth in texture

FLESH
Raw/Fresh flesh is firm and fibrous, often referred to as 'meaty'.

Bruising characteristics vary between species, but overall relative resistance to bruising is noted. When bruised, the damaged areas may darken from light to dark yellow over time, and older specimens may be more easily or likely to bruise than younger ones.

Interior flesh typically whitish in color.

GILLS
Under-cap structure is folded, wrinkled or ridged, often referred to as 'false gills', and runs down from cap edge onto the stem. 'False gill' structure may be forked near edge of cap, but always presents as wrinkles or ridges, rather than individual gills. No individual gills present.

STEM
Thick-stemmed, which tapers slightly towards the base continuing the funnel shape of the cap. Smooth in texture, with no bulb around the base. Stem has solid internal structure, not hollow.

VEIL
No remnants of universal veil


EDIBILITY
EDIBLE, both raw and cooked

HABITAT
Woodlands and forested areas. Typically near bases of trees, typically hardwoods, ie: maple, poplar, oak. Prefers moisture and shaded areas.
May also grow in other low-lying damp areas; near streams, downhill run-off areas.

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HYGROPHOROPSIS AURANTIACA



LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING
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CAUTION: INEDIBLE; TOXICITY.
While death on consumption is rare, eating false chanterelles is known to cause severe digestive reactions.

Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca
Common name: False Chanterelle

OVERVIEW
The "Chanterelle" can refer to several species of edible mushroom, which at one time were thought to be the same, but have now been found to be a related group of individual species through DNA analysis. They have a cupped or funnel-shaped cap with a thick tapered stem, and can be white, yellow, or pale orange depending on the variety. Popular for their culinary uses, they have a 'meaty' or thick but soft flesh texture.

SUBGENUS Hygrophoropsidaceae

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES & IDENTIFIERS

CAP
Up to 8cm across

Yellow to dark orange in color, often graded from light cap edge to dark center.

Flat or shallowly depressed shape; may be broadly convex.

FLESH
Flesh soft and flimsy in structure. Easily bruised.

GILLS
Gill structure is thin and forked near cap edge. Gills may run onto stem, but are a distinct blade-shape, not folded or ridged like the 'false gills' found on edible Chanterelles.

STEM
Thin, uniform stem. Can be darker in color than cap, but often similar to gill color.

VEIL
No remnants of universal veil


EDIBILITY
NOT EDIBLE, considered poisonous. Known to cause severe digestive problems. Contains high levels of arbutol. Symptoms may include acute stomach cramping, vomiting, and diarrhea.

HABITAT
Woodland and other damp, shaded areas. Occasionally found in landscaping materials such as woodchips.

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TRAMETES VERSICOLOR




LOOK-A-LIKE WARNING

It is not uncommon for misidentifications to be made between Turkey Tail, False Turkey Tail, and the Multicolor Gill Polypores.

QUESTIONABLE EDIBILITY

Not typically used in culinary applications, but some medicinal or supplemental have had notable side-effects, and no proven benefit.

Trametes versicolor

Common name:
Turkey Tail

OVERVIEW

Named for their multicolored concentric patterning similar to that of wild turkeys, the turkey tail mushroom is a shelf-like fungus commonly found on trees.

GENUS Trametes

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES & IDENTIFIERS

CAP
Shelf formation that is roughly kidney- or shell-like in shape, 2-8cm across long direction, 1-4cm across short direction, and 1-2mm in thickness.

Zonate coloring, with concentric rings of earthy tones in orange, brown, greys and occasional greenish-hues.

Fuzzy/velvety, with fine hair-like surface texture.

FLESH
Thin and flexible

PORES
Under-cap whitish to light grey in color and structure has a visible pore formation, typically 3-8 pores per mm.

STEM
No visible stem, grows in 'shelf' formation

VEIL
No remnants of universal veil

EDIBILITY
Questionable edibility. Not typically used in culinary applications. Some medicinal or therapeutic uses have been noted, however there is no evidence supporting claims of benefit from consumption. this fungi is classified as "not generally recognized as safe" by the FDA. Sometimes sold in an extracted form as "PSK Supplement", which has been reported to cause effects of diarrhea and change in fingernail color.

HABITAT
North American woodlands and forested areas. Typically on dead and/or decomposing hardwoods.

SOURCES
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GUIDES

LOOK-A-LIKES



overview

specific guides

COMMONLY MISIDENTIFIED:
chanterelles & 'false chanterelles'


CIRCUMSTANTIAL MISIDENTIFICATION:
amanitas

COMMONLY MISIDENTIFIED:
morels & 'false morels'

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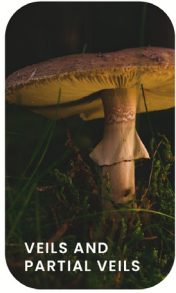
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LOOK-A-LIKES

SPORE PRINTS +

anatomy & physical identification



VEILS AND
PARTIAL VEILS



GILLS, FOLDS,
AND OTHER CAP
STRUCTURES

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