

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) *Cantharellus cibarius* Fr. var. *roseocanus* Redhead & Norvell & Danell

ENGLISH NAME(S) rainbow chanterelle

NOTES this variety of *cibarius* was described in 1997 and is distinguished by its marginal pinkish hoary coating when fresh; reports of *cibarius* are difficult because of frequent confusion with *formosus* (more common in the Pacific Northwest); other varieties of *cibarius* are not definitely known to occur in the Pacific Northwest, but occur in Europe and other parts of North America; *cibarius* var. *roseocanus* is found in BC, WA

CAP 2-12cm, flat-convex with inrolled margin, becoming depressed centrally and lobed and crisped marginally, sometimes funnel-shaped or multi-capped when deeply incised and forming fan-shaped lobes; yellow pink from a heavy hoar especially marginally, to brilliant orange yellow centrally when young, when more mature orange yellow, masked on margins by a pale yellow pink to pale orange yellow hoar like coating and on some caps vaguely concentrically ringed by broad bands; moist, bald

GILLS decurrent, forming folds or ribs, crowded to subdistant (0.1-0.4cm apart), forking, anastomosing; when young light yellow to pale orange yellow, with age orange yellow, lacking pinkish tints

STEM 1.5-5cm x 0.7-2.4cm, with a tapered to rounded base, solid; light orange yellow to light yellow, when older whiter or grayer but often with more intense orange or yellow basally, overall no obvious bruising reaction but darker on old damaged patches

VEIL none

TASTE some forms of *cibarius* have subtle peppery taste

EDIBILITY yes

HABITAT solitary to gregarious, often in small clusters, on bare or mossy or grassy needle beds, in second growth Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*), or under spruce (*Picea*) with hemlock (*Tsuga*) and or fir (*Abies*)

SPORE DEPOSIT orangish yellow, similar in color to spore-bearing surface

MICROSCOPIC spores (6)7.5-10(11.3) x 4.5-5.5 microns, averaging 8.5 x 4.9, length/width 1.72-1.74, oval to elliptic in face view, slightly inequilateral in side view, smooth, inamyloid, thin-walled; basidia 4,5,6-spores, 116-128 x 7.3-9 microns (cf. *formosus* 86-120 microns), sterigmata large, 4-6 microns long and incurved with 5th and 6th further from the apex

NAME ORIGIN '*cibarius*' means 'good to eat', '*roseocanus*' means 'rose-colored hoary'; the English name is suggested by Redhead because "its sports an array of colors, it occurs in rainforests, and at its end it is golden"

SIMILAR like *formosus* which 1) tends to be smaller and less yellow, 2) lacks the pinkish hoary coating on margin (present on fresh var. *roseocanus*), 3) has a pinkish tone to the undersurface of the cap which is typically paler than cap (on *cibarius* var. *roseocanus* typically undersurface is the most intensely yellow tissue of fruiting body), 4) stains yellow readily (*cibarius* var. *roseocanus* merely exhibits darkened areas where damaged), 5) has spores that rarely exceed 9 microns and length/width ratio 1.47-1.6, as opposed to those of *cibarius* var. *roseocanus* which often exceed 10 microns, and have length/width ratio 1.72-1.74

SOURCES Redhead(24)

FAMILY Cantharellaceae of Order Cantharellales