

Progress has stopped making sense (but there is still neighbourliness)

Being an attempt to understand examples of mutual aid in nature, in particular the mycorrhizal associations that 90% of plants form with fungi; and an attempt to gain a greater understanding of the soil ecology of which mycorrhizal fungus is a part by mapping it onto a human mutual aid system, the UK Climate Camps that took place from 2006 to 2010.

NO.	SOIL	MUSHROOM/PLANT	CLIMATE CAMP	FUNCTION
1	Plant community	Yellow Oyster	Kitchen	Co-ordinates food distribution. Provides meals. Helping in the kitchen is a way to get involved on site
2	Small creature community	Grey Oyster	Neighbourhoods	Provide a base for people, and ways to connect
3	Soil Moisture	White Oyster	Process	Provides the decision-making infrastructure for the camps, enabling them to function logistically and politically
4	Photosynthesis	Morel + ash	Power	Converts sunlight to energy
5	Fungal community	Shaggy inkcap	Site	Provides physical infrastructure of camp. Site meetings bring people together and are conduits for information
6	Bacterial community	Lion's Mane	Waste/Sanitation	Organises and removes waster products
7	nirS+nirK	Bean	Workshops	Provide multiple kinds of information, structure for days, reasons for people to come
8	nosZI+nosZII	Sweetcorn	Action support	Provides training for people to do actions – key rationale of camp
9	Carbon dioxide	Reishi	Outreach + Networking	Puts info out into world, draws people in, makes people aware of camp's agenda and politics
10	Nitrous oxide	White oyster on right wing propaganda	Legal support	Provides info for people doing actions, training for legal observers, legal co-ordination afterwards; massively increases possiblity and effectiveness of direct action
11	Herbicide	Air filter	Police	Repress and control elements considered by state and corporations to be a risk to public order and safety
12	Phosphorus	Panellus stipticus	Finance	Finds money, which makes many things possible; monitors spending

Spawn for yellow and white oysters, morel, lion's mane and reishi from Adrian Ogden at <https://www.gourmetmushrooms.co.uk>

Spawn for grey oyster and shaggy inkcap from Ann Miller at <http://annforfungi.com>

Spawn for pink oyster and Panellus stipticus from <http://mushroombox.co.uk>

James Scrivens <http://mycogeneration.co.uk>

This work was developed with the support of an a-n professional development bursary which paid for mentoring from the artist [Feral Practice](#)

More info about the work can be found at <https://www.a-n.co.uk/blogs/mycorrhiza-mutual-aid-and-radical-mycology/>

Gathering 2:Primordia, Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool

Saturday 16th February 2019, 1-4

<http://www.thebluecoat.org.uk/events/view/events/3933>