

Method for restoring native fungi into revegetation or degraded woodlands:

Puffballs & Truffle Fungi



Pisolithus puffball

Puffballs and truffles are packed full of spores, and far more spores can be obtained from each of their fruit bodies than from mushroom fruit bodies.

Get the spores

1. Crush the fruit bodies. *See Note 1*
2. Add the spores to a bottle of tap or tank water and mix thoroughly.

Put the fungi in with the seedlings

3. Water the mixture onto surface of the potting soil using a watering can. *See Note 2*
4. Raise the seedlings as usual.
5. Plant out as usual.

Notes:

1. Puffballs and truffles usually only have a thin skin, so the skin does not need to be separated before crushing. Whole fruit bodies can be crushed, unless they have a large stalk or base, such as with the puffball *Pisolithus*.
2. The age of the seedlings and amount of watery mix to apply to each pot will depend on your local conditions and type of pot. However it is best to allow the seedlings to be established, e.g. with at least with 2 or 3 ages of leaves, before applying the mixture.
3. An alternative method is to coat seed with spores before sowing. Another variation is to inject the spore mixture into the soil rather than just watering on top. This may enable more spores to germinate within soil, particularly if the potting soil mix is hydrophobic or not porous.



Gymnomyces truffle