

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) *Mycena atroalboides* (Peck) Sacc. Syll. Fung. 5: 276. 1887; *Mycena plicosa* sensu Smith; *Mycena subplicosa* sensu Smith

NOTES Section Typicae (Smith), Section Filipedes (Maas Geesteranus); features include small size, black brown striate cap which fades to pale gray-brown, adnate close white gills that become grayish, cap colored stem with white bloom, growth on needle beds or sphagnum, white spore deposit and microscopic characters; description from Maas Geesteranus except where noted; found at least BC, WA, ID, also CA, MI, NY, TN and (as subplicosa) OR

CAP 0.8-2cm, convex or conic becoming flat-convex with a low flattened umbo, (Smith says margin curved in when young, recurved when old and wavy and crenate (scalloped)); somewhat hygrophanous, almost black to black brown when young, with age fading to pale gray-brown, sometimes becoming spotted reddish brown, the margin at first dark cinnamon gray to dark gray, fading but remaining slightly cinnamon-tinted; pruinose, becoming bald, translucent-striate toward margin, grooved, Smith says moist

FLESH thin, firm; blackish fading to pallid

GILLS adnate, ascending with distinct decurrent tooth, close (17-25 reach stem), fairly narrow to broader in middle (0.15-0.3cm); white becoming grayish, sometimes white or spotted or stained reddish brown, interveined, edges pallid, Smith says 3 tiers of subgills

STEM 3-12cm x 0.1-0.2cm, (Smith notes approximately 2-4cm when growing on needles or about 5-12cm in sphagnum moss), equal or somewhat broadened below, hollow, firm but brittle; white bloom then naked, color as cap, paler toward top; base white strigose, Smith says abundant clear watery juice from stem not cap when cut, but Maas Geesteranus believes this to be a local or temporary rather than general quality

VEIL none

ODOR mild or slightly of radish

TASTE mild or slightly of radish

HABITAT gregarious on needle beds or sphagnum, (Maas Geesteranus), densely gregarious on needle beds under conifers or in sphagnum bogs, on the Pacific coast sporadic and often very abundant under Douglas fir and spruce, (Smith)

SPORE DEPOSIT white

MICROSCOPIC spores 8.1-9.8 x (4.0)4.7-5.6 microns, pip-shaped (Smith says oval to elliptic), smooth, weakly amyloid; basidia 4-spored, 25-30 x 6.5-8 microns, slender-clavate, clamped, with sterigmata 4.5-5.5 microns long; pleurocystidia not noticed, "cheilocystidia 15-45(65) x 7-12.5(22.5) microns, clavate to more or less irregularly shaped, sometimes very long-stalked, clamped, covered with fairly few to numerous, mostly unevenly spaced, rather coarse, simple to somewhat branched, cylindrical to variously shaped, curved excrescences 4-11.5 x 0.9-2.5 microns"

NAME ORIGIN means 'like [*Mycena*] *atroalba*'

SOURCES Maas Geesteranus, Smith(1)

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales