

The Veiled Lady Fungus

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This semester I studied the Stinkhorn mushroom *Phallus Indusiatus*. The plan of this research is to develop a protocol for growing this fungus and using it in collaboration with research on its web-like properties of the unique veil produced by the fruiting body. This will be distributed to teams of engineers as well as NASA for Dr. Penick's research. Due to logistics of receiving spores from across the world, we still have not been able to begin growing these mushrooms. However, I have described a protocol that we will follow in order to grow. The protocol contains detailed descriptions on how and when to add certain spawn materials or substrates. It also describes when it is necessary to supplement FAE (fresh air exchange) as well as optimal temperature and humidity settings for best possible growth. I developed this protocol through research online as well as personal experience with cultivating oyster mushrooms, *Pleurotus ostreatus*. I have also written a presentation regarding this species which Dr. Penick will present to his NASA collaborators. This presentation includes general information like background information, where this species is found in nature, the history of its use in humans (medicinal as well as culinary), speculation for its web-like veil, or insidium, how it has been previously cultivated as well as how it is currently cultivated, and the history of its phylogeny.