

Subject Response Regions State	From: Dan Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Tennessee	From: Jillian Wester Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Tennessee	From: Debbie Watt Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Midwest (lower) State: Texas	From: Meredith Cordoza Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Arkansas	From: Joey C Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Virginia	From: Craig Steinburg Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Tennessee State Geographic Location: northeast side of the mountain County: Marion,sesquatchie	From: Christy Seiber Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Tennessee State Geographic Location: East County: Campbell	From: Ian Blaylock Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Georgia State Geographic Location: Piedmont County: GA	From: Beth Mullin Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Tennessee State Geographic Location: East Tennessee – Atop Copper Ridge County: Anderson	From: Gage Caudill Subject: Questionnaire Response: Region: Southeast State: Kentucky State Geographic Location: Eastern	
State Geo County	State Geographic Location: central County: Dickson	State Geographic Location: East County: Sevier	State Geographic Location: North Central County:	State Geographic Location: Northwest Arkansas County: Benton County	State Geographic Location: west County: washington						
Woods	Woods: Ridges and Hollows (locally called hollers :) creek bottoms...average undergrowth....a lot of may apple.	Woods: I walk along a hillside that goes down to the river.	Woods: Hardwoods with elm, oaks, hickory, hackberry and cedars. Lots of leaf litter but little undergrowth. Generally broken shade from the sun. Most good areas have some slopes.	Woods: My sweet spot is on land my parents own and we've been hunting morels there since I was able to walk. We've always found them on a wooded hillside near a large cave where lots of sycamore trees grow. This year I went exploring above the cave and found a new patch of morels in a grove of cedars. I was very excited to discover a new patch in an area we've hunted for over 20 years. I'm expecting a child and I cannot wait to pass down the tradition!	Woods: Deep soils, side slopes, no brush.	Woods: Found them along gravel roads around creek banks near wet land	Woods: Wild grape vines, more of a sandy soil thats dark in color, moist creek banks w undergrowth, usually trivet hedge around with a variety of trees but mostly tulip popular and seen in open sunny woods near moist creek bottoms, facing N always no matter the environment	Woods: The area in which I live is typified by gently rolling hills, nothing too extreme from a terrain standpoint. We have a creek nearby that feeds to the Flint River called Line Creek, many tributaries of which run fairly close to my house. Regardless, I tend to seek low lying parcels of woodland adjacent to these tributaries and I generally have good luck.	Woods: Both wooded (shaded) and grassy (sunny).	Woods: Depending on whether it is early in the season or late the first thing I determine is if they are starting high or low. Most are found on steep gradients often with a stream or creek at the bottom.	
Vegetation	Vegetation: We have noticed a strong correlation to sycamore trees the last three years while hunting the white mushrooms. Cant say that every sycamore tree has shrooms under it....but can say the best white shrooms we found were around sycamore trees. In years past we found the whites around poplar trees but that correlation hasn't been as strong lately. Our total number of the earlier black mushrooms has been down. But the best locations we have found for the black shrooms have been around persimmon trees.....Have found them both on top of ridges and in the hollers.	Vegetation: I look for fallen trees and areas where nuts are laying.	Vegetation: Elm trees and cedars	Vegetation: Shady and moist ground around the area, and I look for sycamores and cedars with little undergrowth.	Vegetation: Timbered yellow-poplars are great. Oaks usually mean it's too dry.	Vegetation: Popal apple and rotten basswood	Vegetation: Wild grape vines, tulip popular	Vegetation: Tulip Poplar – Liriodendron tulipifera is particularly widespread in this corner of the state, so if I can find a Tulip Poplar grove in a low lying area, generally near a creek or a pond, I start to keep my eyes to the ground. Admittedly, I keep my eyes to the ground anyway, Morels are but one of many varieties of mushrooms that I hunt....around here you tend to find Lycoperdon, Pleurotus, and Hericium fairly often as well during those months (though Hericium season is usually dying down).	Vegetation: We know where to look (see below) because they come back year after year in the same locations, although 2016 was a down year for us and we found relatively few.	Vegetation: Sycamores and elms are never too far away. You can also find that May Apples are a very good indicator that there may be some nearby. Also I tend to find many in and around briar patches. Often buried under sycamore leaves it never hurts to turn over a leaf or two with a stick. Also places after a forest fire can turn a few up.	
Weather	Weather Issues: No doubt we have had some weather & temp challenges....early spring two or three years in a row....late March it would be about right....air and soil temps would be rising and then we would get a hard cold snap....we believe this is why our total number of black shrooms has been down.	Weather Issues: I typically find morels when my bare hands hurt from the cold.	Weather Issues: This area is not great for morels. A good year will see temps in the 70's during the day and the 40's 50's at night with several days of rain. Without spring rain we have no morels.	Weather Issues: Arkansas weather varies but I tend to find them in mid April at least this year I did. From about April 7-21 this year. They do best when it rains some and then the sun comes out during the day after, and when the temperature is between 70 and 80. The biggest challenge is watching out for snakes!	Weather Issues: Foggy mornings are perfect	Weather Issues: After good winter temps 65-80	Weather Issues: Usually moist spring days and temps hovering about 58 to 60 @ night and warmer for the daylight hours	Weather Issues: If it's short sleeve weather and has been for about a week: meaning 60s and above, I assume that things are going to be halfway decent for morel hunting. Around here it's rare that the dewpoints drop too low due to our relative proximity to the Gulf of Mexico, so from a humidity standpoint I don't really worry too much: if it's been warm enough for short sleeves it's humid enough as well.		Weather Issues: I've personally hunted in pouring rain, but when going out miles into the wilderness no weather should be a problem except in maybe an area I hunt where a flash flood could leave you stranded for the night. This is due to multiple creek crossings where the creek itself is a road only accessible to off road vehicles.	
Competition	Competition: not overly popular....some local trespassers to complete with....but not terrible.	Competition: It is not super common. I know a handful of people who morel hunt. Many people don't talk about it as to not give away their secrets.	Competition: Not too many are familiar with it (thankfully as the growth is sparse at best).	Competition: Very popular in my area but luckily my sweet spot is on private property	Competition: It's popular on a per-capita basis but the population is low overall	Competition: There is a few beginning to be more hunters	Competition: I do not talk about it much, so I don't know.	Competition: Not very. Most of the mycoholics that I know through the Mushroom Club of Georgia tend to live further north than I do where the morel hunting is a bit richer anyway. Excursions to the more mountainous North Georgia Appalachians are fairly common.	Competition: I don't know how popular morel hunting is in our area. Since our morel harvesting sites are on our own property, all within 75 yards of our home, there is no competition!	Competition: There are several hunters in my area, most of them elderly and the numbers are dwindling. Some of the younger generation is trying to learn, but that means getting a seasoned hunter to give up the location of a honey hole, which presents a problem as most won't. Competition is pretty fierce when certain spots are known by multiple people meaning checking every day "around that time of the year" to catch the first ones and beat your neighbors to them.	
Suggestions:	Suggestion: Go with someone who can show you how to find them....to go in the woods "blind" is practically impossible....unless you just step off in them....which is rare in our area....but once you get "your eyes right" you can find them.....check every sycamore tree in the hollers.....and get down on your knees and look across the top of the forest floor....verses looking straight down on it....slow down and be patient.....and April...a day or so after a warm rain is prime time in our area.....go slow and take your time.	Suggestion: Walk slow and scan the ground. Turn around and look back over the area if it seems like mushrooms should be there. Change your point of view by squatting down and looking too.	Suggestion: Lots of patience and prayers for spring rains. We don't live in the best area for finding morels and sometimes you can spend days before you will find a place hunting! Look for sycamore and cedar trees and moist that is productive. Find an area of hardwoods that is damp areas. with little undergrowth and start looking.	Suggestion: Watch Facebook! Some people don't know not to share their spots!! Also look out for snakes while hunting! Look for sycamore and cedar trees and moist that is productive. Find an area of hardwoods that is damp areas. with little undergrowth and start looking.	Suggestion: Just walk a lot!		Suggestion: Watch out for snakes and be safe	Suggestion: Know the woods & prepare for some underbrush crawling	I generally wait until there's been a good rain a few days prior though, but honestly I'm in the woods often enough that I don't really care that much if I don't find anything. Stomping around in woodlands is a reward unto itself.	Suggestion: If you've never seen a morel in person, come visit us in April!	Suggestion: Don't give up, have fun, look for sycamores, always use a mesh bag, pinch them off instead of pulling them up, don't tell people about the spot you do find, stay hydrated, watch for snakes, bring snacks, and if you plan on selling them, save some for yourself!
Date Range	Date Range: Start mid March.....End early May.	Date Range: This was my first year and by mid-April the season was pretty much over.	Date Range: Here the average time to begin is mid-March to mid-April	Date Range: All through April depending on the weather!	Date Range: April 20 to May 20	Date Range: March thru may	Date Range: Early to mid April		Date Range: End of March to through first week in May	Date Range: End of March to end of May.	
Techniques	Techniques: As mentioned above.....last three years we have been on a sycamore tree pattern for the whites and persimmon tree pattern on the earlier blacks.....occasionally we will look around poplar trees as well.....we have one cedar thicket we will also find them in when everything is just right....but we find them on top of ridges and in the hollers so Id say we hunt trees more so than the land.....but the trees we hunt do like certain types of land.....so I guess it all goes hand in hand.....kind of a mystery I guess.			Techniques: I hunt the trees and hillsides where there's little ground cover and lots of moisture in the ground. I've never found any in sunny areas, they love shade. It's best to look after it's been about 60° at night and rainy and then about 75° and sunny the next day.	Techniques: I find them at work.	Techniques: I just enjoy nature and since the age of 7 been hunting morel mushrooms and I'm pushing 50 now	Techniques: I always have an eye out no matter what when walking new woods. No particular environment.	I'm located about 30 miles southwest of Atlanta, and probably 60 or 70 miles north of the fall line, below which morels are extremely scarce, if present at all. Even here, it's not particularly common to find huge bounties: I found a grand total of 13 morels last year.	Techniques: Basically our "hunting" technique is to walk around our yard: 1. We find morels every year on either edge of our gravel drive which is lined with white pines. 2. We find them every year in the woods behind our workshop on either side of a fallen poplar tree. 3. We find them under a blue spruce tree in the yard.	Techniques: It takes a pretty good eye after years of hunting but you can always start by looking for sycamores, and there is usually a certain "look" a hillside or valley can have that just draws you to it. In the words of my papaw, "that's a real pretty spot to see a big mushroom over there."	
Challenges	Challenges: Mostly private property in our area....not allot of public ground....and in our area we have a narrow window....really the month of April is your best chance....it can happen before that in late March....and after that in early May....but April you better be walking and spending time in the woods around these parts or your gonna miss it.		Challenges: The challenges are simply Mother Nature. We have many seasons without rain which equals to no morels.	Techniques: The first thing I look for is the land and if it has that 'look' about it, then I'll check what trees are there. If those things look right I scope it out with fingers crossed.	Challenges: There's lots of places to hunt, many of them are private property and again be on the lookout for snakes!	Challenges: Slopes are challenging. Lots of rhododendron too.	Challenges: Not much public land	Challenges: Elevation about 1100 ft or more. One patch is low in the valley. Valley is earlier than normal.	Suggestion: In order to find suitable woodlands, I use Google Maps satellite imagery to identify likely locations for good mushroom hunting. As long as there aren't No Trespassing signs, I figure it's not off limits. So far that hasn't gotten me into trouble. That said, I really only hunt two particular areas that I know to be private property: one is a church who allows people to roam in their 30 acre wood, and another is a 50 acre plot on the county line owned by a retired NBA star...I see children frolicking in those wetlands from time to time. Just make sure you're not in a place where people don't want you and keep a low profile...people look at mushroom hunters strangely sometimes.	1. We find morels every year on either edge of our gravel drive which is lined with white pines. 4. We find them in the grass around the base of an old apple tree. 5. We have occasionally found them under a lilac bush, in our herb garden, as well as out in our mowed lawn.	Challenges: The terrain is very rugged. We compare ourselves to mountain goats because of the inclines we hunt on. The unpredictable weather of Kentucky means you never know if it's gonna be a good year or bad year. I found around 300 in 2018, and over 2000 in 2017. Another challenge in Eastern Kentucky has been Strip Mining by the coal companies. I've lost many honey holes to mountain top removal and strip mining. One place my grandfather showed me that he's hunted since he was a young boy was removed a few years ago and that's always a hard hit, but if you only go to the same place every year, it doesn't feel as much like hunting, so I can't complain too much.
Other Comments	Additional Comments: Love the website...appreciate the effort to collect information from others to educate and help us all.....Thanks & God Bless! Dan in Charlotte TN (Dickson County)		Additional Comments: The woods in our area are not like the woods most have the fortune of hunting in. They are not the damp woods like Georgia and not the lush woods like the Pacific Northwest. They are hot and dry woods which makes finding a honey hole a big challenge. What most of these other places produce in a day is what we consider a great haul for the entire growing season.	Additional Comments: Happy hunting!!!					Date Range: Mid-march to Mid-april Additional Comments: Almost embarrassed to complete this survey...basically the morels jump out at us! We have never gotten bushel baskets full, but have enough to share with neighbors and to freeze for year-round use. Our largest morel was about 9 inches, more frequently they are 4-7 inches.	Additional Comments: I've noticed a trend over the past few years of them coming up earlier and earlier, from mid April to the end or even middle of March. Granted it really depends on the type of winter we have.	
								As stated earlier: I look for low lying Tulip Poplar groves. They're easy to spot from afar due to their distinctive leaf shape and coloring, immense height, and extremely straight trunks. Once I get there, I pretty much cover myself in DEET and keep my head to the ground while squatting around in the brush. If I find a morel, I begin a visual scan of the surrounding area. Usually there are more around.			