

## 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.

[Click for further information about MMPNW](#)

Many illustrations need confirmation. Do not use this information to determine edibility.

I have read and agreed to the [disclaimer](#) and [copyright information](#).

**LATIN NAME(S)** *Hypholoma tuberosum* Redhead & Kroeger  
Mycotaxon 29: 457. 1987

**NOTES** outstanding features is growth from underground large sclerotium, other features include moist to subviscid orange cap, subdistant gills that are dingy yellowish brown with whitish edges, tough subviscid to dry stem that is orange yellow becoming ochreous where bruised, and habitat in compost piles, rank grass, mulched gardens and loose soil burrowed by mammals; this is not the same as *Stropharia tuberosa* Beardslee; *H. tuberosum* found in Vancouver BC, found in arboreta in Seattle WA, and Portland OR, but found in peat bog outside Sydney Australia, and likely to have been imported in materials used for cultivation (Paul Kroeger, pers. comm.)

**CAP** 1.5-6cm, convex and more or less umbonate, margin incurved when young, "brown orange" (Kelly(1)) to "deep orange" (Kelly(1)), paler marginally; moist to subviscid, slightly striate on overly mature specimens at margin

**FLESH** fleshy in cap, tough in stem; pale yellow brown in cap, in stem colored as surface

**GILLS** adnexed, with or without short decurrent tooth, subdistant; "light grey yellow brown" (Kelly(1)) becoming "grey yellow brown" (Kelly(1)) with whitish edges, (Redhead), the gill color when young is a pale gray (Paul Kroeger, pers. comm.)



Paul Kroeger

**STEM** 4-5.5cm x 0.25-0.4cm, narrowing slightly downwards, sometimes abruptly swollen at soil surface, narrowing below soil to a short or long "root" (up to twice length of stem) leading to an underground sclerotium, sclerotium irregular oblong to nearly round, up to 8.5cm x 5.0cm, often lobed; stem tough, nearly woody near soil surface but root soft; "orange yellow" (Kelly(1)) to "light orange yellow" (Kelly(1)), becoming ochreous where bruised or handled; below ring zone sometimes subviscid and then appearing somewhat varnished when dry, overlaid by scattered yellowish fibrils or fibrillose patches or bands, above ring zone minutely fibrillose; root is dingy yellow brown, "light grey yellow brown" (Kelly(1)); sclerotium is "brown" (Kelly(1)) on exterior, dingy yellowish brown ("grey yellow brown" to "dark gray yellow" (Kelly(1))), with ochraceous areas in interior

**VEIL** whitish cobwebby partial veil soon darkened by spores

**ODOR** faintly farinaceous, sclerotium earthy to somewhat like green corn

**TASTE** slightly bitter; sclerotium mild or slightly radishlike

**HABITAT** solitary to tufted in compost piles, rank grass, mulched gardens and loose soil burrowed by mammals

**SPORE DEPOSIT** "deep grey brown" (Kelly(1)) (brown vinaceous)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 9.5-11.5(12.8) x 5.2-7(7.8) microns, narrowly oval to elliptic, smooth and with faint germ pore; basidia 4-spored, 27-30 x 8-9 microns, clamped, colorless, suburniform, prominently projecting when mature; pleurocystidia (chrysocystidia) scattered, abundant, 40-49 x 10-15 microns, fusoid to fusoid-ventricose, thin-walled, colorless or occasionally yellowish, mostly embedded in hymenium, cheilocystidia 30-38 x 5.5-8.5 microns, obtusely ventricose to cylindric, often with an undulate neck, thin-walled, smooth, colorless

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'with lumps' or 'with tubers'

**SIMILAR** *Agrocybe arvalis* lacks a partial veil and has snuff brown gills and spore deposit, more regularly globose to ellipsoid sclerotia, and abundant white mycelial strands connecting stem and sclerotia

**SOURCES** Redhead(16)

**FAMILY** Strophariaceae of Order Agaricales