

The Climbing False Buckwheat (*Polygonum scandens*) known in Saskatchewan by J. Macoun from before settlement, has recently been rediscovered and it is still listed as one of the rare plants of the province.<sup>3</sup> I know of five localities of this species in east-central Saskatchewan but it is not abundant in any area. Possibly it is not hardy and it may die out during severe winters and then slowly re-establish itself. (In the east it does not occur north of Thunder Bay, Ontario or Three Rivers, Quebec.<sup>6</sup>) I have seen it on the fireguard above Swan River, 20 miles ESE of Reserve, 23 August 1983; on the southern slope of Thunder Hill, north of Arron, 23 August 1983; on disturbed banks along Somme-Reserve forestry road, 5 miles SE of Somme, 28 August 1983; and on bulldozed bank, 5 miles SE of Weeks, 28 August 1983. Wayne Harris recorded it in Greenwater Provincial park in 1983. There are reports of this species from the two western provinces but they require confirmation.<sup>5 6</sup>

<sup>1</sup>BREITUNG, A.J. 1957. Annotated catalogue of the vascular flora of Saskatchewan. Am. Midl. Naturalist, Notre Dame, Ind.

<sup>2</sup>FRANKTON, C. and G. MULLIGAN Revised 1970. Weeds of Canada. Can. Dept. Agric., Ottawa.

<sup>3</sup>HUDSON, J.H., V.L. HARMS and G.W. ARGUS. 1979. Rediscovery of the Climbing False Buckwheat in Saskatchewan. *Blue Jay* 37(1):20-23.

<sup>4</sup>MAHR, R.V., G.W. ARGUS, V.L. HARMS and J.H. HUDSON. 1979. The rare vascular plants of Saskatchewan. Nat. Mus. of Natural Science, Syullogeus No. 20, Ottawa.

<sup>5</sup>MOSS, E.H. (Revised by J. Packer) 1983. Flora of Alberta. Univ. of Toronto Press, Toronto, Ontario.

<sup>6</sup>SCOGGAN, H.J. 1978. The flora of Canada. Nat. Mus. of Canada, Ottawa.

## AN UNUSUAL FUNGUS

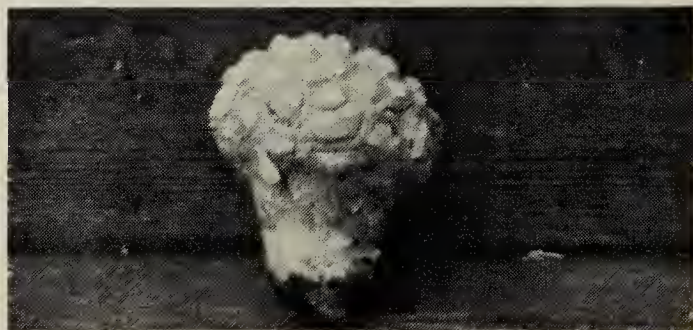
DAVID L. BRADDELL, Box 304, Reston, Manitoba. R0M 1X0

On his farm seven miles northwest of Reston and immediately east of the Pipestone Creek, Darwin Lazenby discovered a large fungus poking out of the lawn 23 June 1983.

The specimen, broken off at ground level, was 5.25 in. (approx. 13 cm) long and 4.75 in. (approx. 12 cm) across. Pale ivory in colour, it had no volva and was somewhat flatly rounded at the peak. Most interesting were the barnacle-like protrusions that patterned the crown. The irregularly sized and shaped "barnacles" bore concentric lines close together on their sides. The stem was thick and slightly tapered towards the base. Basal margins of the "barnacles" were coloured dark beige.

Having been only refrigerated, the specimen deteriorated by the time it became possible to have it professionally examined. Details about the fungus, however, caused Dr. Ronald S. Jackson of the Botany Department, Brandon University, to state that the specimen was most likely a member of the species *Calbovista subsculpta* and that this puffball had no common English name. Without a specimen, positive identification was impossible, but the one shown in the enclosed photo, he said, fit the macroscopic features of *C. subsculpta* well.

Has anyone else observed this type of fungus? Can anyone else add to the above information?



*Calbovista subsculpta* David L. Braddell