

Matchmaker: Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest

Below are written descriptions and images of fruiting bodies, mushrooms, of the fungal species in this ectomycorrhizal association. The information is from the web version of the Matchmaker: Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest (MMPNW) created by the Canadian Forest Service and based on the Windows MMPNW version 1.3 by Ian and Eli Gibson.

[Click for further information about MMPNW](#)

Many illustrations need confirmation. Do not use this information to determine edibility.

I have read and agreed to the [disclaimer](#) and [copyright information](#).

LATIN NAME(S) *Agaricus semotus* Fries Monogr. Hym. Sueciae II. p.347. 1863; *Agaricus rubellus* (Gill.) Sacc.

ENGLISH NAME(S) wine Agaricus

NOTES features include small size, fibrillose cap which is gray-brown to reddish brown, pinkish brown, purple brown, vinaceous or ochraceous and may bruise yellow or turn yellow when cut, white to yellowish clubshaped stem, single cortina-like flaring de

CAP 4-7cm, at first convex to semi-cylindric, margin slightly inrolled, becoming flat or uplifted when old, with slight broad umbo; fibrils at first colored pinkish, later forming scant brownish fascicles, disc becoming darker brown, background when young

FLESH up to 0.5cm thick; white, becoming somewhat yellowish when cut, in stem white, becoming somewhat yellowish when cut, (Kerrigan), 0.3-0.35cm on disc, rather thin, firm and brittle; white to creamy; in stem brittle, white or "Isabella color", (Isaacs), white, yellowish or not when cut, often drying yellowish, (Malloch), flesh slightly yellowing especially toward stem base, (Hansen), brittle, (PNW keys)

GILLS free, close, up to 0.4cm broad; at first pallid, then pale brown, finally dark blackish-brown, (Kerrigan), free, crowded, rather narrow, 0.4-0.45cm broad, rather narrowly rounded at stem; 'at first grayish-vinaceous, "pale vinaceous drab", R45, darkening to "bistre", R29, at maturity; edges +/- even and pruinose', (Isaacs), whitish to pallid at first, then gray or pinkish brown and finally purplish black, (Malloch), thin, (Moser), presumably free at maturity, grayish-wine, presumably becoming chocolate brown; pruinose, (PNW keys)

STEM 5-9cm x 0.4-0.6cm, equal to clubshaped, 0.5-1.0cm wide in lower part, stuffed-hollow, cavity 0.1-0.2cm wide, base shallowly rooted in partially decomposed forest litter; white, becoming yellow and finally orangish when bruised or upon drying; smooth



Michael Wood (MykoWeb)



Michael Beug

VEIL veils forming a pendant or pendant-upturned, supramedian, white ring, at first rolled against cap margin, later flaring 0.2-0.3cm, apparently composed primarily of partial veil, universal veil mostly forming fibrillose zones or fine scales on lower stem, (Kerrigan), ring superior, flaring, then pendant, membranous, narrow, soon appressed to stem and often partially disappearing, single, oblique, creamy, then ochraceous if touched, (Isaacs), ring white or yellowish, delicate and cortina-like, remaining on stem or adhering to cap margin, single, drying whitish to bright yellow, (Malloch), ring thin, narrow, white, (Hansen), single flaring disappearing ring, (PNW keys)

ODOR almonds (Kerrigan), anise-like when crushed (Isaacs), almonds (weak in some), (Malloch), quite strongly anise (Courtecuisse), distinctly anise (PNW keys)

TASTE almonds (weak in some), (Malloch), anise-like when crushed (Isaacs), distinctly anise (PNW keys)

EDIBILITY probably yes (Malloch)

HABITAT scattered to gregarious, occurring in twos and threes, under conifers or in mixed forests in needles or leaves, (Isaacs), solitary or more often gregarious in forest litter of many native trees, (Kerrigan for California), on the ground in lawns and fields and in the woods (especially coniferous woods), (Malloch for eastern Canada), coniferous woods (especially spruces), (Moser for Europe), in small groups in coniferous more rarely deciduous woodland, also in meadows, (Hansen), under conifers or mixed trees, under oak, (PNW keys)

SPORE DEPOSIT presumably close to chocolate-brown or purple brown

MICROSCOPIC spores (3.8)4.7-5.5(6.0) x (3.0)3.3-3.8(4.9) microns, elliptic, hilar appendix not prominent, germ pore evident, (Kerrigan); basidia 4-spored, 15-21 x 5.5-6.5 microns, clavate to cylindro-clavate, sterigmata 2-3 microns long; cheilocystidia

NAME ORIGIN means "remote"

SIMILAR like *comtulus* and *micromegathus* which both grow in grass, and *micromegathus* is shorter; like *diminutivus* which is more slender (according to PNW keys, *comptuloides* and *diminutivus* have stem diameter less than 0.4cm and length 1.5-2.5 x cap diameter, whereas *semotus* and *purpurellus* have stem diameter more than 0.4cm and length approximately equal to cap diameter); like *dulcidulus* also more slender (reported by Zeller from Oregon); like *purpurellus* which according to PNW keys has cap fibrils grouped in batches to create slightly squamulose look, background color of margin light grayish as opposed to white, stem equal or with rounded base, but Isaacs says, "Although *purpurellus* is easily distinguished from *A. semotus* by its deep wine-red cap, they are otherwise identical, as far as I know, suggesting that they may be no more than color forms of a single species"

SOURCES Kerrigan(1), Malloch(2), Isaacs (colors from Ridgway and Kornerup(2) or Maerz), Moser(1), Hansen, L.(2), Arora*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Courtecuisse*, PNW keys (1997), Breitenbach(4)*

FAMILY Agaricaceae of Order Agaricales