

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) *Alboleptonia sericella* (Fr.) Largent & Benedict var. *lutescens* (Fr.) Largent & Benedict *Mycologia* 62(3): 448. 1970; *Alboleptonia adnatifolia* (Murrill) Largent & Benedict; *Pleuropus adnatifolius* Murrill; *Clitopilus adnatifolius* Murrill

ENGLISH NAME(S) little white Leptonia

NOTES This is the only common small white mushroom with pinkish spores, a thin stem and attached gills, note also angular spores; found at least BC, WA, OR, ID, CA, NC, Scotland, common in western North America

CAP 1-3(5)cm, convex becoming plane or centrally depressed; pure white to translucent white or tinged yellow (especially when old) or sometimes even pinkish; smooth, dry, often silky or finely fibrillose, (Arora), 0.6-8.0cm, bellshaped to convex at first, often broadly convex to flat with age, margin incurved to decurved (downcurved); not hygrophanous, white and often, if not always, tinged yellowish on the disc; opaque, finely appressed fibrillose to densely matted-fibrillose, becoming more or less silky and bald on drying; margin even, (Largent)

FLESH thin, fragile; whitish, (Arora), up to 0.9cm near gill attachment, fragile; white, unchanging when bruised, (Largent)

GILLS adnate to slightly decurrent or notched, well-spaced; white, becoming rosy-pinkish when old from spores, (Arora), adnate, sinuate, emarginate, or uncinata, crowded to subdistant, narrow to moderately broad, 0.2-0.9cm; white at first, edge white; edge even, (Largent)

STEM 1.5-5cm x 0.1-0.4cm, equal, smooth, fragile, white or discoloring like the cap, (Arora), 2.5-8.5cm x 0.15-1.3cm, equal to narrowed at base, 0.15-1.0cm at base, stuffed becoming hollow, "terete but often flattened and with a longitudinal groove"; white becoming tinged yellowish; pruinose to flocculose at top, bald to slightly appressed-fibrillose elsewhere, (Largent)

ODOR mild, at times fungoid to slightly pungent, (Largent)

TASTE mild to slightly unpleasant (Largent)

EDIBILITY unknown (Arora)

HABITAT scattered to gregarious in damp soil in woods, thickets, along trails, etc., (Arora), solitary, scattered, or gregarious in mossy humus, grassy areas, leafy humus, cedar branchlet humus, or needle humus under or near various conifers and hardwoods, devil's club, ferns, (Largent)

SPORE DEPOSIT bright flesh color (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores 9-13 x 6-8 microns, elliptic but angular (nodulose), (Arora), spores 7.3-12.9 x (5.3)5.9-10.2 microns, 5-6 sided, angular, smooth, heterodiametric (longer than wide); basidia 2- to 4-spored, 28-47.5 x 9-14 microns, easily separated; pleurocystidia rare if present at all, cheilocystidia rare, scattered, to more typically abundant, versiform in shape, 40-70 x 6-10 microns; pileocystidia cylindrical to club-shaped, at times capitate, 30-153 x 5-20 microns; caulocystidia versiform often like cap cystidia, 26-90 x 5.0-12.5 microns; clamps rare to scattered on hyphae of pileipellis and stipeipellis, scattered at base of basidia; pigmentation colorless, not at all incrustated, (Largent)

NAME ORIGIN 'sericella' probably means 'silky'; 'lutescens' means 'becoming yellow'

SIMILAR like ochracea which becomes tinged pale orange to orange brown and microscopically has broadly club-shaped cheilocystidia and stem; like earlei which stays white and has spores averaging less than 9 microns long; like subsericella which has a depressed cap, stays white, has farinaceous odor, and microscopically lacks cheilocystidia; like *Leptonia albida* which changes to creamy tan and has cap 2-3cm with finely scaly surface, woody bitter taste; like *Leptonia albinella* which also turns yellowish with maturity but has cap up to 1.0cm that is finely scaly over disc to fibrillose at margin; for both *Leptonias* cap skin is microscopically trichodermium rather than entangled hyphae

SOURCES Largent*, Arora*, Phillips*

FAMILY Entolomataceae of Order Agaricales