

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) *Hohenbuehelia petaloides* (Bull.ex Fr.) Schulz. Verhandl. zool.-bot. Ges. Wein 16: 45. 1866; *Pleurotus petaloides* (Bull.:Fr.) Quelet

ENGLISH NAME(S) shoehorn oyster, leaflike oyster

NOTES *H. petaloides* and close relatives distinguished by brownish moist to gelatinous cap with lateral stem, crowded pale gills, and white spores; this species was first called *Agaricus petalodes* Bulliard, then *Agaricus petaloides* Bull.:Fries; Arora's description is for *Hohenbuehelia petaloides* group; *H. petaloides* is the most common *Hohenbuehelia* in the Pacific Northwest

CAP 3-7(10)cm, spatula-shaped to funnel-shaped or shoehorn-like when upright (i.e. split or open on one side), fan-shaped or petal-shaped when shelf-like, tapering to a stemlike base, at first incurved or inrolled, margin often lobed or wavy; "some shade of brown, tan, or grayish-brown"; "smooth or with a whitish bloom when young and often downy toward the base, moist to somewhat rubbery-gelatinous in feel but not viscid except when very wet", (Arora), 2.5-5.0cm spathulate or shell-shaped, often lobed and wavy, continuous with stem, margin inrolled at first; date-brown, dark buff or clay-color or darker brown, paler with age; moist to gelatinous, smooth, with white bloom when fresh, (Watling)

FLESH pliant; "usually white, sometimes watery tan", (Arora), "watery, rather cartilaginous, white to buff-colored and gelatinized in uppermost layer", (Watling)

GILLS deeply decurrent, crowded, narrow, thin; "white or tinged gray, often becoming yellowish or creamy in age"; "often becoming crisped (wavy) in dry weather", (Arora), long decurrent, crowded, narrow; whitish then tinged grayish or grayish buff; with crenulate margin, (Watling), edges fringed, (Lincoff)



Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)

STEM 1-4cm long and up to 2.5cm thick, lateral or off-center, continuous with cap, equal or tapered downward; white or grayish; "fuzzy, downy or minutely hairy", (Arora), 1-3cm x 1.5-3.0cm, off-center, obconic, at times almost absent, compressed or channelled; buff or pale cinnamon; tomentose especially at base, (Watling)

VEIL absent (Arora)

ODOR mild (Watling)

TASTE mild (Watling)

EDIBILITY yes, but not choice (Arora quoting other sources)

HABITAT "usually in groups or small clusters on rotting or buried wood, sawdust mulch, etc.", (Arora), on deciduous wood

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Arora, Watling)

MICROSCOPIC spores 7-9 x 4-5 microns, elliptic, smooth, inamyloid gills with large thick-walled cystidia, (Arora), spores 5-7 x 3.5-5 microns; metuloids large, fusoid, (Hansen), spores 5-6.5 x 3-4 microns, elliptic-oblong, smooth, thin-walled, inamyloid; basidia 4-spored, 25-28 x 5-6 microns, clavate, thin-walled; pleurocystidia 40-50 x 10-13 microns, metuloid, fusiform to ventricose, thick-walled, colorless in alkali, reddish brown in Melzer's solution, cheilocystidia either thick-walled and then resembling pleurocystidia or fusoid-cylindric or irregularly swollen in places, thin-walled; cap cuticle a narrow reddish brown cutis of interwoven colorless hyphae 1.5-4.5 microns broad, embedded in a gelatinous matrix with some cells ending in lanceolate to narrowly fusiform, thick-walled cap cystidia; clamp connections present, (Watling)

NAME ORIGIN means "like a leaf"

SIMILAR geogenia (see entry for that species)

SOURCES Watling(2), Arora*, Lincoff(2)*, Courtecuisse*, Bessette(2)*, Thorn(2) (as petalodes), Hansen, L.(2) (as petalodes)

FAMILY Pleurotaceae of Order Agaricales