

## 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 vaginata* (Bull.:Fr.) Vitt. Tent. Mycol. Amanitarum Illustr. p. 30. 1826

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** grisette

**NOTES** this species characterized by tall slender stature, gray to gray-brown cap which is markedly striate, absence of partial veil and ring, and presence of saclike volva; which of the grisettes occur in the Pacific Northwest is uncertain although they are common as a group: *vaginata* (and presumably *fulva*) and *pachycolea* differ from the *constricta* group in that the volva on *vaginata* is attached only at the bottom of the stem and in the *constricta* group the volva is firmly attached partway up the stem and flares open at the top; the PNW key description is for *A. vaginata* sensu Thiers, and the Breitenbach(3) description for *A. vaginata* (Bull.:Fr.) Vitt.; *vaginata* or a similar species is common in the Pacific Northwest, Breitenbach & Kranzlin give the distribution of *A. vaginata* as North America, Europe, Asia, North Africa

**CAP** 3-10cm, convex to obtusely conic to nearly spherical, becoming flat with an umbo; gray to gray-brown; smooth or with a patch of universal veil tissue, margin with deep striations, (PNW keys), 3-10cm, at first oval, then convex and finally flat or with a slight umbo; gray to grayish-brown, sometimes with a white patch or patches of universal veil tissue; smooth, slightly viscid when moist, margin grooved (deeply striate), (Arora)

**FLESH** soft, thin; white to grayish, (Arora)

**GILLS** adnate to adnexed or free, close, thin; white or tinged gray, (Arora), close to subdistant; white to grayish, edges white or gray, (PNW keys)



Fred Stevens



Ben Woo

**STEM** 7-15cm x 0.5-2.0cm, equal or widening downward, not bulbous; white to grayish, surface striate near top, (PNW keys), 7-15(20)cm x 0.5-2cm, usually long and slender, equal or widening downward, smooth and white or often covered with delicate grayish to grayish-brown scales, (Arora), VOLVA membranous, saccate, white to whitish, often with rust colored stains, (PNW keys), membranous universal veil forming a saclike volva that sheathes the stem but is attached only at the very base, white or tinged gray (occasionally rusty-stained), loose, lobed, (Arora)

**VEIL** ring absent (PNW keys)

**ODOR** mild (PNW keys)

**TASTE** mild (PNW keys)

**EDIBILITY** not known to be toxic, but not recommended, (PNW keys), yes but be sure of identification, (Arora)

**HABITAT** solitary to scattered with hardwoods or conifers, (PNW keys), solitary to scattered or in small groups in woods or under trees, (Arora)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white

**MICROSCOPIC** 7-12 x 7-12 microns, round to broadly ovoid, inamyloid, (PNW keys), spores 8-12 x 8-12 microns, nearly round to round, smooth, inamyloid, (Arora), spores 9.6-11.8 x 8.9-11.5 microns, round, smooth; basidia 4-spored, 47-55 x 15-19 microns, clavate; pleurocystidia not found, marginal cells abundant, 27-52 x 12-30 microns, nearly spherical to pyriform; septa absent on basidia and cap cuticle, (Breitenbach)

**NAME ORIGIN** means "sheathed"

**SIMILAR** fulva and alba but differs in color, (fulva often regarded as a color form), like pachycolea which has brown to grayish brown cap often without a patch or warts, and gills usually edged dark brown

**SOURCES** Arora\*, Phillips\*, Ammirati\*, Kibby\*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen\*, Courtecuisse\*, Barron\*, Breitenbach(4)\*

**FAMILY** Pluteaceae of Order Agaricales