

Name: **Bear cockleshell**

Lentinellus ursinus

UK status: Endangered (Red Data List, ed.1).;
Near threatened (Red Data List, ed.2).
29 post-1960 hectad records in FRDBI. UK SCC

London status: Rare (3 records)

Protected status: None

Relevant London HAPs: Woodland

Citation:

This fungus grows on the dead wood of broadleaved deciduous trees, both standing or fallen, especially beech (rarely elm, willow or birch) and in areas of old woodland. It is a small fungus 15–60mm across, similar to an oyster fungus, the surface varying considerably from smooth to felty; the colour varies from dark tan, pinkish buff to light brown, sometimes with a fine white covering. The gills are fairly crowded and are attached to the wood surface; if bruised turning a reddish brown. There is a weak aromatic smell. At present, this species is very rarely recorded in the UK beyond Epping Forest (LB Waltham Forest/Redbridge), although areas where the remnants of old beech woods exist are worth investigating. Managing authority; City of London



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- Conservation priorities:**
- Preservation of fallen or standing dead wood in woodland habitats
 - Identify, sensitively manage and monitor areas that are known for this species
 - Protect any new sites emerging from further surveys

References:

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[Fungal Records Database of Britain & Ireland website](#)
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Legon NW & Henrici A, 2005. *Checklist of the British and Irish Basidiomycota*. RBG, Kew.
Petersen, R.H. & Hughes, K.W. (2004) *A preliminary monograph of Lentinellus (Russulales)*. J.Cramer, Berlin, Stuttgart.