

CHAPTER THREE: SOURCES

The corpus has been extracted from a number of books on mushrooms, ranging from popular guides to extensive descriptions, all of them written for the general public, however. Purely scientific texts have not been exploited because the terminology employed in them is only botanical. This approach is in agreement with the main aim of this study, which is to compare the Czech and the English names of mushrooms. The scientific names are essential for any terminological study because they are the only means of comparison.²⁵

In the following survey of books used for the compilation of the corpus, the number of species described and the numbers of names indicate whether or how much the author included synonyms in the descriptions of the species. In the Slovak books, only the entries with Czech translations are included in the final number.

While the list of the Czech and Slovak books includes anything that was published in the last twenty-five years, the English books are a selection composed of books available in Britain in 1994 and of a few books from the United States. Many other books from Northern America, Australia *etc* are not available. Yet the number of English books was sufficient for the purpose of this study.

CZECH AND SLOVAK BOOKS:

KLUZÁK, *Houbařův rok* (1991)

63 main entries with illustrations

85 other species described in the text

149 scientific names

GARIBOVOVÁ, *Houby* (1985)

98 species as entries in the main section,

20 species described, with pictures, in the text of the book

19 other species described in the texts of the entries

SMOTLACHA & MALÝ, *Atlas tržních a jedovatých hub* (1982)

110 species described, with illustrations

92 other species mentioned in the text (but not included in the indexes)

122 scientific names (do not include the other species)

PŘÍHODA & URBAN & URGAN, *Kapesní atlas hub* (1986)

143 species as entries with illustrations

41 other species referred to in the text to the illustrations

210 scientific names

DERMEK, *Huby lesov, polí a luk* (1985)

150 species in separate entries with Czech translations

25 The term 'scientific' is preferred here to 'botanical'. It corresponds to the Czech and Slovak usage of 'vědecký' and is also found in some English books. The use of 'vědecký' or 'botanický' is rare as most books use 'latinský'. Although 'latinský' corresponds well with 'český' and 'slovenský', it disregards the Greek element in the terminology. The official term, Neo-Latin, novolatinský, however, is not very frequent and its abbreviation to 'latinský' is not very precise.

182 other species mentioned in the text of the entries, *eg* as a species that is similar to that being described in the entries; only Slovak names are given in these cases.

568 scientific names, including varieties and subspecies

The category of subspecies is a matter of different taxonomies, *eg* the same species may be referred to as *Boletus aestivalis* in one system and as *Boletus edulis* var. *reticulatus* in another system and as *Boletus edulis* subsp. *reticulatus* in a third system. The number of scientific names then indicates the range in which the various taxonomic systems are mentioned. (The synonyms are also mentioned in the following chapter about the corpus.) The names of genera, of families *etc* are not included in the number of scientific names. They are analysed in Chapter Two.

KUBIČKA & ERHARTOVI, *Jedovaté houby* (1980)

174 species described, with illustrations

197 scientific names

DERMEK & LIZOŇ, *Malý atlas húb* (1985)

195 species as separate entries with Czech translations (8 of them are from a + b entries, *eg* 187a and 187b)

42 other species mentioned in the descriptions of the 195 main entries, with only scientific and Slovak names

507 scientific names²⁶

PŘÍHODA, *Houbařův rok* (1972)

216 species as entries with illustrations

266 other species described in the text

504 scientific names

HAGARA, *Atlas húb* (1987)

270 species as entries with illustrations and Czech names as well

231 other species mentioned in the texts of the entries, with only Slovak and scientific names

553 scientific names

KLUZÁK & SMOTLACHA, *Poznáváme houby* (1985)

311 species as main entries with illustrations

123 other species mentioned in the entries

453 scientific names

The following list of the ENGLISH BOOKS on mushrooms follows the same order as the survey of the Czech books, starting from the most concise book.

CHRISTENSEN, *Edible Mushrooms* (1989, first printing 1943)

56 species described

56 scientific names

33 English names

26 DERMEK & LIZOŇ and DERMEK are useful in quoting a number of scientific names for each species. The proportion of 237 species and 507 scientific names in the former book confirms this. The synonyms were useful when Czech and Slovak books were compared with the English ones.

DERMEK, *The Spotters Guide to Mushrooms and other Fungi* (Dorset Press, New York, 1989)

88 species illustrated
124 scientific names
114 English names

The English names in this translation from Slovak and in other translations have not been included in the corpus unless confirmed from another source.

CLARKE, *Spotter's Guide* (1980)

104 illustrated
104 scientific names
92 English names

PHILLIPS, *Common and Important Mushrooms* (1986)

120 specie illustrated
152 scientific names
90 English names

REID, *Mushrooms and Toadstools* (1980)

132 species illustrated
240 scientific names
60 English names

PEGLER & SPOONER, *Mushrooms* (1994)

144 species illustrated
? scientific names (no index)
225 English names

DICKSON, *Mushrooms and Toadstools of Britain and Europe* (Green Guides, 1990)

150 species illustrated
197 scientific names
88 English names
(197 species identified)

LAWRENCE & HARNIES, *Mushrooms & Other Fungi* (Letts Pocket Guide, 1990)

154 species illustrated
? scientific names (no complete index)
152 English names

RAYNER, *Mushrooms and Toadstools* (Hamlyn Nature Guides, 1979)

220 species illustrated
404 scientific names
76 English names

WILKINSON & BUCZACKI, *Mushrooms and Toadstools* (Collins Gem Guide, 1982)

230 species illustrated
230 scientific names
101 English names

MAJOR, *Collecting and Studying Mushrooms* (1975)

318 species described
318 English names
339 scientific names²⁷

27 Major's book has no index of scientific names and in the process of compilation of one, lack of grammatical precision in the scientific terms became obvious. A masculine noun is followed by an adjectives with a feminine ending: *Agaricus xanthoderma*, *Coprinus disseminata*, *Merulius tremellosa*, a feminine noun is linked with a masculine adjective: *Collybia peronatus*, *Grifola sulphureus*, *Mycena galopus* (instead of *-poda*), *Ungulina ulmarius*, a neutral noun is combined with a masculine adjective: *Geastrum coronatus*, or with a feminine

- MILLER, *Mushrooms of Northern America* (1979³)
 422 species described
 747 scientific names
 56 English names
- KIBBY, *Mushrooms and Other Fungi* (The Pocket Guide, 1991)
 425 species illustrated
 477 scientific names
 43 English names
 (444 species described)
- PEGLER, *Mushrooms and Toadstools* (The Mitchel Beazly Pocket Guide, 1981)
 449 species illustrated
 536 scientific names
 158 English names
 (506 species described)
- McKNIGHT, *Mushrooms* (Peterson Field Guide, 1987)
 over 500 species illustrated
 over 1000 species described
- DICKINSON & LUCAS, *The Encyclopedia of Mushrooms* (1976)
 520 species described
 195 English names
 520 scientific names
- RINALDI & TYNDALO, *The Complete Book of Mushrooms* (1974)
 210 English names of mushrooms found in North America
- PHILLIPS, *Mushrooms and other fungi of Great Britain & Europe* (1981)
 955 species described,
 1475 scientific names
 189 English names (including 14 synonyms)
- ARORA, *Mushrooms Demystified* (1979)
 over 800 species illustrated
 over 2000 species described

As the numbers above show, ARORA is a book with the highest number of species described. Yet, the number of English names is lower than in the preceding three books (RINALDI & TYNDALO, DICKINSON & LUCAS, MAJOR). We can quote, as an example, only one English name for one species of a puffball, out of 27 names for 14 species recorded in the main corpus and in the no-Czech-equivalent corpus, eight of the remaining 13 species being described with scientific names only and five species not being mentioned at all. Some of the names ARORA uses are his own inventions expressing his personal attitudes: *Boring*

adjective: *Tricholoma columbetta*. Not all of these forms are cases of careless combinations such as *Collybia/Marasmius dryophila*.

We find hesitation in the use of endings with a very common mushroom, the Field Mushroom. Some authors use *Agaricus campester*, which is a correct form of an adjective of the *cer, cris, cre* declension in classical Latin, while many others use *Agaricus campestris*, which should be declined like *brevis, breve*.

A minor deviation from grammatical rules is found in Miller's use of *semilibra*, instead of *semilibera* (*Morchella semilibera*).

Unfortunately we also find blunders in translations: *miniatus* is translated as *miniature* and *plumbea* as *plum*.

Brown Bolete, Boring Brown Cup Fungus, Not So Tedious Tubaria, Sunny Side Up. ARORA even uses abbreviations in the text of his book coined in a similar style: *BUM* = *Boring Ubiquitous Mushroom*, *JAR* = *Just Another Russula*, *YAM* = *Yet Another Mycena*, *LBM* = *Little Brown Mushroom*, *LBJ* = *Little Brown Job*. The following quotation from this book explains these abbreviations:

The cap is brown, the stem is a shade browner, the gills are browner still. On even the most casual jaunt through the woods, you'll find dozens and dozens of Little Brown Mushrooms sprouting at your feet, and very likely under them as well. The fact is, Little Brown Mushrooms are so overwhelmingly abundant and uncompromisingly undistinguished that it is more than just futile for the beginner to attempt to identify them — it is downright foolish.

After spending a good 25% of my waking existence being downright foolish, I have come to the painful but inescapable conclusion that the only possible reason for there being more than one kind of Little Brown Mushroom is that their "creator" has an inexplicable fondness for prospective professionals in search of a profession, *ie* Little Brown Mushrooms provide an ever-expanding plethora of pleasant possibilities for lengthy treatises with intriguing and titillating titles such as "A Preliminary Contribution toward a Partial Monograph of the Section Ignobiles of Subgenus *Obfustucantes*, Genus *Immobilaria* as it Occurs in Outer New Brunswick," or "More Useless and Uninteresting Agarics from Putrescent Point State Park."

However, ARORA is not anti-professional as the quotation might indicate. Two paragraphs later he says that "actually, thanks to the diligence and expertise of the professionals, we are slowly accumulating a large mass of knowledge on the Little Brown Mushrooms."

Other books mentioned in the references and not included above are of two types: one type is represented by BON and describes only species known from other sources, without giving any unknown English names. The other type are scientific books where only botanical names are employed, *eg* BARNETT and CLEMENTS & SHEAR.

One of the shorter English books is RICHARD CLARKE's *Spotter's Guide to Mushrooms & Other Fungi* (=CLAR). The title confirms the well-known fact that very few people in Britain collect mushrooms in order to eat them.²⁸ CLARKE's *Guide* is one of a long series of spotter's guides. There are guides to birds, trees, dogs, the night sky, dinosaurs²⁹, fishes, *etc.* The guide contains a scorecard which can be used for adding up a score after a day out spotting³⁰. CLARKE's *Guide* describes 104 *fungi* that 'grow in Britain and in Europe'. A medium size book, with 290 *fungi*, is MAJOR's book *Collecting and Studying Mushrooms, Toadstools and Fungi*, describing British, European, and North

28 This must be a relatively recent development. The Supplement to OED contains the following example from 1865 (under *cep*): "... stew it whole in *vin ordinaire*, together with some ham, a little butter, a little garlic, mushrooms or ceps, and a little salt" (M. Eyre, *Lady's Walls* XXIX.316, 1865). The cultivated mushrooms were first known in France during the reign of Louis XIV. The first written record is that by Oliver de Serres in 1600.

29 A copy of this book is not available to the author so that the technique of dinosaur spotting must remain a mystery.

30 The highest score is for spotting a Destroying Angel, a Morel, and a Cook's Truffle. The lowest score is awarded for spotting a Birch Polypore, a *Coriolus versicolor*, an Ear Fungus, a Shaggy Ink Cap, a Panther Cap, and a *Stereum hirsutum*.

American species of mushrooms. Although a European occurrence of a mushroom is mentioned very rarely, the distinction between the British Isles and North America, both in occurrence and in terminology, is given with every species.

The number of names of mushrooms, whether Czech, English or scientific, used in a book may be different from the number of species described in that book because some authors quote only one name only for a species, usually the most current or the most recent one, while other authors give more than one name for a species. MAJOR describes 276 species, as was mentioned above, but 59 of those have only scientific names, one mushroom has one scientific and one English name, while the remaining 216 mushrooms have 318 English names.

The scientific names are usually accompanied by an abbreviation of the name of the person who described the species, *eg* FR. for E. M. FRIES.. Let us quote two examples, the first from MAJOR, the other from DERMEK & LIZOŇ:

Deer Toadstool (British Isles),
Deer Mushroom (North America),
Fawn *Pluteus* (British Isles, North America)
(Pluteus cervinus)
Medřovec korenistý — hřib pepný
Chalciporus piperatus (BULL.ex. Fr.) BATAILLE
 Syn.: *Boletus piperatus* BULL. ex. Fr.;
Ixocomus piperatus (BULL. ex Fr.) Quél;
Suillus piperatus (BULL. ex Fr.) O.KUNTZE

Entries in encyclopedias have also been exploited but they usually confirmed the existence of an English name. The older editions of *Encyclopedia Britannica* have entries on mushrooms written in a scientific style, with very few English names mentioned. Very few current English names are used in the 9th edition (1889): **Dry Rot, Horse Mushroom, Meadow Mushroom, Fairy Ring Champignon, puffball, truffle, morel, and stinkhorn.** Other names found in this edition are not used in any other available book: **Pasture Mushroom, Poisonous Mushroom, Jew's Ear** appears in the 11th edition. Nearly twenty English names are used in the 14th edition, 1959. In addition to those mentioned above it is **Beefsteak Fungus, Caesar's Mushroom, chanterelle, Death Angel, earthstar, English Truffle, Fly Agaric, Giant Puffball, Honey Agaric, Inky Cap, May Mushroom, Périgord Truffle, Shaggymane.** One of the names, **Death Cup**, is not found in any other book on mushroom. The number of English names in the 15th edition, 1985, of *EB* is higher than in the previous editions. The new names in the 15th edition include another seventeen names, all written with small letters: **artist's fungus, bird's nest fungus, cauliflower fungus, chicken of the woods, death cup, death cap, dryad's saddle, ear fungus, false morel, field mushroom, honey mushroom, horn-of-plenty mushroom, jack-o-lantern, lorchel, oyster cap, scaly pholiota, shaggy parasol.**

Some names of mushrooms also appear in general dictionaries. *The Collins English Dictionary*², 1986, has the following entries and names of mushrooms mentioned in some entries:

agaric, amanita, beefsteak fungus, bird's nest fungus, blewits, boletus, bootlace fungus, cep, champignon, chanterelle, cramp ball, death angel, death cap, destroying angel, dry rot, earthnut, earthstar, elf-cup, ergot, fairy ring mushroom, fly agaric, funnel cap, grisette, honey fungus, horsehair fungus, horsehair toadstool, horse mushroom, ink-cap, jelly fungus, jelly mould, jew's ear, lawyer's wig, liberty cap, meadow mushroom, milk cap, the miller, morel, orange-peel fungus, parasol mushroom, parrot toadstool, puffball, russula, Saint George's mushroom, scarlet elf-cup, shaggy cap, the sickener, stinkhorn, sulphur tuft, truffle, wax cap, witches' butter, yellow brain fungus.

The Concise Oxford Dictionary has 120,000 entries and *CED* has 171,000 entries, *COD* being by about thirty per cent shorter, but the number of entries in *COD* is shorter by about two thirds:

agaric, beefsteak fungus, blewits, cep, chanterelle, death cap, dry rot, ergot, fly agaric, honey-fungus, horse-mushroom, ink-cap, morel, puff-ball, stinkhorn, truffle.

The New Shorter Oxford English Dictionary contains all the entries found in *COD* plus

boletus (+ bolet, bolete), champignon, false chanterelle (under chanterelle), destroying angel, earth-ball (not in CED), earth-nut, earth-star, fly fungus (= fly agaric), Jew's ear, lawyer's wig, liberty cap, milk cap, orange-peel fungus, parasol [mushroom], Scotch bonnets (not in CED or COD), St George's mushroom, shaggy ink-cap, shaggy parasol (but not shaggymane), sulphur tuft, witches' butter.

Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary has almost 160,000 entries but again the number of the names of mushrooms is relatively lower than in the *CED*:

agaric, amanita, boletus, champignon, chanterelle, death cap, death cup, destroying angel, dry rot, earthstar, ergot, fairy ring, fly agaric, inky cap, meadow mushroom, morel, puffball, shaggymane, stinkhorn, truffle.

The survey of the Czech and of the English books on mushrooms in the preceding pages shows that SMOTLACHA & MALÝ with 110 species, PŘÍHODA & URBAN & URBAN with 143 species and KLUZÁK with 148 species are nearest in size and character to CLARKE. (The nearest one in size is GARIBOVOVÁ but some of the Czech names are not accompanied by scientific names, thus making the book unusable.)

If we compare the 104 species described by CLARKE and the 110 species described by SMOTLACHA & MALÝ, we find that the two books have only 48 species in common. The rest of the statistics is shown in the following diagram as intersection of two sets.

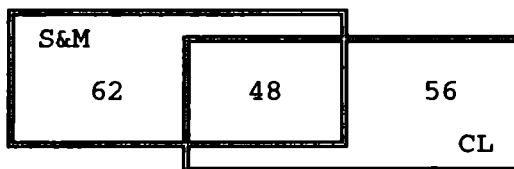


Fig. 3.1

A similar comparison of KLUZÁK and CLARKE (*Fig. 3.2*) shows that these two books overlap in 52 species (out of 149 in the Czech book and 104 in the English book).

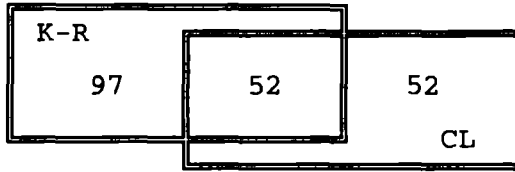


Fig. 3.2

The third pair, PŘÍHODA & URBAN & URBAN and CLARKE, shares 45 species (the Czech book describes 143 species).

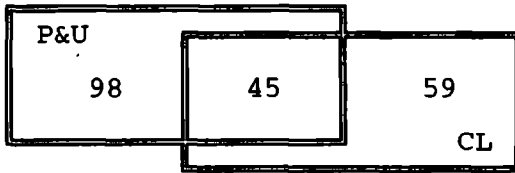


Fig. 3.3

The number of species shared by CLARKE and the three Czech books gets even lower if we compare two Czech books against CLARKE: the number shared by PŘÍHODA & URBAN & URBAN, SMOTLACHA & MALÝ and CLARKE is 36 species:

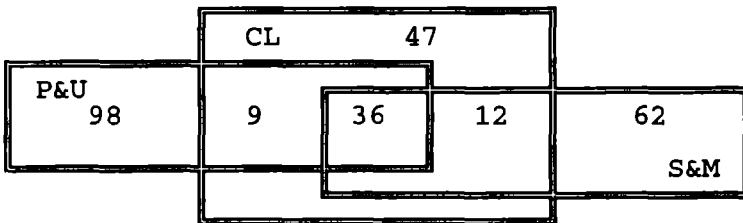


Fig. 3.4

Figures 5 and 6 diagram the numbers for the other two pairs which can be formed with the three Czech books when compared with CLARKE.

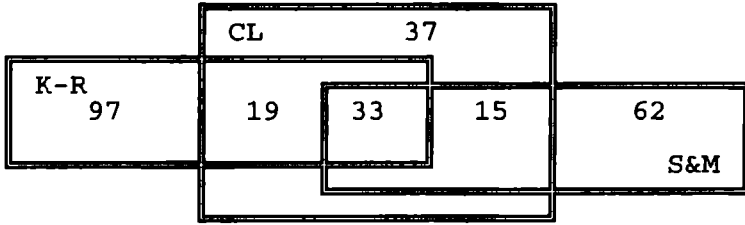


Fig. 3.5

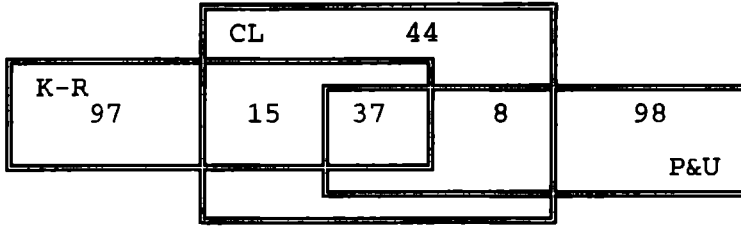


Fig. 3.6

If all four books (three Czech books and CLARKE) are compared, the number of species they share is only 29. The first of the two following diagrams compares the four books as four independent items, while the diagram in Fig. 3.8 includes the number of species each of the Czech books shares with CLARKE.

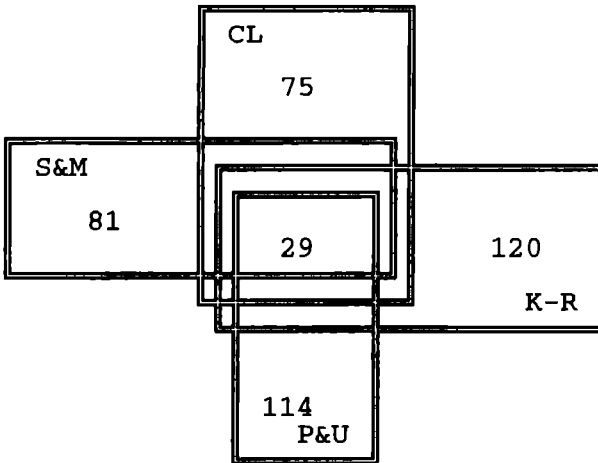


Fig. 3.7

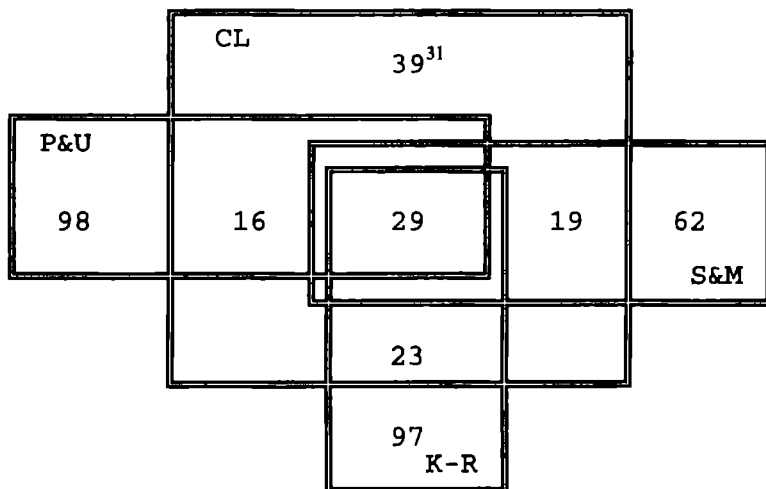


Fig. 3.8

The low number of shared species is less surprising if we compare the three Czech books only. They share 54 species only. With low numbers of items in the books this can be expected. The author(s) may concentrate on certain types of mushrooms, like SMOTLACHA & MALÝ, who describe edible and poisonous mushrooms only and mention relatively few russulas. Other authors, *eg* CLARKE, describe mushrooms most likely to be spotted when walking through the woods. The differences between Czech and English books can be partly explained by the distribution of mushrooms in various countries. As an example of this we mention the lactariuses and the russulas (*ryzce* a *holubinky*) which have less species in the northern and the southern parts of the mild zone.³² Even if a species travels across the world, as it happened with *Clathrus archeri* or *Anthurus archeri*, květnatec Archerův,³³ it usually settles in similar, or not very different areas from its original home.

31 39 species in CLARKE which have no equivalent in any of the three Czech books is a correct number but it does not fit with the other numbers in the diagram. The explanation is in the fact that the diagram is a simplification of the data. For technical reasons the diagram cannot show the number of species which the three possible pairs of Czech books (K-R + P&U, K-R + S&M, P&U + S&M) share with CLARKE. These numbers are shown in the three preceding diagrams, where the figures add up to make 104, i.e. the number of species in CLARKE.

32 More examples can be drawn from Kavina 1919.125.

33 It got into Europe in 1914 (or 1921) with shipments of military supplies during WWI or with a shipment of Australian wool. It was first spotted in France and then spread into other countries, including Britain. It appeared in southern Bohemia in 1963 (KLUZÁK 1991.43, PŘÍHODA & URBAN & URBAN 1986.68). KLUZÁK mentions another case of migration, this time from Northern America, *Mutinus raveneli* (1991.76).

The percentage of shared species is roughly the same if we compare books with higher numbers of mushrooms. HAGARA and MAJOR describe a very similar number of species, 270 and 290, out of which 92 are the same.

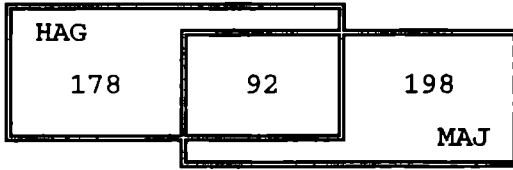


Fig. 3.9

92 common species means that the two books share about one third of the mushrooms descriptions, which is less than in the comparison of SMOTLACHA & MALÝ with CLARKE but roughly the same as with the two other pairs of books discussed above.

We get similar results if we compare the numbers of mushrooms in two still larger books, KLUZÁK (434 species) and MILLER (422 species).

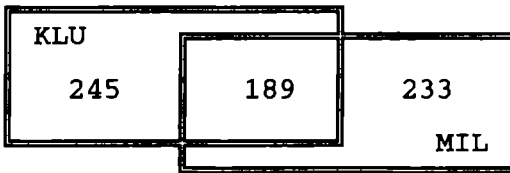


Fig. 3.10

More than enough diagrams have been shown above to prove that no two books on mushrooms described the same number and the same selection of species. The low percentage of overlapping has been more or less cancelled out by the exploitation of as many books as possible.