

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) *Lentinellus cochleatus* (Fr.) Karsten in Bidrag Kannedom Finlands Natur Folk 32: 247. 1879; *Lentinus cochleatus* (Pers.:Fr.) Fr.; *Lentinellus umbilicatus* (Peck) Singer; *Lentinellus cornucopioides* (Bolt) Murrill; *Lentinus cochleatus* Fr.; *Lentinus umbilicatus* Peck

ENGLISH NAME(S) cockle-shell *Lentinellus*

NOTES characterized by funnel-shaped cap, decurrent gills with toothed edges, ridged or fluted fused stems packed into cespitose clusters, anise odor (when present), peppery taste, growth on hardwood, white spore deposit, nearly round amyloid spiny spores, lack of cystidia, and chlamydospores occurring on stem; found at least WA, also MD, ME, MI, MN, NH, NY, OH, KY, VT, (Miller who says "very seldom encountered in western North America"), reported BC, ID, MT, also found Europe including United Kingdom (England)

CAP 1.0-5.5cm, irregularly shaped, strap-shaped to spatulate at first, then convex, but soon depressed, funnel-shaped, lobed and twisted, thin and flexible although rather brittle, margin lacerate; hygrophanous, cinnamon to fawn, fading to clay pink or

FLESH tough; fawn to cinnamon when water-soaked, fading on drying; concolorous in cap and stem, (Watling), watery; dingy, water-soaked brown, colored as cap and stem, (Miller), tough; pinkish, (Phillips)

GILLS replaced by long decurrent, close, thick, rather brittle ridges with serrate-notched margin; pale cinnamon to clay buff, (Watling), long decurrent, close, thick, brittle; pale salmon to pale cinnamon, "pale cinnamon-pink", "pale pinkish cinnamon", with dingy brown stains when old; serrate (saw-toothed), (Miller), decurrent, close, broad, often torn, with toothed edges; whitish to pale flesh-colored, (Phillips)

STEM 0.75-5cm x 0.25-1.0cm, usually fused in groups, central to slightly eccentric, ridged to fluted or sulcate velvety towards base; colored as cap or darker downward, (Watling), 0.7-5.0cm x 0.3-3.0cm, fused in a cluster, central to slightly eccentric; "pale pinkish cinnamon", "vinaceous-cinnamon", darkening to streaked "light cinnamon-drab", "cinnamon-drab", "cinnamon" or "syal brown" when old; dry, ridged but not from extension of gills, sulcate (grooved), velvety, (Miller), 2-6cm x 0.5-1.5cm, central or lateral, often rooting, fused at the base in dense clusters, hollow or solid; reddish-brown darkening toward the base; deeply furrowed, (Phillips)

ODOR usually anise (Watling), of anise or not distinctive (Miller), anise (Phillips)

TASTE peppery (Watling), strongly peppery (Miller), distinctive (Phillips)

EDIBILITY no (Phillips)

HABITAT in tight fused cespitose clusters arising from a single base, on hardwood sticks, logs, and stumps, (Miller), on old stumps of hardwoods especially birch, often forming fused, tightly cespitose clusters, never on living trees, (Watling for Britain), in clusters or tufts on logs, stumps, and decayed wood of deciduous trees, mostly eastern, (Phillips)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Watling, Miller)

MICROSCOPIC (4)4.5-5.5 x 3.5-4.5 microns, round to nearly round, minutely punctate-echinulate, amyloid, (Watling); basidia 4-spored, 20-25 x 4-6.5 microns, clavate, colorless, thin-walled; pleurocystidia absent, cheilocystidia absent, sometimes chlamydospores are found on cap and stem and are even more likely when fruiting bodies are found that lack the cap; clamp connections present, (Watling), spores (3.5)4.0-5.5 x 3.5-4.5 microns, round to nearly round, minutely echinulate (finely spiny), strongly amyloid; basidia 4-spored, (14)20-28(34) x 4.2-6.5 microns, clavate, colorless, thin-walled; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not seen, (Miller), spores 4.5-5 x 3.5-4 microns, nearly round, spiny, amyloid, (Phillips)

NAME ORIGIN means "spiraled"

SIMILAR like *L. micheneri* which has furrowed but unfused central stem and smooth elliptic spores; like *L. vulpinus* which has densely woolly surface and may appear in wounds on living trees

SOURCES Miller(10) (colors from Ridgway), Watling(2), Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Bessette(2)*, Lincoff(1)*, Courtecuisse*, Barron*, Lowe, PNW keys

FAMILY Auriscalpiaceae of Order Russulales