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) Gymnopilus bellulus (Peck) Murrill North American Flora 10: 200. 1917

NOTES distinctive characters are small stature and small elliptic to oval spores; member of sapineus group but no veil; Hesler examined material from WA, OR, ID, CA, CO, CT, MA, ME, MI, NY, TN, and gives distribution as northern United States, Tennessee and Canada

CAP 1-2.5cm, convex, obtuse; "Kaiser brown", deep tawny, bright-watery-cinnamon, orange-brown, rusty fulvous; bald to minutely scurfy, margin even, "sometimes extending beyond cap margin", (Hesler), to 2.5cm, red-brown, rust-brown, reddish-yellow, also with ochraceous tone, (Moser)`

FLESH thin on margin; tawny to ochraceous, (Hesler)

GILLS adnate-seceding, sometimes emarginate with decurrent tooth, close to crowded, narrow; bright-yellow then dull yellow, or rusty yellow, finally ferruginous and spotted, edges often discoloring brown (marginate), (Hesler), rust-yellow, edges often discoloring brown, (Moser)

STEM 1.5-3cm x 1.5-3cm (sic but probably means 0.15-0.3cm), equal, solid or stuffed or hollow; reddish brown or rusty bay, darker below; apex scurfy, sometimes throughout, (Hesler), 1-4cm x 0.1-0.3cm, reddish-yellow to rust-brownish; top pruinose, in lower part fibrous to bald, (Moser)

VEIL none, although an agaric reported from Europe under this name as showing a veil in the young stage, (Hesler)

ODOR mild (Hesler)

TASTE bitter (Hesler)

HABITAT on conifer stumps and logs, sometimes cespitose (tufted), (Hesler)

SPORE DEPOSIT bright rusty yellow (Hesler)

MICROSCOPIC spores 3.5-5.5 x 2.6-3.5 microns, elliptic to oval, verrucose (warty), often with a suprahilar depression, no germ pore, ferruginous in KOH, dextrinoid, (Hesler); basidia 4-spored, 17-22 x 4-5 microns, lactiferous basidioles scattered to abundant on sides, with brownish amorphous contents, 16-19 x 4-5 microns; pleurocystidia 20-24 x 5-6 microns, fusoid-ventricose with a filiform neck, capitate to subcapitate, cheilocystidia 14-26 x 3-5 microns, flask-shaped, capitate or subcapitate; clamp connections present, (Hesler)

NAME ORIGIN means 'beautiful'

SIMILAR like picreus which has much larger spores; like liquiritiae which is larger and has larger spores

SOURCES Hesler(2), Moser(1)

FAMILY Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales