

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) *Marasmius plicatulus* Peck Bull. Torrey Bot. Club 24: 124. 1897

ENGLISH NAME(S) pleated mushroom, velvet-cap *Marasmius*

NOTES distinctive features are frosted wine-red to brown cap, distant gills, and long shining reddish-black brittle stem; found at least BC, WA, OR, ID, CA

CAP 1-4(5)cm, obtusely conical to bell-shaped, often expanding to convex or flat or with uplifted margin when old; bay-brown to reddish-brown, brown, wine-red, or maroon; dry, with a velvety or frosted appearance when fresh, furrowed or wrinkled when old or upon drying, (Arora), 1.0-3.5(5.5)cm, conic or bellshaped when young, broadly conic or convex when old; dark reddish brown when young, reddish brown when old, margin reddish brown when young, becoming brown, light brown or brownish orange when old; somewhat velvety, dull, opaque, disc smooth or subrugulose (somewhat wrinkled), margin even, becoming striate, (Desjardin), sometimes umbonate,

FLESH thin, pliant, (Arora); 0.05-0.1cm thick; buff, (Desjardin)

GILLS adnate to nearly free, well-spaced, broad; white to buff to pinkish or tinged cap color, (Arora), adnexed, distant, broad, 1-2 series of subgills; buff or yellowish white, (Desjardin)

STEM 5-13cm x 0.15-0.3cm, equal, usually long and thin, tough but brittle (dig up rather than pluck); reddish-black to deep chestnut in lower part, often paler (pinkish or sometimes pallid) in upper part; smooth, polished, base often with whitish mycelium, (Arora), 6.0-9.5cm x 0.2-0.3cm, equal, round in cross-section, fibrous but easily broken, not insititious; top grayish red or brown, base dark brown to black; shiny, bald in upper part, base covered with white strigose mycelial hairs, basal mycelium forming an extensive mycelial mat, (Desjardin), may be curved

VEIL absent

ODOR mild (Arora, Desjardin)

TASTE mild (Desjardin)

EDIBILITY too tough and thin (Arora)



Boleslaw Kuznik (MykoWeb)

HABITAT widely scattered to gregarious in humus under trees and shrubs (Arora), gregarious in humus or grassy areas under oak or various conifers, (Desjardin)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores 11-15 x 5-6.5 microns, elliptic, smooth, inamyloid (Arora), spores 12.3-16.2(16.6) x 4.8-6.3 microns, almond-shaped or subfusiform (somewhat spindle-shaped); basidia 38-50 x 7-10 microns, 4-spored, clavate or sphaeropedunculate; pleurocystidia absent, cheilocystidia abundant in young specimens, often scarce in older specimens, 15-24 x 3.6-6 microns, cylindrical or clavate, diverticulate, diverticula 1.8-10.8 x 0.6-2.1 microns, numerous, apical, rodlike or conic, often branched, basal part of cells colorless, thin-walled, divertula solid, brownish orange or brown, dextrinoid, (Desjardin)

NAME ORIGIN means 'folded'

SOURCES Desjardin(1), Arora*, Lincoff(2)*, Redhead(6)

FAMILY Marasmiaceae of Order Agaricales



Sharon Godkin



Michael Beug