

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) *Lepista nuda* (Bull.ex Fr.) Cooke Handbook of British Fungi p. 192. 1871; *Clitocybe nuda*; *Rhodopaxillus nudus* (Bull.: Fr.) Maire; *Tricholoma nudum*

ENGLISH NAME(S) blewit

NOTES identified by stout stature, purple to bluish-purple color, inrolled cap margin when young, absence of veil, faintly fruity fragrance and dull pinkish spore deposit; common in the Pacific Northwest, collections examined by Bigelow from OR, WA, also PQ, CA, CO, CT, MA, MD, MI, TN, VA, VT, Norway, frequent on foray lists from BC, reported from Mexico, Europe, Asia, North Africa, Australia

CAP 4-14(18)cm, convex with inrolled margin at first, becoming broadly umbonate to flat, or with uplifted often wavy margin; purple or purple shaded with brown or gray, fading to brownish, flesh-color, tan, etc., but margin often retaining purple tones; smooth, lubricous when moist but not viscid, may be lustrous when dry, (Arora), 4-12(15)cm, broadly convex at first with inrolled margin, becoming flat, occasionally with low broad umbo, margin at times uplifted, wavy, or irregular; hygrophanous, shades of violet when fresh, soon fading on disc to "vinaceous buff", "pale vinaceous fawn", when old mostly "cinnamon buff" over all with only a slight violaceous tint ant the margin; bald, smooth, watery appearing when fresh, at times lubricous or subviscid, finally dull and dry, disc often appearing areolate (mud-cracked), margin often faintly short translucent-striate when moist, (Bigelow)

FLESH thick, soft; purplish to lilac-buff, (Arora), moderately thick to thick, soft and pliant, watery at first; dull lilac to lilac buff, finally whitish, in stem tinted "pale vinaceous fawn", (Bigelow)



Taylor F Lockwood



Bryce Kendrick



Alvin Funk

GILLS adnate to adnexed or notched or sometimes decurrent, close; purple or pale purple to bluish-purple or grayish-purple, fading to buff, pinkish buff or brownish, (Arora), adnexed to sinuate or rounded, broadly adnate to subdecurrent at times, close to crowded, narrow, 0.4-0.8cm broad; pale violet, buff to brownish when old; edges even or uneven, (Bigelow)

STEM 2.5-7(10)cm x 1-2.5(3)cm at top, equal or more often with enlarged base; purple to pale purple or colored like gills; dry, fibrillose, base often covered with downy purple mycelium, (Arora), 3-6(10)cm x 1-2.5(3)cm, usually relatively short, equal or base somewhat clubshaped to bulbous, marginate at times; pale violet like gills ("deep dull lavender"), bruising "dark lavender", when old browning from the base upward; fibrillose to scurfy at top, striate with whitish fibrils in lower part, (Bigelow)

ODOR faintly fragrant when fresh (like frozen orange juice), (Arora), pleasant, faintly fragrant, (Bigelow)

TASTE pleasant to slightly bitter, (Arora), mild (Bigelow)

EDIBILITY yes, popular, (Arora), slightly poisonous raw, (Lincoff(1))

HABITAT "scattered to gregarious, often in rings or arcs - in woods, brush, gardens, compost piles, i.e., wherever there is organic debris", (Arora), solitary, gregarious or cespitose (tufted), in humus under hardwoods, under conifers, on decaying vegetable matter or near trash piles and compost heaps, in meadows, on lawns, in orchards, (Bigelow)

SPORE DEPOSIT dull pinkish to pinkish buff (Arora), pinkish ("light vinaceous cinnamon", "vinaceous buff", "pinkish buff"), (Bigelow)

MICROSCOPIC spores 5.5-8 x 3.5-5 microns, elliptic, rough, (Arora), spores 5.5-8 x 3.5-5 microns, verruculose or sometimes smooth, inamyloid, ornamentation cyanophilic; no pleurocystidia or cheilocystidia; clamp connections present, (Bigelow)

NAME ORIGIN means "naked"

SIMILAR tarda which is smaller with thinner fibrous stem and more lilac color; like glaucocana which never has the deep violet tones of nuda but overmature or faded specimens may be impossible to separate; like Cortinarius species and Inocybe lilacina (both brown spores), Mycena pura (which is small and slender, with white spores), some Laccarias (long tough fibrous stem), some Entoloma and Leptonia species (bluish rather than purple)

SOURCES Bigelow(5) (as Clitocybe), Arora*(as Clitocybe), Lincoff(2)*(as Clitocybe), Ammirati*, Bessette(2)*(as Clitocybe), Lincoff(1)*(as Clitocybe), Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Kibby*(as Clitocybe), Courtecuisse*, Barron*

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales



Sara Clark