

## 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)** *Armillaria nabsnona* Volk & Burdsall Mycologia 88(3): 487. 1996.

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** honey mushroom, North American Biological Species IX

**NOTES** *Armillaria mellea* group, North American Biological Species IX, distinguishing features from other *Armillarias* are a more orange coloration when fresh, lack of scales on cap (but small black hairs may be found as in *A. mellea*), a narrower stem in comparison to the size of the cap, and a darker stem, especially when dried, and hardwood habitat especially red alder, microscopically the pattern of branching of the basidia is distinctive; it is the only *Armillaria* known to fruit in spring in the Pacific Northwest (although commoner in fall); the information here is derived from Volk unless otherwise stated; found at least in BC, WA, OR, ID, (Volk), CA, Japan, (Baumgartner)

**CAP** 4-7cm, convex becoming flat, margin incurved slightly; hygrophanous, snuff-brown on disc, paler toward margin, often with darker bruise-like areas on or near surface, orange-brown; appears slimy when wet, smooth, no scales but sometimes with short dark hairs on disc when young, translucent-striate to furrowed

**FLESH** 0.05-0.1cm thick; white

**GILLS** adnate to somewhat decurrent, subdistant, 0.075-0.1cm wide; white to cream-colored, darkening to pinkish-tan, often developing brownish patches

**STEM** 8-10cm x 0.2-0.3cm, widening to 0.4-0.5cm at base; brown, paler brown to buff near ring, white cottony patches below ring, rhizomorphs frequently lacking but when present thick (0.1-0.2cm), black and branching

**VEIL** dense white cottony, ring flares up at first, soon becomes ragged, sometimes persisting as evanescent cortina

**HABITAT** on stumps and at the base of hardwood trees, especially red alder, in gregarious clusters but not caespitose, spring and fall

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white

**MICROSCOPIC** spores (6)8-10 x 5.5-6.5 microns, has a distinctive pattern of branching in the development of the basidia, virtually all basidia basally clamped, second basidium emerges from clamp of first, the third from the second and so on, particularly obvious in immature specimens; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not observed, but thin (2-3 microns) wide hypha-like cells can sometimes be found among basidia

**NAME ORIGIN** nabsnona stands for North American Biological Species IX: 'nona' = ninth

**SIMILAR** like *A. mellea*, but *nabsnona* is not caespitose, and has unbranched terminal cells in the cap cuticle and has clamps at the base of the basidia (*A. mellea* has frequently branching terminal cells in the cap cuticle and lacks clamps at the bases of basidia)

**SOURCES** Volk, Baumgartner(1)

**FAMILY** Marasmiaceae of Order Agaricales