Alan. South African Transkei Psilocybe Cubensis Spore Syringes

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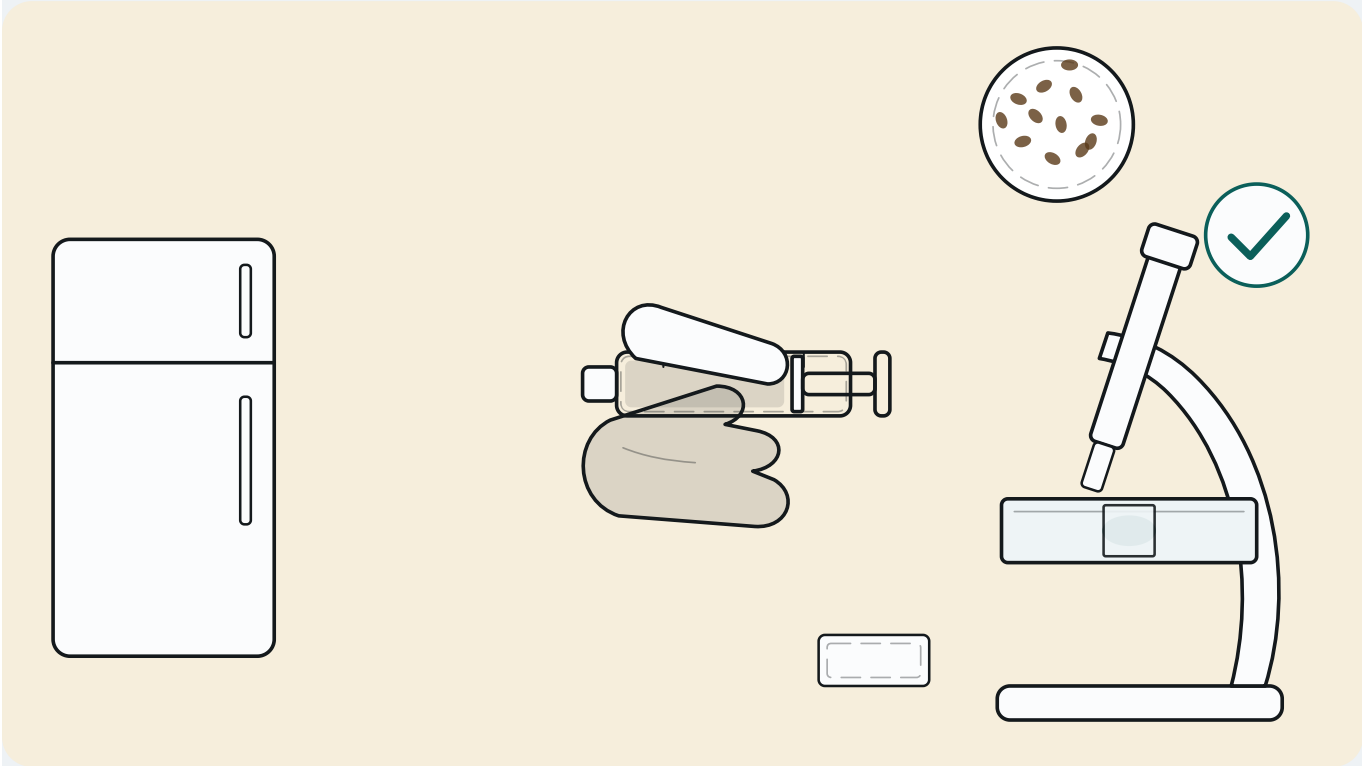
HOW THE SYRINGE IS USED FOR MICROSCOPY



1 Shake the syringe for ten seconds, cap on

2 Cap off

3 Needle on straight from its wrapper, never heated or wiped; cover off

4 One drop through the needle onto the slide

5 Coverslip down

6 Under the microscope: for microscopy and taxonomy

7 Needle off, end cap back on

8 Into the fridge at 2 to 8 °C

About Transkei

The Transkei spore syringe holds spores of a Psilocybe cubensis collected in 2002 on the Transkei coast of South Africa, often described as the first Psilocybe cubensis recorded from the African continent. It is supplied as a double-density suspension for microscopy and taxonomic reference.

Origin and lineage

Transkei was collected in 2002 in the coastal Transkei region of South Africa, and it is often described as the first Psilocybe cubensis recorded from the African continent. Durban's long history as a trading port is often mentioned alongside the find, but who first recognised its value is not recorded; the prints passed from hand to hand before reaching the stock prepared here. The line was released through our laboratory. The mushroom is described as average-sized for the species, and nothing beyond its provenance is documented as setting it apart from other cubensis collections.

Under the microscope

A drop from the Transkei syringe gives the standard cubensis picture: broadly ellipsoid spores with smooth, thick walls and a clearly defined germ pore at one end, dark purple-brown when seen in mass on a print. No trait has been documented that sets Transkei spores apart from other cubensis. The interest lies in placing a South African collection beside material from other continents in the same set and seeing that its spore form is not visibly different from the rest of the species.

What it is used for

Transkei's value on the bench is its provenance. As a documented African collection it anchors a regional comparison set alongside cubensis from the Americas and Asia, and it makes a straightforward teaching slide for the standard spore form and pigment of the species. Reference collections that catalogue cubensis by origin will want it for the same reason. It carries the usual caveat: spore morphology alone will not confirm that a sample is Transkei rather than any other cubensis, so a specimen's identity rests on the provenance of the print it was taken from.

Handling and storage

Keep the syringe refrigerated at 2–8 °C and do not freeze it; unopened, it keeps for up to 6 months. Every size comes with one individually wrapped sterile needle, and spare needles and gloves are available as extras. Before drawing a sample, agitate the syringe gently so the spores are evenly distributed, then place a single drop on a clean slide under a cover slip. Recap the syringe after use and return it to the fridge; it can be drawn from repeatedly across its shelf life provided the tip and needle are kept clean.

Species	Psilocybe cubensis
Strain	Transkei
Format	Double-density spore suspension in a sterile syringe
Available volumes	2.5ml, 10ml and 20ml
Included	One individually wrapped sterile needle
Storage	Refrigerate at 2–8 °C; do not freeze
Shelf life	Up to 6 months unopened
Intended use	Microscopy and taxonomic research only

How to Study Psilocybe Cubensis Spores Under a Microscope

Disclaimer

- This guide is for microscopy and educational purposes only.
- Cultivating or germinating spores into mushrooms containing psilocybin is illegal in the UK.

Introduction

- Each spore is a tiny, structured cell, and under the lens it shows its shape, size, wall and pigmentation.
- SporeSyringes.co.uk supplies double-density Psilocybe cubensis spore syringes, every batch checked under the microscope before dispatch, so the field is well populated for beginners and professionals alike.

Step 1: Prepare Your Workspace

Choose a clean, well-lit area and wipe the surfaces with isopropyl alcohol. You need:

- A microscope (400 to 1000× magnification)
- Sterile slides and coverslips
- A spore syringe (2.5 ml, 10 ml or 20 ml)

- Gloves and alcohol wipes
- A still air box, if you have one, to keep contaminants away while the slide is prepared

Step 2: Applying the Spore Solution

1. Shake the syringe for ten seconds with its cap on, so the spores disperse evenly.
2. Cap off, then fit the sterile needle straight from its wrapper; never heat or wipe it.
3. Take the needle cover off and put one small drop of solution onto the microscope slide.
4. Lower a coverslip over the drop carefully, to avoid air bubbles.
5. Needle off, end cap back on, and the syringe back in the fridge at 2 to 8 °C.

You now have a ready-to-observe spore sample. Strain clarity

Step 3: Viewing Under the Microscope

- Start at 400× to find the spores, then move to 1000× for detail.
- Expect ellipsoid spores, each strain with its own surface texture and pigmentation. The one exception among the strains we have imaged is Creeper, whose spores are angular rather than ellipsoid under the electron microscope.
- Strains such as Golden Teacher, Albino A+ and Hill Billy are studied side by side; spore size and colour overlap between strains, so record what you see rather than expecting a signature for each.

Step 4: Recording Your Findings

Take photos or notes of each strain's spore pattern. Over time you will learn to identify:

- Spore size and shape
- Colour variations (dark brown, purple or translucent)
- Wall thickness and density

Step 5: Build Your Microscopy Collection

- Many enthusiasts collect and compare spores from various strains for taxonomy studies.
- Start with a reliable source such as SporeSyringes.co.uk, where every batch is checked under the microscope before it is released.

Advanced Observation Tips

- Use MEA agar plates to grow out gourmet cultures and observe mycelium under the microscope.
- Compare strains such as Golden Teacher and B+ side by side to see the variations in spore shape and density; our Golden Teacher vs B+ guide walks through the differences.
- Record what you see for each strain, so your collection becomes a reference you can return to.

Key Takeaway

- Studying Psilocybe cubensis spores connects science and wonder. With clean, double-density spore syringes and the right tools, anyone can explore the structure and diversity of these remarkable organisms: legally, safely and with precision.

Internal Links:

- Buy Magic Mushroom Spore Syringes UK
- Learn About Double Density Spores

- Still Air Boxes for Microscopy

Psilocybe cubensis spores are supplied for microscopy and taxonomy only.

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