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- 15-21** Effect of supplementing rice straw with water hyacinth on the yield and nutritional qualities of oyster mushrooms (*Pleurotus* spp.). S. BANDOPADHYAY

The water hyacinth is an aquatic weed causing ecological problems in many parts of the world. A mixture of water hyacinth and rice straw showed increased biological yield and no significant differences in comparative chemical analyses of basidiomata from several *Pleurotus* species.

- 23-33** Light, what it is and what it does for mycology. R. H. KURTZMAN, JR. AND D. MARTÍNEZ-CARRERA

Light is a fundamental factor for mushroom cultivation. This review shows the importance of having a real understanding of light and its theoretical basis. Most studies have only been done in model organisms. Most mushrooms require rather narrow bands (*ca.* 460 to 480 nm, blue light) of visible light, while the nutritional value of edible fungi can be improved by other narrow bands (*ca.* 275 to 300 nm). LED lamps of narrow bandwidths can be specifically designed for mushroom production, saving energy and costs.