Missouri Mycological Society -Lobster Mushroom January http://www.missourimycologicalsociety.org/ Missouri's Wild Mushrooms - A Guide to Hunting, Identifying Hypomyces lactifluorum & Cooking the State's Most Common Mushrooms by Maxine Stone Fungi>Ascomycota>Sordariomycetes>Hypocreales>Hypocreacea February Coloring Guide reddish orange, like a cooked lobster on the outside, orangeish white on the inside Hypomyces lactifluorum is a mold that infects other mushrooms, especially Russula brevipes and Lactarius piperatus, and changes their shape, color and flavor before they emerge March Russula brevipes Russula brevipes infected by Hypomyces lactifluorum April However, the cap is deformed the Lobster mushroom is the into a funnel by the parasite. cap: 6-30 cm (2.4-12") diam size of its host mushrooms, stipe: 3-8 cm (1.4-3") long. Ma_y June taste and dense flesh. Find a edible, with a slight sea-food mushroomer and go hunting The Lobster mushroom is with him or her to learn to recognize and gather it. Other Characteristics July August What eats Lobster Mushrooms: squirrels, chipmunks and other rodents, skunks, shrews, moles, deer and turtles, fly and beetle larvae September October GO HUNTING WITH EXPERIENCED MUSHROOMERS BEFORE TRYING WILD MUSHROOMS! Habitat (home/food/water) Home November North American Distribution Missouri Distribution* they are parasitic on Russula and Lactarius mushrooms temperate forests of coniferous What Lobster Mushrooms forest or deciduous trees where Russula or Lacturis live December consume: winter *distribution of forests summer home to Russula