

On the Fungus That Is Found Only In Texas and Japan, and Nowhere Else In The World

So in Japan it's called Kirinomitake while in Texas it's called either Texas Star (because after releasing spores it's unfolded into a star shape) or the Devil's Cigar because it starts out as a long oblong mushroom but then it unfolds with an ominous hissing noise and releases a big smoky black cloud of spores.

It only grows in these two places, and people did genetic testing and a bunch of math to determine that the two populations started diverging from each other nineteen million goddamn years ago, so it's not possible for humanity to have moved it from one place to the other. They're at the same latitude, but 11,000 fucking kilometers apart not to mention the goddamn ocean in the way.

"this is only another illustration of the unusual and unpredictable distribution of many species of the fungi. It would be difficult indeed to account for it, and we merely accept the facts as they are."*

So apparently it's pretty common in the mycological world to find some bullshit that can't be explained and would probably drive men mad to look at too closely, and just sort of shrug and move on with your day.

* Seaver FJ. (1939).
"Urnula geaster".
Mycologia.

