

## 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)** *Inocybe geophylla* (Fr.) Kummer Fuhr. Pilzk.: 78. 1871

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** little white *Inocybe*

**NOTES** features include relatively small size for *Inocybe*, white umbonate cap, dull brown gills at maturity, dry whitish stem that is silky or finely fibrillose, spermatic odor, smooth spores, and thick-walled cystidia; *I. geophylla* (Fr.) Kummer widespread and common in North America including MT, and Europe according to Cripps, *I. geophylla* (Fr.) P.Karsten found ID and WA to CA, New England to NC and TN, west to the Mississippi River, Europe, according to Kauffman who also records it from OR, and *I. geophylla* found in BC according to numerous reports in Redhead(5), Kuyper examined collections from MI, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom (England)

**CAP** 1.5-3cm, sharply conical when young with inflexed margin, expanding to conical-convex, or almost flat with distinct sharp papillate umbo; white at first, becoming pale brown, occasional ochraceous tints; smooth, umbo radially silky fibrous, fibrils not diverging, white veil material may obscure darker ground color in young specimens, margin typically rimose (cracked), (Cripps), 1.5-2.5cm, nearly conic, then expanded-umbonate; white or whitish; dry, very silky and glossy, (Kauffman), 1-3(4)cm, conical to bell-shaped, expanding when old to flat but often retaining an umbo, margin sometimes uplifted or split when old; white or sometimes with a slight yellow tinge when old; dry, smooth to silky or finely fibrillose, (Arora)

**FLESH** white, occasionally yellow beneath the cap surface, (Cripps), white, (Kauffman), thin; white, (Arora), unchanging (Phillips)



Michael Wood (MykoWeb)



Alvin Funk

**GILLS** almost free, sinuate, well-separated, broad, to 0.2cm; white, light brown, light gray brown, light yellow brown, occasionally with yellow hue, edges white or colored as faces; edges fimbriate (fringed), (Cripps), adnexed, close, rather broad, ventricose; whitish then pale-grayish-clay-colored, (Kauffman), adnate to adnexed or notched, close; at first pallid then grayish, finally dull brown, (Arora)

**STEM** 2-5cm x 0.2-0.3cm, long, thin, equal or with indistinct knob at base, flexuous or straight; white, light tan, or with ocher tints; smooth, shining, pruinose at top, remainder covered by longitudinal white fibrils (easily removed on handling), (Cripps), 3-5cm x 0.2-0.3cm, slender, equal, firm, stuffed; white; silky, pruinose at apex, (Kauffman), 2-6cm x 0.2-0.5cm, equal or slightly thicker at base, firm; white or grayish-white; smooth to silky or finely fibrillose, (Arora)

**VEIL** cortina fibrous, white, conspicuous in young specimens, (Cripps), fibrillose, whitish, evanescent, or leaving a slight hairy zone on stem, (Arora), cobwebby (Lincoff(2))

**ODOR** spermatic (Cripps, Kuyper), disagreeable (spermatic), (Arora), varies from slight to disagreeable or scented, (Phillips)

**TASTE** spermatic (Kuyper)

**EDIBILITY** poisonous (contains muscarine), (Arora)

**HABITAT** with both hardwoods and conifers, in Montana in riparian areas under aspen, or mixed aspen and willow, (Cripps), on ground in hardwood and coniferous woods, (Kauffman), scattered to gregarious on ground (or occasionally very rotten wood) in woods (Arora)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** brown (Cripps, Arora)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 8-9.5 x (4.5)5-5.5 microns, elliptic, smooth, with small apiculus, a few spores obviously larger 12-14 x 4.5-6.5 microns, long elliptic, (Cripps); basidia 1-, 2-, and 4-spored, 23-30 x 6-9 microns, clavate; pleurocystidia 54-72 x 9-14

**NAME ORIGIN** means "earth-colored gills"

**SIMILAR** in comparison to geophylla which is white, spindly or small, unchanging and umbonate, there is have pudica which is robust, reddening, with convex cap, armeniaca which is spindly, reddening, and umbonate, agglutinata with fulvous disc and fulvous fibrils at base of stem, fuscodisca with fuscous disc and fuscous fibrils at base of stem, and lilacina with lilac veil and robust stature

**SOURCES** Cripps, Kauffman(4), Arora\*, Phillips\*, Lincoff(2)\*, Lincoff(1)\*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen\*, Kibby\*, Courtecuisse\*, Kauffman(4), Redhead(5), Kuyper(1), Kauffman(5)

**FAMILY** Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales



Michael Beug