

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) *Amanita pachycolea* D.E. Stuntz Mycotaxon 15: 158. 1982

ENGLISH NAME(S) western grisette

NOTES characterized by tall slender stature, broad dark brown to dark gray brown cap which is markedly striate, characteristic gill color with dark margins, white to bright brown stem, absence of partial veil and ring, and huge sheathing volva at base of

CAP 7-12(20)cm, at first oval then convex and finally flat or with an upturned margin; dark brown, shading lighter toward the margin and with a darker band at inner edge of striations; viscid when moist, smooth, usually without a patch or warts of univert

FLESH soft; white, (PNW keys), rather soft; white, (Arora), 0.5-1.0cm thick on disc, thinner toward margin, floccose; white, unchanging when bruised or exposed, (Thiers)

GILLS close, broad; white, discoloring orangish when old, edges fringed and usually dark brown, (PNW keys), adnate becoming adnexed or free, close, broad; marginate (white with dark brown edges when fresh), sometimes discoloring dingy orange or yellow-orange in old age, (Arora), adnate to decurrent by a short inconspicuous hook, typically free with age, close to subdistant or occasionally appearing crowded, subgills in several tiers, gills broad, ventricose; "white when young, unchanging or becoming tawny to orange brown or orange yellow with age, sometimes with only spots showing these colors, usually drying yellow to buff, gill edges usually colored grayish to slightly drab or dark brown; edges fringed, (Thiers)

STEM 12-30cm or more long, 1-3cm wide, equal or widening downward, hollow when old; covered with gray-brown to brown fibrillose scales on a pale background, (PNW keys), 12-30cm x 1-3cm, stem may be even longer, equal or widening gradually downward, hollow

VEIL ring absent (PNW keys, Arora, Thiers)

ODOR mild (PNW keys), sometimes unpleasant when old (Arora), not distinctive (Thiers)



Taylor F Lockwood

TASTE mild (PNW keys), mild, may be fishy when old, (Arora), not distinctive (Thiers)

EDIBILITY yes but be sure of identification, not choice, (PNW keys, Arora)

HABITAT solitary to scattered in mixed woods and with conifers, (PNW keys), solitary, scattered, or in small groups, in mixed woods and under conifers, (Arora)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Thiers)

MICROSCOPIC spores 11-14.5 x 10-12.5 microns, broadly elliptic to round, inamyloid, (PNW keys), spores 11-14.5 x 10-12.5 microns, elliptic to round, smooth, inamyloid, (Arora), spores 11.4-13.5(14.4) x 10.4-12.4 microns, round to ovoid, smooth, inamyloid, thin-walled, apiculus eccentric or nearly so, colorless in KOH; basidia 4-spored, 53-80 x 13-16 microns, clavate, colorless in KOH; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not differentiated, marginal cells of gills abundant to sometimes apparently absent, clavate, terminal, colorless in KOH, not in chains, 20-27 x 6-17 microns; clamp connections absent, (Thiers)

NAME ORIGIN means 'thick-sheathed'

SIMILAR like *vaginata* which has gray to gray-brown cap and gray-edged or white-edged gills and tends to be smaller

SOURCES Thiers(5), Arora*, Kibby*, O'Dell(1), NYBG

FAMILY Pluteaceae of Order Agaricales



Dick Bishop



Janet Lindgren