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 filopes (Bull.:Fr.) Kummer Fuhr. Pilzk.: 110. 1871; Mycena iodiolens Lundell; Mycena graveolens C.Kauffman & Smith

NOTES Section Typicae (Smith), Section Filipedes (Maas Geesteranus); features include small hygrophanous whitish to dark brown striate slightly viscid cap that is pruinose at first, cap margin that when young surrounds the stem like a collar, adnate gills that are whitish to pale sepia gray brown, long thin sepia gray-brown stem that is at first pruinose or minutely downy, iodine-like odor on drying out, and microscopic details including sessile cheilocystidia that are more numerous than stalked ones, and hyphal ends of the cortical layer of the stem numerous; description derived from Maas Geesteranus who examined collections from Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden, and the US, Smith says Mycena filopes (Fr.) Quelet is known from WA, OR, also AL, MI, NC, NY, OH, TN, Breitenbach & Kranzlin give distribution as North America, Europe, Asia, North Africa

CAP 1.0-2.0cm, conic to bellshaped, umbonate, with umbo gradually flattening or disappearing, margin appressed to stem, later flaring, projecting beyond the gills at first; hygrophanous, very pale to almost white, grayish, gray-brown, dark brown, at center darker brown to almost black, paler to whitish at margin; at first more or less densely white-pruinose (finely powdery) - most obvious and almost bluish in dark-colored forms, slightly viscid, finely to coarsely innate-fibrillose, becoming wrinkled-fibrillose with fibrils splitting, giving a silvery luster when dried, translucent-striate, shallowly grooved

FLESH thin, about 0.1cm thick or less; watery gray-brown under upper surface

GILLS adnate, ascending, rarely with decurrent tooth, up to 0.3cm broad, broader in middle, smooth to somewhat wrinkled; whitish to pale sepia brownish or pale sepia gray-brown, edge whitish

Ben Woo

Michael Beug

STEM 6-15.5cm x 0.07-0.2cm, equal, hollow, fragile to fairly firm; pale to fairly dark sepia gray-brown, palest in upper part, occasionally with bluish-gray sheen; smooth to delicately wrinkled, at first pruinose or minutely puberulous, becoming bald except at top, base covered with long coarse flexuous whitish fibrils

VEIL none

ODOR not distinct or none when fresh, iodine-like on drying out

TASTE peppery in 2 collections, but few notes have been made

HABITAT "in mossy lawns, under conifers as well as deciduous trees, on vegetable debris, decaying wood, not infrequently also on moss-covered tree trunks"

SPORE DEPOSIT white

MICROSCOPIC spores 8.1-11.6 x 5.4-6.5 microns: for 2-spored 9.2-11.6 x 5.4-6.5 microns, for 4-spored 8.1-9.0 x 5.4-5.6 microns for 4-spored, pip-shaped (elliptic), smooth, amyloid; basidia 2-spored or less frequently 4-spored, 20-28 x 8-12 microns, clavate, clamped, with sterigmata 6.5-9 microns long; pleurocystidia rare, similar to cheilocystidia, cheilocystidia 14.5-30 x 7-18 microns, forming a sterile band on gill edge, sessile (often the majority), to stipitate, elliptic, obovoid, obpyriform, clavate, almost sphaeropedunculate or, more rarely, irregularly shaped, clamped, covered with comparatively few to very few, mostly evenly spaced, simple, more infrequently somewhat branched, straight or curved or even kinked, cylindrical excrescences 3.5-22.5 x 0.9-2 microns, occasionally with somewhat swollen tip

NAME ORIGIN refers to filiform (threadlike) stem

SIMILAR metata has flesh-reddish tones from young stages or at least when old, cap not narrowly enclosing the stem when young, cheilocystidia mostly stalked, terminal cells of cortical layer of stem absent or rare and difficult to find, whereas filopes has cap lacking pink tinge, cap margin of young fruiting bodies closely surrounding stem like a collar, sessile cheilocystidia more abundant than stalked ones, hyphal ends of cortical layer of stem numerous, (Breitenbach(3))

SOURCES Maas Geesteranus, Breitenbach(3)*

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales

Boleslaw Kuznik