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) Chroogomphus rutilus (Schaeff.ex Fr.) O.K.Miller Mycologia 56: 543. 1964; Gomphidius rutilus (Schaeff. ex Fr.) Lindall and Nannfeldt

ENGLISH NAME(S) brownish Chroogomphus

NOTES features include convex to acutely umbonate cap which is winy brown, smooth and viscid, ochraceous to yellowish flesh, decurrent gills, dry orange-buff stem which becomes vinaceous when old, pine habitat, and smoke-gray to black spore deposit; found at least in BC, OR, ID, and presumably WA, Miller examined collections from CA, ID, MD, MI, OR, TN, Sweden, Switzerland, and he gives distribution as North America, United Kingdom, Europe, Japan, Siberia in Russia, and Asia Minor

CAP 2.5-12cm, obtuse to convex with inconspicuously pointed umbo, becoming flat or top-shaped or shallowly depressed with arched margin, margin incurved when young; ochraceous, vinaceous to dingy umber or vinaceous brown, when old vinaceous; viscid drying shiny

FLESH gray to pinkish or rose near cap surface, light salmon to gray or light ochraceous near gills in some, dingy ochraceous to cream color elsewhere in cap, more yellowish in stem

GILLS decurrent, close to subdistant, broad when old, many forked about one-third two-third of distance to the cap; pale ochraceous, ochraceous buff, dingy yellow-brown or dull cinnamon when young, presumably becoming smoke gray to black

STEM 4.7-18cm x 0.5-2.5cm, tapered towards base or nearly equal, solid; orange-buff becoming vinaceous when old; dry to moist but not viscid, with a cover of fibrils from fibrillose veil near top

VEIL partial veil ochraceous, fibrillose, sometimes leaving a thin layer of fibrils on upper stem

ODOR none

TASTE mild

EDIBILITY yes

HABITAT solitary to scattered, occasionally gregarious, on ground, under conifers especially pines

SPORE DEPOSIT smoke-gray to black

MICROSCOPIC spores 14-22 x 6-7.5 microns, elliptic in face view, somewhat fusiform (spindle-shaped) in profile, smooth, (Miller); basidia 4-spored, 44-55 x 8-14 microns, clavate, colorless in KOH; cystidia 82-178 x 13-22, narrowly fusiform, fusiform, narrowly clubshaped to cylindric, thin-walled, hyaline in KOH with scattered incrustations, light yellow brown in crushed mounts; clamp connections present on amyloid mycelium around base of fruiting body and rare to absent in mature fruiting body, (Miller)

NAME ORIGIN rutilus means "red-gold"

SIMILAR vinicolor except can often be told by slightly duller or less wine-colored color and broader or flatter (less conical but often acutely umbonate) cap, different cystidia (with thinner walls), tends to be larger; like ochraceus which has different cap color (yellow-orange to buff, ochre, orange or grayish)

SOURCES Miller(1), Arora*, Lincoff(2)*, Lincoff(1)*, Ammirati*, Courtecuisse*, Bessette(2)*, Barron*

FAMILY Gomphidiaceae of Order Boletales