

## The First Scientific Mycological Illustration of a Fungus

In 1491 the first scientific mycological illustration of a fungus appeared in the work *Ortus sanitatis. De herbis et plantis. De animalibus et reptilibus. De avibus et volatilibus. De piscibus et natatilibus. De lapidibus et in terre venis nascentibus. De urinis et earum speciebus.*[Moguntia. 1491.]. Early naturalists faced many obstacles in their attempts to document the fungi they observed. Often lacking fresh specimens and using the relatively primitive printing technique of wood block printing that was in general use throughout the 15th and 16th centuries, the black and white images produced with this method, while they may be quite striking, often lack the detail to identify species.