



Photo by
Gio van Bernebeek
of The Netherlands



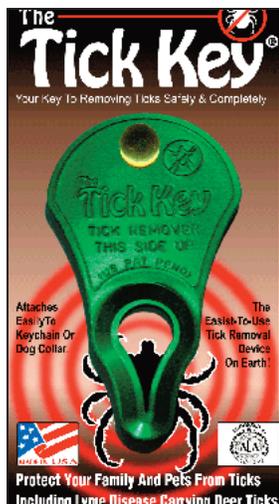
Morel Booster™

Morel Mushroom News From Morel Mania, Inc.

Editor: Tom Nauman SPECIAL EDITION Issue No. 7 • April, 2010

Tick Key® To Safely Remove Ticks

The Tick Key® Is The Easiest-To-Use Tick Remover On Earth! Place the key over the tick in the slot. Pull key away from tick sliding along the skin. The Tick is removed easily, head and all!



This patent pending design has been perfected and tested for over five years and is responsible for the removal of thousands of ticks of all sizes including deer ticks and dog ticks.

The Tick Key® is fabricated from high-strength anodized aluminum... this is not a weak piece of plastic. The Tick Key® is flat and is easily stored in a wallet, pocket, on a key chain, collar, saddle, or leash. Yes, it works on removing ticks from pets also.

The TICK KEY® is the only tick removal device on the planet that uses natural forward leverage to remove the entire tick, head and all, quickly

and safely without touching or squishing even the toughest engorged ticks. Tick key is 99.9% effective on all sizes and types of ticks.

You'll find them in the **New! Miscellaneous** section of Morel Mania, Inc.'s online catalog. The price is one for \$7, two for \$13, or three for \$18. The Product Number is TK871.

Trespassers are not welcomed with open arms, and it's possible they may be welcomed with arms!

~ John Martino
Kokomo (Indiana) Tribune

Morel Booster™

is free publication from
Morel Mania, Inc.

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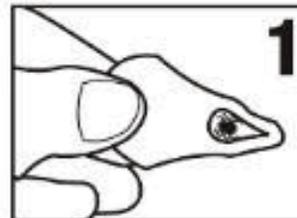
Phone: 309-364-3319 • Fax: 309-364-2960

Web Site: <http://www.morelmania.com>

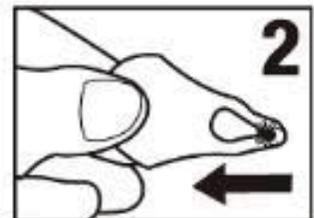
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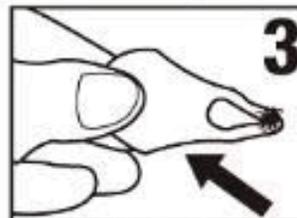
3 Easy Steps To Complete Tick Removal



Place the Key over the tick in the tear-drop hole.



Slide the tick into specially tapered slot.



Pull Key away from skin. Tick is removed easily... head and all! Disinfect your Tick Key after each use.

- Early and proper tick removal is known to help prevent tick borne diseases.
- The Tick Key is made of high-strength anodized aluminum, durable and easy to keep clean with alcohol.

HOW NOT TO REMOVE TICKS

Don't Remove Ticks With Your Fingers. In many cases a tick is likely to be carrying pathogens such as Lyme disease, ehrlichiosis and others that are harmful to humans and pets. Tick saliva or blood is something you don't want entering your blood stream. Pulling on a tick, even with tweezers, can tear the mouth parts from the body of the tick

Don't Squeeze, Crush or Squash A Tick. This can force spirochete and other infective body fluids through the mouth parts of the tick.

Don't Apply Substances To A Tick. Applying any substances, such as petroleum jelly, fingernail polish remover, repellents, or a lighted match that upset or harm the tick almost always cause the tick to vomit the contents of its stomach back into the host. No matter how badly a tick may want to remove itself, it is not capable of doing so quickly.

Ticks can live without air for long periods; attempts to smother it can allow disease transmission for hours.

Season Report

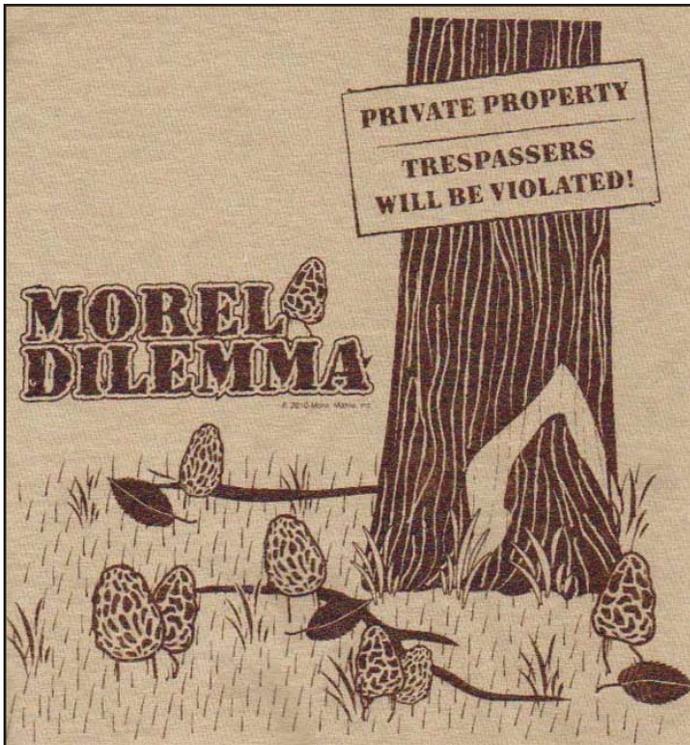
What started as an early season may not be a great one. In Central Illinois, the week of April 9th through the 15th saw temperatures in the low 80's with no rain. We found our first mushrooms on April 12th which is a little early, but not by much.

I checked one of my most productive late season patches on Saturday, 04/17/10. I was actually thankful that I did not find any because that would have meant that we are into the late season.

The heat and lack of rain is a problem in many areas south of us as noted in reports to the **Sightings** page.

On the bright side, conditions should be perfect for finding morels at **Morel University**™ on May 1 (see page 4) as we are expected to get rain from Friday, 04/23/10 through Monday, 04/26/10. Additionally, the temperatures have cooled down to daytime highs in the upper 60's and lower 70's and are predicted to stay there. With ample rain, we'll find lots of morels.

There is still room available for additional students. Twelve of the students registered for the 2010 class were also students in 2009 and are returning for "Grad School". They enjoyed it so much that they want to participate again. This is the greatest compliment they could give us and our distinguished faculty.



New! MOREL DILEMMA T-Shirt

Our artist, Pete LaSalle, has created a new design which should be self-explanatory to most mushroom hunters. It's silk-screened in brown on tan 100% pre-shrunk cotton and available in sizes Large, Extra-large, and 2X Large. Find it in the **Apparel** section of our online catalog.

Mushroom Events

Morel University - Henry, IL

<http://www.morelmania.com>

(see page four)

Mushroom Hunt at Wildlife Prairie State Park Hanna City, IL

<http://www.wildlifeprairiestatepark.org/>

Mountain Mushroom Festival - Irvine, Kentucky

www.mountainmushroomfestival.org

Mansfield, Indiana - Mushroom Festival

www.mansfieldhilltopfarm.com

Lewiston, MI

<http://www.lewistonchamber.com/Morel%20Mushrooms.htm>

50th Annual Boyne City, Michigan Morel Festival

www.morelfest.com

Richmond, MO

<http://www.richmondchamber.org/festival.html>

Wyoming, IL

<http://wyomingil.org/events.php>

Mesick, MI

<http://www.mesick-mushroomfest.org/>

Muscoda, WI

<http://www.muscoda.com/index.html>

Where We'll Be

Mansfield Mushroom Festival

April 24 & 25, 2010

Mansfield Village, Indiana

Morel University - See Page 4

May 1, 2010 • Henry, Illinois

50th Annual National Morel Mushroom Festival

May 13 - 16, 2010 • Boyne City, Michigan

Spoon River Valley Scenic Drive

October 2 -3 & 9 - 10, 2010 • London Mills, Illinois

\$5 COUPON \$5

Present this coupon at any of the listed events we are at and we'll deduct \$5.00 from your purchase of \$20.00 or more. Redeemable at these events only and only one discount per person.

Readers Write

Hi There Tom,

It has been 70 degrees for the last few days here in Central Ohio and my thoughts have turned to mushrooms. I have a question for you today. I live in a woods that produces a few mushrooms every year, but not alot. It is swampy in places and has few elms, so I have attributed it to those factors.

This year, however, every ash tree in my woods is dying. They looked fine last year, but I saw the ash borer everywhere and over the winter the trees began rapidly shedding their bark. Now this spring, they have a few leaf buds or none.

My dad, a serious mushroom hunter from northern Indiana, always said that dying ash trees were a second behind dying or dead elm trees in terms of producing mushrooms. Do you think that we will see a bumper crop of mushrooms as a result of the ash borer? Have you heard anyone else's experience with this?

I would love to hear what you think. It sure would be nice to see one good thing come of the death of so many trees.

Thanks for your time and for your website. Happy Hunting in 2010! Melinda W.

Response from Tom:

Hi Melinda, It's good to hear from you. The mushroom world is unsure of how the dying Ash trees will affect the morel crop and I'm going to ask you to keep me posted on your results.

Usually, morels are associated with living Ash trees. I've written in my column that we're still waiting to see what will happen with all the Ash trees dying. We don't know if it will produce a bumper crop.

Keep an eye on your trees (I'm sure you will anyway) and let me know what happens. I'm not a scientist, but I think we'll get a bumper crop. Please let me know.

Thanks, Tom Nauman, Morel Mania, Inc.



It's been awhile since we've had our famous Resident Mushroom License available. We're pleased to announce that we saved up enough cash to print them again.

We send a couple free with any order. That's one for you and one to give to a fellow Roon. The printed fee on them is \$12.50. But you really don't need to purchase anything to get a couple. Simply send a self addressed stamped envelope to:

Morel Mania, Inc.

8948 Illinois Highway 18 • Magnolia, Illinois 61336

Need more than a couple? Include a buck in the envelope.



Mushroom Licenses Available Again

First Reports On

Spore Spreader™ Are In

Not many have had a chance to completely fill one of our new **Spore Spreader™** Mesh Buckets yet, but here are some early reports:

From Kent W., *“What was cool was the bottom and the vents by the bottom to let out spores. By accident I realized because of the bottom you don't make a mess from shroom bits or spores getting on the truck seat or kitchen counter when you set it down. What is left in the bottom I put in my tree line outback. Someday maybe I'll get a sprout or two.”*

From Tom L., *“I liked that when I set it down in the woods to add more, the mushrooms in the bottom didn't pick up any dirt from the forest floor.”*

From Alex B., *“With just a few morels in the bottom, they are well protected. It's like they are being toted around in a bowl. Great job on the design.”*

Read a complete description of the **Spore Spreader™** in **Morel Booster™** No. 6 from April 2010 in the Archives section of our web site or in the **Shroom Sack™** section of our catalog



Morel Mushroom Found Growing in Window Well!

From the **STAR TRIBUNE (Minneapolis)**
May 25, 2003

When Pat Kinney went to take a look at a decaying window well on his northeast Minneapolis home Monday, he was stunned to find a morel mushroom "the size of a human brain."

Kinney has hunted morels before with friends, driving for hours and poking through secret woods to score perhaps a small sack of mushrooms ranging from the size of his thumb to, if he was lucky, the size of a pop can.

This, he said, was like catching a lunker muskie in the back-yard wading pool.

Indeed, several mushroom aficionados were likewise amazed at Kinney's find.

"Holy [balloons]!" said Kelly Larson, a member of the Minnesota Mycological Society, after seeing a picture of Kinney and his morel. Kinney said that at the Great Minnesota Morel Festival at the Red Wing last week, all 178 participants found morels, but none even close in size to Kinney's. Robert Fulgency, society president, called it "amazing," adding that he's never seen one with a cap as large.

Though the morel is Minnesota's state mushroom, no one keeps size records. "This ought to be a start," Larson said.

Kinney did what he called "the honorable thing" with his trophy morel. He had it stuffed --with crabmeat. Then he and several friends roasted it and sliced it up.



MOREL UNIVERSITY

**Class will be held at
Crooked Knee Golf Course
1274 County Road 950E
Henry, Illinois 61537
Saturday, May 1, 2010
8:00 a.m. to Noon**

**LEARN FROM EXPERTS
SHARE THE MORELS!**

On Saturday morning, May 1, 2010, Tom Nauman of Morel Mania, Inc. and other morel hunting experts will be your instructors for Morel University. Students will meet at the mushroom patch and be shown how to find and harvest morel mushrooms.

The class is for beginners or anyone who wants to learn the finer points of shrooming: morel habitat, tree identification, correct harvesting techniques, and tricks of the trade. The Morel University students will also receive a Shroom Sack™ and a Diploma.

Our day will begin with a serving of morel with sausage gravy on bisquits prepared by Sandy & Vicky Nauman. The dish is a family favorite. We will then have an approximate 20 minute discussion of the basics of morel hunting. Next we will divide into groups of no more than 10 students with one professor each and depart for the sacred morel grounds.

Crooked Knee Golf Course was the site of the Illinois State Morel Mushroom Hunting Championship on the first Saturday of May for 13 years. The entrants in that competition never failed to bring back dozens of pounds of morels. Those people will not be there this year. **but you could be - with expert guidance.** We will gather morels for approximately three hours and meet back at the clubhouse around 11:45 a.m.

Our professors include: Tom Nauman; Lynn Laible; Josh Nauman; 2003 Illinois Champion, Josh Joplin; Mike Dalrymple; and Fungi Magazine Editor, Britt Bunyard. All have hunted morels for most of their lives, know how to find them, and are committed to teaching you what we know.

It is too early to predict how good the season will be, but we've never failed to find morels at Crooked Knee on the first Saturday of May. **IMPORTANT: When we are done we will divide the mushrooms gathered equally among all participants.** So, there will be no need to rush to gather the morels before someone else beats you to them. More important than the morels we gather that day are the morels you will be able to gather in the future with the knowledge you acquire.

Feel free to bring a camera, a knife to cut the mushrooms, and a compass or GPS. You will receive your Shroom Sack™ before we depart. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Tom Nauman at 800-438-4213 or email

tom@morelmania.com

Visit <http://www.morelmania.com>

for details or to register.

(Advanced registration required)

The tuition is \$75.00 per person.



Professor "Tom" lectures Morel University Class of '09 Students in the "classroom".