

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.

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LATIN NAME(S) *Agaricus silvicola* Vitt. Fung. Mang. 43. 1835, Fries Hym. Eur. 280. 1885; *Agaricus sylvicola*; *Agaricus abruptibulbus* Peck

ENGLISH NAME(S) woodland *Agaricus*

NOTES features include relatively small size, white cap which becomes flushed yellow, yellow bruising reaction, pale to grayish pink or pinkish buff gills, slender stem, double ring, anise odor, and coniferous habitat; some confusion exists about concep

CAP 8cm, convex; white; satiny smooth, (Hotson), 8-12cm, convex; white; bruising strongly yellow when pressed, (Moser), 5-6cm, white, soon sulfur yellow, slowly dark lemon yellow on bruising; shiny, (PNW keys)

FLESH thick, white, (Hotson), thin-fleshed cap (1cm in middle), (Moser)

GILLS presumably free at maturity, crowded, narrow to moderately broad, ventricose (broader in middle), rounded at both ends; white, then pink to purplish fuscous, (Hotson), pale for a long time, then pinkish buff, then dark, finally blackish brown, (PNW keys)

STEM 10cm long, equal, base usually with abrupt flat bulb, hollow; white; bald, (Hotson), with almost abruptly bulbous base, above that more or less cylindrical, (Moser), 6-8cm x 1-1.5cm, equal with bulbous base, hollow; white, sometimes reddish above ring; smooth, stains lemon yellow when bruised (PNW keys)

VEIL ring with floccose patches below, but not conspicuously radially cracked, (Hotson), thin (Moser), superior, skirtlike ring, white, with or without white or yellowish scales, (PNW keys)

ODOR anise (PNW keys, Phillips), Bessette gives anise or almond for *silvicola* (Vitt.) Peck

TASTE pleasant, of anise, (Phillips)

EDIBILITY yes (for most) but make sure not *Amanita* (can mix)

HABITAT spruce woods (Moser for Europe), in dense coniferous forests (PNW keys)

SPORE DEPOSIT deep brown (Phillips for *silvicola* (Vitt.)Peck)



Michael Beug



Alvin Funk



John Dennis

MICROSCOPIC spores 6-8 x 3-5 microns, (Hotson), spores 6-8 x 4-5 microns, presumably smooth; cystidia spherical/balloon shaped, (Moser), note however that Phillips gives 5-6 x 3-4 microns for silvicola (Vitt.) Peck, noting that it is found widely distributed throughout North America, and Bessette gives 5-6.5 x 3.5-4.5 microns for silvicola (Vitt.) Peck as fairly common in eastern North America

NAME ORIGIN means "living in the forest"

SIMILAR like arvensis which is larger, thicker-fleshed with stout stem and ring whose lower surface is conspicuously radially cracked, while silvicola is smaller, thinner, or slender-stemmed, and with ring only obscurely double (Hotson), in addition silvicola is considered to be more erect and favor forest habitat rather than grass (arvensis sometimes in woods), Lange has considered silvicola as a variety of arvensis; like albolutescens but does not stain as dramatically, less robust, and less strong odor

SOURCES Hotson, Phillips* (silvicola (Vitt.) Peck), Moser(1) (A. abruptibulbus Peck - silvicola sensu Lange), Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Lincoff(1)*(but distinguishes abruptibulbus by larger spores), Courtecuisse*(silvicola (Vitt.) Peck), Bessette(2)*(silvicola (Vitt.) Peck), Barron*(unknown authority), PNW keys (unknown authority)

FAMILY Agaricaceae of Order Agaricales