Mission statement
The mission of the Rust and Smut Specialist Group (RSSG) is to promote the study and conservation of the rust and smut fungi by: (1) increasing current knowledge on the taxonomy of the species, (2) identifying and documenting threats to the survival of the species, and (3) assessing and monitoring their conservation status.

Projected impact for the 2017-2020 quadrennium
The conservation status of 50 species of rust and smut fungi will be assessed.

Targets for the 2017-2020 quadrennium
Assess
Red List: Complete assessment of 50 species of smut fungi (subphylum Ustilaginomycotina) and rust fungi (subphylum Pucciniomycotina). The geographic regions considered for assessments include Europe; Central, East, and South Asia; Australasia; Africa; and Central and South America.

Activities and results 2020
Assess
Research activities
i. In 2020, we worked actively in the field of taxonomy, phylogeny, and distribution of smut fungi. (KSR #43)

ii. In 2020, we published a monograph about the smut fungi of Greenland (https://doi.org/10.3897/mycokeys.64.47380). (KSR #43)

Summary of activities 2020
Components of Species Conservation Cycle: 1/5
Assess 2
Main KSRs addressed: 43

KSR: Key Species Result

Chair
Cvetomir M. Denchev

Red List Authority Coordinator
Teodor T. Denchev

Location/Affiliation
Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria

Number of members
9

Social networks
Website: www.cybertruffle.org.uk/rustsmut
Urocystis primulae from Bulgaria
Photo: T.T. Denchev

Microbotryum intermedium from Bulgaria
Photo: T.T. Denchev