

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 pudica* Kuehner Ann. Sci. Franche-Comte 2: 26. 1947; *Inocybe whitei* (B.& Br.) Sacc. f. *whitei* sensu Kuyper

ENGLISH NAME(S) blushing *Inocybe*, blushing fiberhead

NOTES principal fieldmarks among *Inocybes* are tendency of white fruiting body to "blush" pink, red, or orange, relatively smooth cap, and growth under conifers; one of the commonest *Inocybes* along the west coast of North America, reported specifically for WA by O'Dell(1), given by Matheny(2) for WA, by Cripps for ID, MT, by Nishida for CA, and Grund for NS, also Europe (Kuyper examined collections for OR, Austria, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Germany, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom (Scotland))

CAP 2-6(8)cm, conical or bell-shaped when young, becoming convex to nearly flat at maturity, but usually retaining an umbo; white at first but developing pinkish to reddish or orange stains as it ages; dry: may be slightly tacky or slippery in wet weather but is not truly viscid, silky-fibrillose to nearly smooth (Arora), 1-3cm, conical with inflexed margin covered by cortina when young, then conic-convex often with uplifted margin, umbonate; white, staining a salmon color, umbo often yellow-brown; greasy or dry, entirely smooth, or with smooth umbo and outwards radially fibrous, fibrils not diverging, margin entire or slightly rimulose with age, rarely rimose, (Cripps), margin uneven and lacerated when old, (Bessette), sometimes there is only a hint of staining around the edge of the cap, (Ammirati)

FLESH thin; white, (Arora), white, with salmon or other stains, (Cripps), more or less flushing pink (Courtecuisse)



John Dennis

GILLS adnate to adnexed, notched, or free, close; pallid or flushed pinkish or orange, becoming grayish-brown or dull brown as spores mature, (Arora), sinuate, almost free, depressed at stem, well-spaced, somewhat broad, up to 0.6cm; white, or cream when young, then light brown, yellow-brown, gray brown, staining a salmon color, edges white, (Cripps), whitish when young, cinnamon brown when old, (Bessette)

STEM 4-8cm x 0.4-1cm, equal or enlarged at base, firm; white, but discoloring like cap; smooth or silky fibrillose, (Arora), 2.5-6cm x 0.2-0.5cm, long and slender, equal or slightly swollen at base, straight or undulating; white, staining a salmon color; pruinose-floccose at top, longitudinal fibrils downwards, (Cripps)

VEIL fibrillose or cobwebby, whitish, evanescent, (Arora), cortina white, copious in young specimens, soon gone, (Cripps)

ODOR unpleasant or spermatic, (Arora), spermatic, (Cripps, Kuyper), unpleasant (chestnut catkins), (Ammirati)

TASTE not distinctive (Bessette), spermatic (Kuyper)

EDIBILITY poisonous, contains muscarine, (Arora)

HABITAT scattered or in groups on ground or in moss under conifers, (Arora), with aspen or in mixed aspen, willow and alder, (Cripps for Montana) often damp, deciduous or coniferous woods, (Courtecuisse)

SPORE DEPOSIT brown (Arora, Cripps), dull brown (Ammirati), gray brown (Lincoff)

MICROSCOPIC spores 7-10 x 4-6 microns, elliptic or bean-shaped, smooth, gills typically have both thick- and thin-walled cystidia, (Arora), spores 7-10.5 x 5-6.5 microns, almond-shaped with a blunt rounded apex, smooth, thin-walled, (Bessette), spores (

NAME ORIGIN means 'blushing, chaste'

SIMILAR geophylla lacks brownish red or dull pinkish stains on its gills and has a more sharply pointed cap, (Bessette)

SOURCES Cripps (as whitei f. whitei), Arora*, Lincoff(2)*, Ammirati*, Bessette(1)*, Courtecuisse*, Ammirati(11)*, O'Dell(1), Nishida(2), Grund(8), Kuyper(1) (as whitei f. whitei), Matheny(2)

FAMILY Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales