

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) *Hemimycena delectabilis* (Peck sensu Smith) Singer; *Mycena delectabilis* (Peck) Saccardo

NOTES characterized by small size, white color, obtuse cap, nitrous odor, small moderately broad spores, and cystidia on both the faces and the edges of the gills; Smith gives *Mycena leucophaea* as synonym but Redhead later maintains it separately as *Helotium leucophaeum* then *Hemimycena leucophaea*, also found in BC, *H. delectabilis* found at least BC, WA, OR, ID, common in PNW during late summer and fall in wet weather

CAP (0.3)0.8-2.0cm, obtusely conic with appressed margin at first becoming broadly conic, sometimes papillate; white, the cap center faint water gray almost chalk white when faded and around the cap center faintly yellowish

FLESH thin, fragile; white

GILLS arcuate becoming long decurrent, somewhat distant to distant, narrow; white; edges fringed or even

STEM 2-4cm x 0.05-0.15(0.2)cm, nearly threadlike at times, fragile-cartilaginous, tubular; white; bald except for the base being white strigose and top faintly pruinose

VEIL none

ODOR strong nitrous, sometimes evident only if flesh crushed, or even absent

TASTE not distinctive

HABITAT scattered to gregarious on needle beds especially under heaps of dead branches

SPORE DEPOSIT presumably white

MICROSCOPIC spores 5-7 x 3.5-4 microns, more or less elliptic, smooth, inamyloid, pleurocystidia scattered to abundant, 33-58 x 7-12, fusoid-ventricose (spindle-shaped - wider in the middle) elongating to somewhat cylindrical or nearly filamentous at times cheilocystidia similar and numerous

NAME ORIGIN means 'delightful'

SIMILAR *H. pseudocrispula* (also with fragile cap, somewhat pliant stem, and similar stature and color) has somewhat nauseous taste and mild odor, and has abundant caulocystidia without well differentiated pleurocystidia and edges

SOURCES Smith(1) (as *Mycena delectabilis*), Redhead(5), Redhead(15)

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales