

## 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)** *Coprinus comatus* (O.F. Mull.:Fr.) Pers. Tentamen Disp. Meth. Fungorum. p. 62. 1797

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** shaggy-mane

**NOTES** Section *Coprinus*; this species remains in *Coprinus* with *Coprinus spadiceisporus* and *Coprinus sterquilinus*, while most of the species are distributed to *Coprinopsis*, *Coprinellus*, and *Parasola* in the proposed scheme based on molecular evidence (Redh

**CAP** 6.4-12.0cm high prior to expansion, 3.5-10cm wide after expansion, ovate-oblong at first, then conic, then bell-shaped, and eventually revolute or lacinate or both; white ground color with brown-tipped scales and all brown at top of cap, eventually

**FLESH** thin and membranous except at top where it may reach up to 0.2cm thick, in stem fibrous but somewhat brittle, up to 0.2cm thick, (Van De Bogart), soft; white, (Arora),

**GILLS** free and remote, crowded, subgills few or none, linear, 4-11cm x 1.0-1.2cm; white, then rose pink, then purple to gray-black, and finally soot-black; autolysis complete, (Van De Bogart), free or nearly so, very crowded; at first white, then passing through delicate shades of pink, pinkish red or vinaceous, finally black and inky, (Arora)

**STEM** 7.5-19.0(32.0)cm x 0.35-2.1cm, widening towards base, base bulbous to abrupt, hollow, the lumen containing a loosely interwoven yarnlike hyphal thread in center; white; smooth, silky-bald, opaque, (Van De Bogart), 5-20(40)cm x 1-2cm, narrowing downward or with an enlarged, more or less pointed base, hollow or stuffed with a pith, cleanly separable from cap; white; smooth, (Arora)



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**VEIL** universal veil thick, smooth at top of cap, the remainder squarrosely scaly, the veil covering the cap entirely until late maturity when small parts of surface revealed by splitting, dislodgement or lysis of the veil elements; large loose white ring present, usually near stem base, which seems to be the edges of a fragile volva that is almost always attached more firmly to the cap margin than to the stem base and hence carried part way up the stem upon expansion, (Van De Bogart), partial veil membranous, forming a small, white, movable, inferior ring which often drops to base of stem or falls off, (Arora)

**ODOR** faint odor of mushrooms, (Van De Bogart)

**TASTE** mild (Van De Bogart)

**EDIBILITY** delicious, may rarely react with alcohol like *C. atramentarius*, (Arora)

**HABITAT** solitary to clumped or even densely cespitose (tufted), terrestrial, on lawns, by roadsides, along trails, near compost heaps, and occasionally in forested areas, always on soil, (Van De Bogart), sometimes solitary but more often scattered to densely gregarious or in loose clumps on hard ground and grassy areas, rich or disturbed soil etc., (Arora)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** soot black (Van De Bogart)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 10.6-13.8(17.6) x 5.5-7.6(10) microns, smooth, mostly elliptic, germ pore apical, 1.8-3.0 microns in diameter, apiculus usually larger and prominent but sometimes small, medium to deep brown or smoky brown or smoky gray-brown in 3% KOH

**NAME ORIGIN** comatus means "with dense hair"

**SOURCES** Van De Bogart(1), Arora\*, Phillips\*, Lincoff(2)\*, Lincoff(1)\*, Ammirati\*, Kibby\*, Courtecuisse\*, Bessette(2)\*, Barron\*, Redhead(49), Breitenbach(4)\*

**FAMILY** Coprinaceae of Order Agaricales



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