When magic mushrooms turn blue

Scientists from Jena investigated the blue coloration of magic mushrooms after injury

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Psilocybe cubensis turns blue due to an injury on the underside. It was part of the underlying research.

Since the discovery of psilocybin, scientists have been wondering why the fungi of the genus Psilocybe produce this substance. Psilocybin is the strongly hallucinogenic compound that gives the fungi their effect. The team led by Professor Dirk Hoffmeister from Jena examined the blue discoloration of the fungus after an injury. This study provided finally an explanation for the formation of psilocybin, as reported in the journal "Angewandte Chemie".