A French Fungus Flora (review)*.—This volume, the first of a series of four dealing with the larger fungi of France, appears to be designed especially for the mycophagist and amateur mycologist. The author states in his foreword that further reference must be made to other works such as Kühner & Romagnesi's "Flore Analytique" for more detailed information. Within these limits the author has succeeded.

The first part of the volume deals in turn with the toxicology, methods of examination and description and a glossary of descriptive terms. These appear excellent and to the English reader the glossary will facilitate understanding of commonly used French terms.

The main body of the text deals with identification of the fungi. Here the author is undoubtedly correct in taking a conservative view of genera in the first instance as for example in uniting a troublesome genus such as *Lyophyllum* with *Tricholoma*. Under each generic head a conspectus of the genus clearly assigns the species to sections. Then follows a complete key to the species. The keys, without extensive trial, appear usable, but it is doubtful if a conspectus type key with over twenty-five headings, as in *Russula*, is really practicable—unless one knows the species already! It also seems doubtful if the inclusion of common names which are merely translations of the Latin are worth the space they take; surely the citations of authorities or the addition of references to iconographies other than Maublanc would have been more worthwhile.

The last section of the book consists of over one hundred recipes for preparing fungi for the table, taken from P. Romain's Mycogastronomie.

The twenty-eight pages of illustrations scattered throughout the volume are well executed but in many cases are not sufficiently annotated and captioned. It may be doubted whether the black and white drawings of edible and poisonous fungi in plates two and three would really help in distinguishing these types.

Apart from a few unimportant typographical errors the book is well printed. The volume at present is just too large for a pocket book but undoubtedly by adjustments in paragraphing and type setting it could be reduced to these limits—with consequently increased usefulness.

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* Petite Flore des Champignons de France. Tome 1: Agarics, Bolets, Clavaires. M. Locquin. Paris, 1956. Pp. 382, illust. Price 1500 francs sewn; 1900 francs bound.