The following is a list of tenative identifications which have been made, in previous years, by Arthur Strick:

Boletus sanguines Polyporus squamosus Russula atropurpurea Lactarius subumbonatus Naucoria temulenta Russula emetica Claviaria cineria Lepiota procera Armillaria mellea Armillaria mucida Collybia velutipes Tremella mesenterica Polystictus versicolor Psathyrella disseminata Hygrophorus ceraceus Hygrophorus calyptraeformis Lactaria pubescens

## FUNGI IDENTIFIED ON LUNDY (BEYOND DOUBT)

S. ARCHER

Phragmidium violacearum Melampsora amygdalinae Uromyces scrophulariae Bramble rust
Willow rust
on Scrophularia aquatica
(a rather rare species in the U.K.)

Coprinus atramentarius Serpula lacrymans Panus torulosus Lycoperdon depressum Bovista nigrescens B. plumbea

I could name many others which almost certainly occur on Lundy, but until definitely recorded are best omitted.

## MOSQUITOES, MYXOMATOSIS AND LUNDY

DR. M. W. SERVICE

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In Britain the principal vector of myxomatosis in wild rabbits is the rabbit flea, Spilopysyllus cuniculi. This vector is absent from Australia where it has been shown conclusively that the disease is transmitted by several species of moquitoes. Some of these are particularly well adapted as vectors because they rest during the day in rabbit warrens and feed on rabbits both below and above the ground. The transmission of myxoma virus is apparently mechanical—that is the virus does not multiply or undergo any biological changes within the vector, but is simply transmitted by direct contamination of the vector's mouthparts. However, insects feeding through normal skin areas of diseased rabbits fail to pick up sufficient virus to become suitably infected. Infection occurs when the insects probe, with their mouthparts, primary, or well developed secondary, lesions and tumours, such as those commonly occurring on diseased rabbits around the eyes and nose. It follows that any insect feeding in this manner on rabbits is a potential vector.