

## 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)** *Gomphidius smithii* Singer sensu Miller Mycotaxon 63: 1161. 1971

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** 'Smith's Gomphidius'

**NOTES** the distinguishing characteristic is the pale gray to vinaceous-gray to light purplish vinaceous to vinaceous-buff cap color, other features include slimy viscid bald cap, sometimes pinkish reaction when flesh cut, decurrent white then grayish gills, white glutinous stem which enlarges downward then tapers to a point, stem sometimes yellow at extreme base, glutinous partial veil, scattered to solitary growth under conifers, blackish spore deposit, and elongate spores; found in CA, OR, ID, MT, and "in all likelihood Washington", according to Miller, reported from WA by O'Dell(1), from MA, and on foray lists from BC

**CAP** 3-6cm, convex with incurved margin; pale gray, grayish vinaceous, pallid vinaceous, light purplish vinaceous, or vinaceous-buff; slimy viscid, bald, the incurved part of margin white and cottony, (Miller), 2.5-7.5cm, convex-flattened to depressed; grayish to wine-colored gray or brownish; smooth, viscid when wet, (Phillips)

**FLESH** soft; white, when cut becoming very slightly flushed with vinaceous or pink in some caps, and often pinkish in stem base when cut, (Miller), white (Phillips)

**GILLS** short- to long-decurrent, close to subdistant, narrow to moderately broad, many of them forked once or twice; white then grayish; edges even, (Miller), decurrent, broad, almost waxy; white then pale gray and finally blackish gray, (Phillips)

**STEM** 5-8cm x 0.8-1.3cm, thick at apex, slightly enlarged downward then narrowed almost to a point at base; white at top, with a sheath of colorless gluten more or less covering the lower three quarters of the stem, shining white beneath gluten becoming duller downward and sometimes yellow at extreme base, finally sordid vinaceous to blackish where handled, (Miller), 3-7.5cm x 0.5-1.5cm, tapered at base, white to dull grayish with little or no yellow at base, dry above veil zone, viscid below, (Phillips)

**VEIL** an outer layer of colorless gluten over a white fibrillose layer, (Miller)

**ODOR** none (Miller), pleasant (Phillips)

**TASTE** mild (Miller), pleasant (Phillips)

**EDIBILITY** yes (Phillips)

**HABITAT** scattered to solitary under conifers, especially *Pinus contorta* and *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, (Miller), under Douglas-fir (Phillips)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** blackish (Phillips)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 14-18.5 x 4.5-6 microns, elliptical in face view, subfusiform (somewhat spindle-shaped) in side view, light gray-brown in KOH, light ochraceous in Melzer's, (Miller); basidia 4-spored, 40-44 x 6-9 microns, clavate, colorless to light yellow in KOH, yellow in Melzer's; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia 99-110 x 10-15 microns, cylindrical to fusiform, thin-walled, colorless in Melzer's solution and KOH; no clamps found, (Miller), spores 15-20 x 4.5-7 microns, narrowly elliptic, smooth, (Phillips)

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'Smith's'

**SIMILAR** like subroseus in size but subroseus more yellow in stem and more red in cap; like glutinosus which averages larger and is more highly colored (gray-brown to purple-gray or reddish-brown) and more yellow in stem

**SOURCES** Miller(4), Phillips\*

**FAMILY** Gomphidiaceae of Order Boletales