

## 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 glaucopus* (Fr.) Fries group Arora

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** bulbous *Cortinarius*, blue-foot webcap

**NOTES** subgenus *Phlegmacium*; characterized by abruptly rimmed or rounded but relatively small bulb when young, narrow blue-gray to bluish-violet gills when young, and innate fibrillose streaking on cap margin; group description is from Arora unless otherwise noted; it is not clear yet which species occur in the Pacific Northwest: Smith reported in 1944 that *glaucopus* was abundant in the fall in Olympic National Park in WA, and described a similar species *C. subolivaceus* differing in fruiting in spring, having dominant violaceous color rather than turning rusty brown while still fresh, and having larger spores 9-11(12) x 5-6 microns, Phillips says *C. glaucopus* (Schaeff.ex Fr.) Fr. sensu Moser is found in conifer woods in the Pacific Northwest (the olivaceous form)

**CAP** 4-12(17)cm, convex becoming flat or with margin slightly uplifted or wavy; color variable: greenish-brown, olive-black, greenish-gray, steel-gray, bluish-gray, etc, often mottled or streaked with yellowish or ochre, often becoming fulvous, cinnamon or reddish brown when old, typically from center outward, margin sometimes yellowish-olive; viscid or tacky when moist

**FLESH** firm, thick; pallid to grayish or tinged violet-blue, becoming ochraceous when old, also ochraceous in base of stem

**GILLS** adnate to adnexed or notched; bluish-violet to bluish-gray or sometimes gray when young, becoming rusty brown as spores mature

**STEM** 4-10cm x 1-3cm, more or less equal above basal bulb that is abrupt and rimmed when young but often oblique or poorly defined when old, solid, firm; violet, blue or green at top and variously colored (often paler) below, often browner with age; dry

**VEIL** cortina pallid or pale bluish-violet, leaving hairs on stem

**ODOR** *glaucopus* has faint odor (Brandrud), *glaucopus* slightly of meal (Phillips)

**TASTE** *glaucopus* slightly of meal (Phillips), some are apparently bitter (Arora)

**EDIBILITY** no

**HABITAT** scattered to densely gregarious or in small clumps or sometimes in troops, under coniferous and deciduous trees

**SPORE DEPOSIT** rusty-brown

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 6-10 x 4-5.5 microns, elliptic, slightly rough

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'with glaucous foot (stem)'

**SIMILAR** *alboviolaceus* which has dry, silvery lavender cap; like *fulvo-ochraceus* which may or may not have abruptly bulbous base when young, has more buff or brownish cap and larger spores; can be like *Lepista nuda* (blewit) but cortina and rusty spores

**SOURCES** Arora\*, Lincoff(2)\*, Phillips\*, Lincoff(1)\*, Courtecuisse\*, Brandrud\*, Smith(12)

**FAMILY** Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales