

## 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)** *Lactarius deterrimus* Groger

**NOTES** separate species from *deliciosus* according to Courtecuisse, Bessette(2) says *deterrimus* is correct name for the North American species and *deliciosus* is European, Hesler & Smith reduced *deterrimus* to subspecies of *deliciosus*, (and described *deliciosus* varieties *areolatus*, *deterrimus*, *olivaceosordidus* and *piceus* for North America but not variety *deliciosus* - although Methven gives var. *deliciosus* as common in CA), PNW keys treat *deterrimus* as a variety of *deliciosus* that has orange latex which stains tissue purple (vinaceous) before dull green, not becoming areolate like var. *areolatus*; what follows is from Hesler & Smith who use American material from MI and treat it as a variety of *deliciosus*; *Lactarius deterrimus* Groger was reported from WA by Jumpponen(1)

**CAP** (3)8-13cm, convex to convex-depressed, more or less flat-convex when old; pale orange-buff or with a salmon tint, duller when old, slowly staining greenish; viscid, bald, somewhat zonate to not zonate, at times with a sheen

**FLESH** fragile; pallid, becoming more or less "pinkish cinnamon" when old, soon staining purplish vinaceous above the gills, MILK moderately abundant, bright orange at first, staining cut surface purplish-vinaceous then dull dark green where injured

**GILLS** adnate to decurrent, close, many tiers of subgills, narrow to moderately broad, not showing an appreciable number forking; "orange buff" singly, "capucine orange" in mass (brighter), staining reddish vinaceous then dull dark green where injured

**STEM** 2.5-7cm x 1.5-2.5cm, equal or tapered downward, moderately fragile, becoming hollow; colored about as cap, staining reddish vinaceous where cut; moist to scarcely lubricous but not viscid, not scrobiculate but may be slightly pitted to uneven

**VEIL** none

**ODOR** not distinctive

**TASTE** in young caps more or less acrid, in old ones mild or practically so

**EDIBILITY** edible

**HABITAT** scattered in cold wet conifer forests

**SPORE DEPOSIT** pale buff

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 7.5-9 x 6-7 microns, broadly elliptic, plage lacking diffusely distributed amyloid material; with amyloid warts and amyloid ridges (partial or broken reticulum with additionally isolated warts and ridges), prominences 0.5-0.8 microns high; basidia 4-spored, 45-50 x 9-11 microns; pleurocystidia: macrocystidia absent or a few similar to cheilocystidia near edge, 35-50(65) x 3-6 microns, aciculate, pseudocystidia scattered, filamentous, cheilocystidia scattered, 30-40 x 3-6 microns, aciculate

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'most inferior' or 'worst'

**SOURCES** Hesler(4), Bessette(2)\*, Jumpponen(1)

**FAMILY** Russulaceae of Order Russulales