

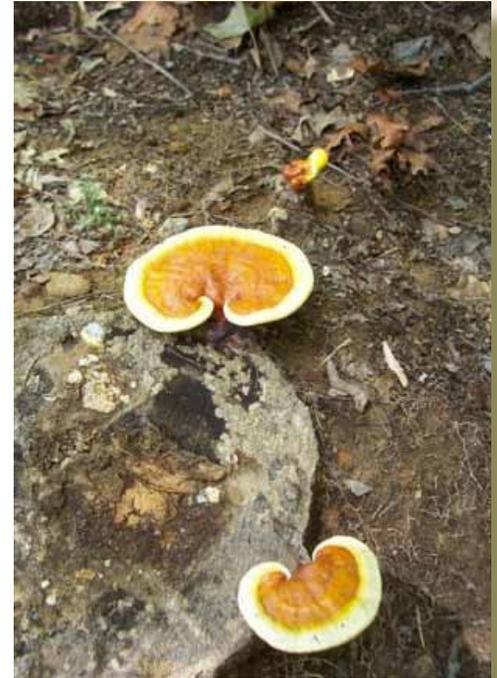


Reishi on Logs

Growing on Logs

The Basics

For Reishi cultivation, select fresh healthy wood from trees that are felled while dormant. Oaks and Plum are suitable choices. Log lengths of 36–40" varying in diameters of 5–8" are ideal (larger diameter logs can also be used, but they are better suited for the totem method of inoculation). These logs are drilled, inoculated with sawdust or plug spawn, and the holes are sealed with wax. After inoculation, the logs need to incubate in a humid and warm environment. Inoculated logs can be placed outdoors if your climate maintains daytime temperatures of over 60°F for 6 months. Logs usually fruit when daytime temperatures are 70–85°F and nighttime temperatures are around 60°F. Fruiting will not occur until the second season following inoculation.



North versus South

What You Should Know

In the south, logs should be placed directly on the ground; the Reishi mushroom requires near soil surface contact to provide adequate humidity. Totems should be individual, and stacking is not recommended (stacking will only lead to logs that are too dry). With the totem method, fruiting is likely to occur only at the base of the log near the ground. This is why some prefer to bury their logs halfway or more.

Logs can withstand northern winters, but the method for growing outdoors in the North varies slightly. Right before fruiting occurs, logs should be placed in a greenhouse or a protective covering should be placed over the logs, such as a cold frame or a portable hoop house. Logs should remain under this protection throughout the winter. Totem logs can also be buried in individual plant pots, filled with sand, and placed inside the greenhouse.

Helpful Hints

- Typically, the Reishi mushroom is best when prepared as a tea, and while the flavor is bitter, the tea makes for a bracing drink when served cold. Cinnamon sticks and fresh ginger can be added while simmering to improve flavor.
- When grown on logs this mushroom develops a CONCH shape, quite different from the ANTLER shape produced from growing in bags.

***More detailed instructions are included with every spawn or kit purchase!**