

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) *Chromosera cyanophylla* (Fries) Redhead, Ammirati, & Norvell *Beih. Sydowia* 10: 161. 1995; *Omphalina cyanophylla* (Fr.) Courtecuisse & Bon; *Omphalina cyanophylla* (Fr.) Quelet; *Omphalia cyanophylla* (Fr.) Quelet; *Mycena lilacifolia* (Peck) A.H.Smith; *Clitocybe lilacifolia* Singer; *Omphalina lilacifolia* (Peck) Murrill; *Omphalia lilacifolia* (Peck) Peck

NOTES characterized by omphalinoid habit, viscid yellow cap and stem, and strikingly differently colored gills which are either bluish, lilac, or rosy depending upon pigment intensity, overall color becoming dingy yellow, and growth on conifer wood; not uncommon in Pacific Northwest, spring or fall; Redhead(41) examined collections from BC, WA, OR, MB, NB, ON, PQ, CA, MI, indicated by Smith(15) for ID, TN, reported also from NS, NY, France, Germany, Sweden, Switzerland

CAP 0.3-2.5cm, convex with a flattened to depressed center, edges even to scalloped; darkest centrally, pale luteous to amber or honey or olivaceous buff, "cream color" to "Naples yellow", with faint rosy vinaceous tints to larger caps or buttons; viscid to lubricous, bald, translucent-striate, (Redhead), 0.8-2.5cm, broadly convex with flattened disc and incurved margin when young, when old with flattened or somewhat depressed disc, the margin usually remaining sloped abruptly downward, "Naples yellow" on disc, "cream color" toward the margin (bright to pale yellow), buttons often dull lavender but quickly changing to yellow; viscid to glutinous, bald, translucent striate, (Smith), 0.6-2.6cm, broadly convex, disc flattened to depressed; grayish lavender becoming dingy yellow with paler margin; viscid, smooth, translucent-striate, (Bessette)

FLESH amber colored, (Redhead), pale yellow (Bessette)



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GILLS arcuate decurrent, neither crowded nor distant, with 1-2 tiers of subgills; pale vinaceous, pale rosy vinaceous, rosy vinaceous, or "pale lilac", fading with age, edges colored as faces, (Redhead), unequally decurrent, at first arcuate to subdecurrent, subdistant to moderately close, 23-26 reaching stem, 2 tiers of subgills, narrow (about 0.2cm); "pale lilac", gradually becoming pallid or retaining a lilac tinge; edges even, (Smith), subdecurrent, subdistant to close, 2 tiers of subgills; bright lilac when young, fading to pale dull lilac when old; edges even, (Bessette)

STEM 1-3(4.5)cm x 0.1-0.25cm, equal above a slightly swollen base, cartilaginous, hollow, amber with a grayish rose to vinaceous tinted apex and often with vinaceous to lilac tints at base; viscid, (Redhead), 1-3(4.5)cm x 0.1-0.25cm, equal or the base slightly enlarged, tubular, cartilaginous-fragile; colored as gills when very young, lower part soon becoming yellow but the basal mycelium remaining lilac, when old pallid in upper part or with a persistent lilac tint; slimy-viscid, bald, (Smith), 1-3.5cm x 0.1-0.15cm, nearly equal, fragile; lilac fading to yellowish with a lilac tint when old; slimy when fresh, smooth, may have lilac basal mycelium

VEIL presumably none

ODOR not distinctive (Redhead, Smith, Bessette)

TASTE not distinctive (Smith, Bessette)

EDIBILITY unknown (Bessette)

HABITAT solitary, scattered or cespitose (tufted) on exposed white-rotted wet coniferous wood (often cut ends and sides of logs or branches) on the forest floor, (Redhead), scattered, gregarious or subcespitose (somewhat tufted) on decaying wood of balsam, fir, or hemlock, (Smith), scattered or in groups on decaying conifer wood, especially balsam fir and hemlock (Bessette for northeastern North America)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Bessette)

MICROSCOPIC 6.5-9(11) x 3.5-4.5 microns, almond-shaped to elliptic with a prominent tapered apiculus, smooth, inamyloid, thin-walled, not cyanophilous; basidia 4-spored, 20-25(29) x 4-5(6.5) microns, clavate, lacking siderophilous granules; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia absent; clamps mentioned for cap cuticle and stem trama, (Redhead), spores 6-7 x 3-3.5 microns, subelliptic, smooth, inamyloid; basidia 4-spored; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not differentiated, (Smith), spores 6-7 x 3-4 microns, elliptic, smooth, inamyloid, (Bessette)

NAME ORIGIN refers to lilac gills

SIMILAR distinguished from viscid *Mycenas* by combination of flattened to depressed cap center, color which is lilac when very young, lasting longer on the usually decurrent gills, and growth on conifer wood



Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)



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Christine Roberts

SOURCES Redhead(41), Smith(1) (as *Mycena lilacifolia*),
Bessette(2)*, Arora*(as *Mycena lilacifolia*), Smith(15)

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales