

## 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.

[Click for further information about MMPNW](#)

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

I have read and agreed to the [disclaimer](#) and [copyright information](#).

**LATIN NAME(S)** *Baeospora myosura* (Fr.) Singer; *Collybia myosura*; *Collybia conigena* (Pers.:Fr.) Kummer sensu Lange

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** conifer-cone *Baeospora*, spruce-cone mushroom

**NOTES** features include small size, light brown cap, very crowded whitish to beige brownish gills, growth on buried conifer cones, white spore deposit, and small amyloid spores; Lennox says that *B. myosura* may be synonymous with *Baeospora conigena* (Fr.) Lange, Breitenbach gives *Collybia conigena* (Pers.:Fr.) Kummer sensu Lange as a synonym, and Lincoff says formerly known as *Collybia conigena*; found at least BC, WA, OR, ID, also NB, NS, ON, AK, AL, CA, IL, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, NY, NC, TX, VA, WI, (Redhead(6)), also in Europe including Switzerland

**CAP** 0.8-2.5cm, convex to somewhat conic, becoming flat, occasionally shallowly umbonate, margin remaining inrolled, sometimes straight; somewhat hygrophanous, warm buff to honey brown when moist, drying somewhat lighter, especially at margin; almost bald over disc, powdery elsewhere, (Lennox), 0.5-2cm, convex becoming broadly convex; tan, drying whitish-tan; moist, smooth, (Lincoff)

**FLESH** thin, tough-pliant, reviving; colored as cap or pallid, in stem tough-pliant, colored as surface, (Lennox)

**GILLS** sharply sinuate, appearing almost free, very narrow and crowded, 3 tiers of subgills, linear, blunt-pointed both toward the stem and margin; pallid to light pinkish buff, edges colored as faces; edges even, (Lennox), attached, crowded, narrow; white, (Lincoff)



Michael Beug



Michael Beug

**STEM** 2.5-4.2cm x 0.1-0.15cm, equal or slightly tapered toward base in the upper half, solid to stuffed; somewhat hygrophanous, concolorous at top, then darkening slightly, and dark buff for most of its length; finely pruinose to irregularly powdery, appearing almost bald when moist, the surface coating more visible on drying, strigose at base, frequently with white rhizomorphs as well, (Lennox), 1.5-5.5cm x 0.1-0.15cm, hollow; whitish becoming brownish; dry, minutely hairy, coarsely hairy stem base, (Lincoff)

**ODOR** not distinctive (Lennox, Bessette)

**TASTE** not distinctive (Lennox, Bessette)

**EDIBILITY** unknown (Bessette)

**HABITAT** solitary to gregarious on cones of Douglas fir or spruce, these often buried, (Lennox), on fallen cones of eastern white pine, Norway and Sitka spruce, and probably other conifers, (Lincoff), in groups on conifer cones, especially white pine and Norway spruce, also on magnolia cones, (Bessette, for northeastern North America)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white (Lennox, Lincoff)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 3-5 x 2-3 microns, short-ovate to cylindrical, colorless, thin-walled, amyloid, (Lennox); basidia 4-spored, very small, 16-19 x 3.5-4 microns, cylindrical, without encrustation; pleurocystidia similar to cheilocystidia, most abundant toward gill edges, scattered elsewhere, cheilocystidia very abundant, rather small, 15-24 x 4-8 microns, broadly clavate, much wider in lower half and tapering to an obtuse apex, thin-walled, colorless, (Lennox), spores 3-4 x 1-2 microns, elliptic, smooth, amyloid, colorless, (Lincoff), clamps mentioned for basidia and cap cuticle, (Breitenbach)

**NAME ORIGIN** refers to a mouse

**SIMILAR** *Strobilurus* species most reliably differentiated microscopically (Lincoff)

**SOURCES** Lennox, Lincoff(2)\*, Courtecuisse\*, Bessette(2)\*, Redhead(6), Barron\*, Breitenbach(3)\*

**FAMILY** Marasmiaceae of Order Agaricales



Sharon Godkin