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WASTE FOR USE

Community Forum for Sharing Ideas About Ecological Issues

This forum features a collection of conversations about environmental topics from community contributors and writers

Insight into the Immanent Discipline of the Ecosphere: A Review of the Mycological Research of Paul Stamets

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Discovering practical solutions for the earth's ecological crunch is an appointment that has engaged much global attention over the course of recent decades, but has plunged behind fulfillment. The root of the ecological burden lies within anthropogenic causes of earth's contamination, depletion of essential elements, and subsequent environmental imbalance. Imbalance within the earth creates an ecosphere vulnerable to ecological sickness and an environment vulnerable to further insecurities. Extreme environmental conditions create urgency for a viable solution to human produced environmental damage. The great task for mitigating environmental damage involves obtaining applications that can be sustained through an approach that complements a native ebb and flow of the earth's eco-community. On one hand, responsible and maintainable ecological solutions have frequently been met with commercial prejudices and replaced with superficial commitments to environmental sustainability. On the other hand, hope for a healthy biosphere prevails through a natural order of the natural world, the age-old system of fungi. Compelling research findings about the environmental value of mushrooms such as

the work of Paul Stamets allow us to uncover hope through rediscovery of inherent ecological mechanisms that might establish ecological order and balance.

The potential of mushrooms to remedy ecological loss is communicated carefully through the statements and research data of Paul Stamets (2014). Stamets' research delineates how mushrooms can help rescue humans from a trajectory of extinction. First, mushrooms provide a method for contaminated matter to be detoxified (Stamets, 2014). This claim is substantiated through experimentation described by Stamets where mushrooms successfully removed relatively large levels of coliform bacteria from manufacturer produced E-coli ridden soil [additional articles and presentations by Paul Stamets are available at www.fungi.com and http://www.ted.com/talks/paul_stamets_on_6_ways_mushrooms_can_save_the_world.html]. Next, mushrooms provide a treatment for poxviruses as well as some strains of the flu virus (Stamets, 2014). Through multiple trials, Stamets demonstrated that various strains of specific mushroom species were greatly effective against smallpox and flu viruses A and flu viruses B. Importantly, Stamets' research proposes that mushrooms offer the possibility for alternative fuel. This breakthrough is important because given the success of mushrooms as fuel, alternative fuel may provide a method for over consumption of vital earth resources and elements to be relinquished and replaced with a nutrient replenished environment.

Take Away

The proposals set forth through the investigations of Paul Stamets signify a scratch to the surface for finding solutions to environmental issues. Part of the environmental dilemma is rooted within a political setting surrounding commercial interests and a few bad habits of our own circumstance as consumers. However, in mushrooms we see an indigenous member of the eco-system with the aptitude to move essential ecological elements away from extinction and ultimately an opportunity to move humans away from a path of extinction. With the many possibilities that mushrooms offer both the commercial sphere and the bio world, the environmental implications derived from mushrooms may be a reason to look seriously at mushrooms as part of the answer.

References

Stamets, Paul. 2014. Bioneers 25th Conference: How Mushrooms Can Help Save the World, San Rafael, CA. 10/17/2014.

Further Resources:
TED Talk by Paul Stamets: 6 ways mushrooms can save the world
[www.ted.com/talks/paul_stamets_on_6_ways_mushrooms_can_save_the_world.html]