

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) *Hygrophoropsis aurantiaca* (Wulfen ex Fr.) Maire
In Martin-Sans L'Empoisonnement. p.99. 1921

ENGLISH NAME(S) false chanterelle

NOTES some put in Paxillaceae; principal fieldmarks are orange to brown cap, decurrent orange dichotomously forked gills and white spore deposit; common in Pacific Northwest; distribution north temperate, Australia

CAP 2-8(14)cm, convex becoming flat or somewhat depressed, margin at first inrolled; "typically some shade of dark orange, brownish-orange, brownish-yellow, yellowish-brown, olive-brown, or dark brown (often darker or browner at center and orange to yellowish-orange at margin), but in one form whitish and in another blackish"; dry, often somewhat felty, (Arora), 2-9cm, flat-convex, then depressed or somewhat cup-shaped, margin inrolled at first; orange-ochraceous, becoming fuscous or fuliginous, villous to subtomentose, becoming bald, (Corner)

FLESH thin; pallid or tinged orange or cap color, (Arora), thick in center of cap, cottony-floccose, soft; white to yellowish, (Corner)

GILLS "decurrent, close, fairly thin and narrow at maturity (may be blunt when young)", usually forked dichotomously; "typically deep orange to bright orange, but sometimes pale orange or in one form yellowish", (Arora), decurrent, crowded, 24-34 primaries, 0.1-0.2cm wide, edge blunt, gills 3-5 times dichotomous, easily separable from cap; deep orange; often slightly veined on sides, (Corner)

STEM 2-10cm x (0.2)0.5-1(2)cm, "central or off-center, equal or enlarged toward base, often curved"; "yellowish to orange or brownish-orange or colored more or less like cap"; dry, (Arora), 2-5cm x 0.3-0.9cm, subcylindric or widening downwards, fibrous soft; bister or ochraceous, fuliginous with age; subtomentose or subvillous, (Corner)

VEIL absent

ODOR mild, mushroomy, (Phillips)

TASTE mushroomy (Phillips), unpleasant (Corner)



Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)



Alvin Funk



Michael Beug

EDIBILITY avoid, as possibly poisonous according to some, (Arora), some reports hallucinogenic (Phillips)

HABITAT "solitary, scattered or in groups or tufts in humus and on rotting wood, usually under conifers", (Arora)

SPORE DEPOSIT white to creamy (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores 5-8 x 2.5-4.5 microns, elliptic, smooth, often dextrinoid, (Arora), 5-8 x 3.5-5.5 microns, elliptic to subcylindric, smooth, 1-2 droplets; basidia 4-spored, 28-40 x 8-11 microns, clavate; cystidia none, (Corner), clamps mentioned for basidia and cap cuticle, (Breitenbach)

NAME ORIGIN means 'orange', *Malum aurantium* = orange

SIMILAR chanterelles but less robust, less wavy or frilled, cap browner, flesh flimsier, gills thinner, crowded and bladelike at maturity and are usually oranger than those of the chanterelle, and sometimes grows on rotten wood; like *Omphalotus olearius* (Jack O'Lantern) which is not in BC and has unforked gills but may be real reason for reports of poison reactions

SOURCES Corner, Arora*, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Ammirati*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse*, Barron*, Breitenbach(3)*

FAMILY *Hygrophoropsidaceae* of Order *Boletales*