

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) *Lactarius luculentus* Burlingham var. *luculentus* Mycologia 28: 260. 1936

NOTES features include reddish cinnamon slimy-viscid cap, white unchanging milk, close narrow pale tawny gills, brownish stem, taste becoming slightly bitter then slowly peppery, buff spore deposit, and broadly elliptic spores with amyloid warts and ridges; found at least OR, CO, AK

CAP (2.5)3-7.5(9)cm, broadly convex or almost flat, becoming centrally depressed, slightly papillate, the papilla disappearing; generally pale to rich reddish cinnamon (according to Burlingham's description, should have ochraceous to vinaceous-cinnamon cap which in darker caps merges to a dingy fulvous); slimy viscid when wet, smooth, margin even

FLESH MILK white, unchanging

GILLS adnate to decurrent by a tooth, close, narrow, simple, unequal; pale tawny

STEM 2-5cm x 0.7-1.5cm, firm becoming hollow; isabelline to fawn or brownish terra-cotta, slightly darker toward base; slightly viscid (?)

VEIL none

TASTE when mature becoming slightly bitter then slowly peppery, milk mild or a little astringent, making the tongue sting slightly

HABITAT under Douglas fir

SPORE DEPOSIT buff

MICROSCOPIC spores 7.5-9 x 6-7.5 microns, broadly elliptic, with a distinct plage at times with a small plaque of diffusely amyloid material, ornamented with broken reticulum and with some isolated warts and short ridges, prominences +/- 0.3 microns high

NAME ORIGIN means 'full of light' or 'splendid'

SIMILAR var. *laetus* has brighter color, mild to slightly bitter flesh, and white spore deposit; like *subflammeus* which has brighter color, a white spore deposit, and a different cap cuticle structure under the microscope: in *subflammeus* there are numerous inflated cells at the base of the ixotrichoderm but these do not form an epithelial-like layer, the enlarged cells in the cuticle of *L. luculentus* occur more haphazardly; like *substriatus*, *subviscidus*, and *thejogalus* which have milk that turns yellow or stains white paper yellow

SOURCES Hesler(4)

FAMILY Russulaceae of Order Russulales