

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) *Cortinarius gentilis* (Fr.) Fries *Epicrisis Systematis Mycologici* p.297. 1838; *Cortinarius confusus* Kauffman & Smith

ENGLISH NAME(S) deadly *Cortinarius*, goldband webcap

NOTES subgenus *Leprocybe*; recognized by slender stature, somewhat hygrophanous deep brown cap, non-viscid deep brown stem, and bright yellow veil remnants on cap and stem; found at least BC, WA, not uncommon, **CHEMICAL REACTIONS** flesh darkening in KOH (Thorn)

CAP 1.3-4.4cm, conic-bellshaped, conic-turbinate, conic-convex or cuspidate, expanding to convex, flat, or even depressed, usually with a prominent, acute or obtuse umbo; hygrophanous or not, light orange to brownish orange, light brown or reddish brown on the disc, and paler to yellowish toward the margin; moist and bald to dry, and radially silky or slightly diffracted-scaly, margin striate to corrugated or cracked when old, at first covered with pale yellow fibrils, (Thorn); 1-5cm, conical or bellshaped at first, expanding somewhat when old but usually retaining an umbo; somewhat hygrophanous, tawny to ochre to orange-brown or rusty-yellow, fading when old or as it dries; not viscid, (Arora)

FLESH concolorous or light yellow, (Thorn), thin; yellowish, (Arora)

GILLS adnexed or sinuate, subclose or close; at first light yellow or orange to grayish or brownish orange to brownish orange or brown, (Thorn), adnexed to adnate, fairly well-spaced; ochre-yellow to cinnamon-brown becoming browner when old (Arora)

STEM 5.2-14.0cm x 0.25-0.6cm, equal or tapering to base, hollow, cartilaginous or fibrous; light yellow at first but soon predominantly brownish orange to brown; marked with irregular bands and patches of pale yellow fibrils from the veil, (Thorn), 3-10cm x 0.3-0.5(0.7)cm, more or less equal, yellow- to orange-brown, dry, marked with irregular bands and patches of pale yellow veil fibrils, (Arora)

VEIL yellow universal veil leaves fibrils on cap margin and irregular bands and patches of fibrils on stem; pale yellow cortina soon evanescent (Thorn)

ODOR not distinct or fungoid or radish-like (Thorn)

TASTE not distinct or fungoid or radish-like (Thorn)

EDIBILITY possibly deadly poisonous, caused damage to rat kidneys but exact toxicity not well established (Benjamin), doubtful whether it has orellanine but could be present in small quantities (Joseph Ammirati, pers. comm. 1999)

HABITAT gregarious among mosses under conifers (Thorn)

SPORE DEPOSIT rusty brown (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores (6.6)7.1-8.4(9.9) x (4.6)5.1-6.3(7.2) microns, broadly elliptic or ovate, finely warted, (Thorn); basidia 4-spored, 31-44 x 7.5-10 microns, clavate; cystidia not seen, (Thorn), spores 7-9 x 5.5-7 microns, elliptic, minutely roughened (Arora), no pleurocystidia, marginal cells 18-36 x 3.5-6 microns, cylindrical, (Breitenbach)

NAME ORIGIN means 'of the same race' or 'foreign, exotic'

SIMILAR rainierensis which is scaly, orellanus which is somewhat larger, speciosissimus which is somewhat larger and stem yellower

SOURCES Thorn, Arora, Lincoff(2)*, McKnight*, Benjamin, PNW Keys, Barron*, Phillips*, Ammirati(11)*, Breitenbach(5)*

FAMILY Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales