

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 purpureofusca* (Peck) Sacc. Syll. Fung. 5: 255. 1887; *Prunulus purpureofuscus* Murrill

NOTES Section *Calodontes* (Smith), Section *Rubromarginatae* (Maas Geesteranus); characterized by dark purplish rather than pale-rosy gill edges, deep-purplish fuscous disc on cap, tenacious consistency, and very broadly elliptic spores; description derived from Smith except where otherwise indicated; found at least WA, OR, ID, also ON, CA, NC, MI, MT, NY, TN, (Smith), Europe (Maas Geesteranus)

CAP 0.5-2.5cm, obtusely conical with a slightly incurved margin, becoming broadly conical or bell-shaped or sometimes expanding to nearly flat in old age; slightly hygrophanous, dark purplish with a paler (lilac) margin when young, fading to purplish-gray; hoary at first but soon bald, moist not viscid, translucent-striate when moist and mature

FLESH thin, pliant, cartilaginous; purplish gray becoming pallid to white

GILLS narrowly adnate, moderately close, narrow; pallid to grayish with dark grayish-purple edges (marginate); edges slightly fringed

STEM 3-10cm x 0.1-0.2cm, equal, hollow, round in cross-section, rather cartilaginous and tough, colored more or less like cap (purplish) or paler in upper part, bald, base with white hairs and sometimes prolonged into a pseudorhiza (rooting), (Smith), 3-10cm x 0.1-0.3cm (Arora)

VEIL none

ODOR mild

TASTE not distinctive

EDIBILITY unknown

HABITAT solitary to cespitose (tufted) on conifer wood and debris, (Smith), solitary or in small groups or tufts on conifer wood, on old pine cones, and other woody debris, (Arora)

SPORE DEPOSIT white



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MICROSCOPIC spores 8-14 x 6-8.5 microns, specifically for 4-spored form 8-10 x 6-7 microns, for 2-spored form 10-14 x 6.7-8.5 microns, broadly elliptic, amyloid, (Smith); basidia 2-spored or 4-spored; pleurocystidia not differentiated, cheilocystidia abundant and conspicuous, 30-50(64) x 7-12(15) microns, more or less fusoid-ventricose, the apices often becoming forked when old, filled with a dull-purplish sap, content granular or amorphous and dark sordid brown when revived in Melzer's, (Smith), spores 8-14 x 6-8.5 microns, smooth, inamyloid, (Arora)

NAME ORIGIN means 'purple-dark'

SIMILAR elegantula which usually has rosy to winy-brown gill edges and the dominant cap color is winy brown

SOURCES Smith(1), Arora*, Courtecuisse*

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales



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