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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Many illustrations need confirmation. Do not use this information to determine edibility.

LATIN NAME(S) Armillaria sinapina Berube & Dessureault Can. J. Bot. 66: 2030. 1988

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

NOTES Armillaria mellea group; differentiated from other members of group by general brownish color with red tinges, thin delicate ring (annulus), growth primarily on hardwoods, cylindric rhizomorphs, clamp connections on basidia as well as binucleate subhymenial cells; description derived from Berube except where noted; Volk notes that the golden yellow color of the universal veil has not been observed on western specimens; colors in single quotes from Kornerup(1984); found at least in BC from 49 to 57 degrees North, PQ, NY

CAP 2-6cm, conic-bellshaped to bellshaped, convex then flat-convex, occasionally mamillate, margin straight; sometimes hygrophanous, grayish orange or 'cinnamon', sometimes with very dark shades of 'Venetian red', 'eye brown' or 'chestnut'; dry, fibrillose, rarely bald, usually covered with dark brown or 'tile red' tufts of hairs and fibrils or sometimes densely covered with small scales, universal veil 'golden yellow' to 'mustard yellow', leaving small tufts of fibrils, sometimes wart-like, less frequent at center of mature fruiting bodies, margin sometimes with striations, with membranous white patches, remnants of partial veil still adhering to cap

FLESH thin to thick, firm; white to cream

GILLS sinuate, subdecurrent to sometimes strongly decurrent, thick, close; 'cream' to 'cinnamon' when old

STEM 4-8cm x 0.5-1.0cm, clubshaped, fibrous, ring (annulus) fibrous; context 'cream' to alabaster, covered with fine fibers, grayish brown to 'brick red', occasionally bruising 'photo brown', darker at the base, zoned with 'golden yellow' ringlets of universal veil, sometimes reduced to faint yellow fibers; slightly striate

VEIL universal veil 'golden yellow' to 'mustard yellow', covering entirely the primordia and immature fruiting bodies, leaving small tufts of fibrils on cap, sometimes wart-like, less frequent at center of mature fruiting bodies; partial veil leaves membranous white patches, remnants still adhering to cap; annulus (ring) fibrous, sometimes membranous but very thin and delicate, later collapsing and usually appressed to stem, white to 'cream' on upper part, 'golden yellow' to 'mustard yellow' on lower part, sometimes totally 'golden yellow' or 'mustard yellow'

HABITAT singly or in small fasciculate (bundled) groups or two to five on dead stumps and healthy roots, and trees, (hardwood and conifer), (Berube), singly, or sometimes in clusters of two or three, on stumps and at the base of hardwood trees and coniferous trees (Volk)

SPORE DEPOSIT ivory

MICROSCOPIC spores 8.2-10 x 5.9-8 microns, broadly elliptic to ovate, smooth, inamyloid, apiculate; basidia 4-spored, clubshaped, some with clamp connections at base; pleurocystidia absent

NAME ORIGIN means 'mustard'

SIMILAR like ostoyae, but sinapina differentiated by its general brownish color often with tile red tinges but more specifically by its golden yellow universal veil which entirely covers immature fruiting bodies and later leaves remnants consisting of ye

SOURCES Berube, Volk(2), Kornerup

FAMILY Marasmiaceae of Order Agaricales