

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) *Galerina venenata* Smith Mycologia 45: 922. 1953

ENGLISH NAME(S) deadly lawn Galerina

NOTES generally variable in color and size, features include hygrophanous cinnamon brown cap, adnate yellowish to cinnamon gills, brownish smooth stem with thin apical almost fibrillose ring, farinaceous odor, farinaceous to bitter burning taste, growth in lawns or occasionally on buried wood, rust-colored spore deposit, and wrinkled-warty spores; found at least WA, OR, (Lincoff), type from OR

CAP 1-3.5cm, broadly convex becoming flat or with depressed center and arched margin, margin crenate (scalloped) to lacerated; hygrophanous, near cinnamon brown, fading to a very dingy yellowish white to pinkish buff; bald and moist, (Smith), convex, becoming flat or with depressed center and somewhat torn, arched margin; reddish-brown to cinnamon-brown, fading to dingy yellowish-white or pinkish buff; moist, smooth, (Lincoff), Schalkwijk-Barendsen gives cap as sticky

FLESH moderately thick, (Smith, Lincoff)

GILLS broadly adnate, subdistant, broad; golden tawny becoming dull cinnamon; edges even, (Smith), attached, nearly distant, broad; yellowish brown becoming cinnamon-brown, (Lincoff)

STEM 3-4cm x 0.3-0.5cm, enlarged somewhat toward the base, round or flattened; brownish; with a very thin apical ring appressed against stem, in about half the specimens bald except for white-mycelioid base, (Smith), 3-4cm x 0.3-0.5cm, enlarging somewhat toward base; brownish; smooth, with cottony white mycelium about base, (Lincoff)

VEIL thin apical, fleeting, almost fibrillose ring, (Smith), small, thin ring pressed against upper stem, (Lincoff)

ODOR farinaceous (Smith), mealy (Lincoff)

TASTE farinaceous but slowly becoming bitter and disagreeable, leaving a burning sensation in the throat, (Smith), bitterish (Lincoff)

EDIBILITY deadly poisonous (Lincoff)

HABITAT gregarious in lawn, at that point only known from type locality in Oregon, (Smith), in lawns, but may also occur on buried decomposed wood, (Lincoff)

SPORE DEPOSIT rust (Lincoff)

MICROSCOPIC spores 8-11 x 6-6.5 microns, ovate in face view, subinequilateral in profile, with a conspicuous wrinkled-warty outer wall tending to loosen to form blisters near base, but not calyprate, plage smooth, russet in KOH, (Smith); basidia 4-spored, content oily-globular, 20-25 x 7-8 microns; pleurocystidia 45-70 x 9-15 microns, colorless in KOH, smooth, fusoid-ventricose with acute to subacute apices, cheilocystidia similar to pleurocystidia, no clavate to mucronate cells seen; gill trama somewhat interwoven, ochraceous in KOH, hyphal cells up to 30 microns broad, hymenopodium not distinctive; cap trama homogeneous, the hyphae at the surface 6-12(15) microns in diameter and interwoven, tramal body ochraceous in KOH; clamp connections present, (Smith); 8-11 x 5-6.5 microns, oval, roughened, with smooth pool-like depression at base, (Lincoff)

NAME ORIGIN means "poisonous"

SIMILAR autumnalis and marginata (somewhat) which grow on decaying wood, cap cuticle of autumnalis is different and it has different habitat and shape of apex of cystidia

SOURCES Smith(2), Lincoff(2)*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen*

FAMILY Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales