

## 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)** *Myxomphalia maura* (Fr.) Hora Trans. Brit. Mycol. Soc. 43: 453. 1960; *Fayodia maura* (Fr.) Singer; *Omphalina maura* (Fr.) Quelet; *Mycena maura* Kuehner

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** burn site *Mycena*

**NOTES** characterized by grayish brown colored cap and stem, whitish gills, and growth on burnt soil; Smith(15) mentions some confusion in the species concept in Europe: the Friesian species *Agaricus maurus* has a dry cap and long-decurrent gills, but the concept accepted in Europe is that of Ricken (1915) which is the same as the one he describes in Smith(15) as *Omphalina maura*, but cannot be regarded as the same as one he found in Michigan that corresponds to one illustrated by Lange from Denmark; *M. maura* common in western United States, (Smith), *M. maura* found at least WA, ID, PQ, (Bigelow(6)), OR (Kauffman), appearing on foray lists from BC, reported from AB by Schalkwijk-Barendsen, also in Europe and reported from Asia and North Africa

**CAP** 1-3.5(5)cm, convex or centrally depressed with an incurved margin, becoming flat or centrally depressed; "dark grayish-brown or olive-brown to blackish-brown, fading to gray or paler as it dries"; viscid when moist but soon dry and often shiny, smooth, (Arora), 1-3.5(5)cm, convex to convex-depressed with incurved margin, expanding to broadly convex or nearly flat when old, the disc often shallowly depressed; 'very dark grayish brown (near "olive brown" or "mummy brown") and evenly colored or margin only slightly paler, slowly fading to pale gray or at times nearly white'; viscid when moist but soon dry and glistening, cap skin separable, margin finely striate at first, (Smith), "grey brown, convex, cuticle glutinous when damp, margin stays incurved, streaked, up to 3cm across", (Schalkwijk-Barendsen)

**FLESH** thin; white to grayish, (Arora), thin but pliant; dark watery gray, (Smith)



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**GILLS** adnate to slightly decurrent, close; "white to pale grayish (usually paler than cap)", (Arora), bluntly adnate to slightly decurrent, close, 3 tiers of subgills, broad; white or grayish but always much paler than cap or stem; edges even, (Smith), decurrent and arched because the cap stays curved down, relatively broad", (Schalkwijk-Barendsen)

**STEM** 2-6cm x 0.2-0.5(0.6)cm, more or less equal; "colored more or less like cap or slightly paler, but not fading as quickly"; smooth, (Arora), 3-6cm x (0.1)0.2-0.4cm, equal, stuffed with floccose white pith, cartilaginous; colored as cap or slightly paler; top pruinose but soon becoming bald and polished overall, (Smith), brittle (Lincoff)

**ODOR** not distinctive (Smith), mild, or (at least in Europe) farinaceous or fruity

**TASTE** somewhat farinaceous to mild, (Smith), mild or farinaceous

**EDIBILITY** unknown (Arora, Smith)

**HABITAT** "solitary, scattered or in groups on burned soil and debris, especially under conifers", (Arora), scattered to gregarious on burned areas, during fall rainy season, but also found in spring

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white (Arora, Smith)

**MICROSCOPIC** "spores 4.5-6.5 x 3.5-4.5 microns, broadly elliptical to nearly round, smooth or very minutely ornamented, amyloid", (Arora), spores 4.5-5 x 3.5-4 microns, broadly elliptic to nearly round, amyloid, smooth or with very minute amyloid scatter

**NAME ORIGIN** maura means "dark"

**SOURCES** Smith(15) (as *Omphalina maura*), Arora\*, Lincoff(2)\*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen\*, Bigelow(4), Bigelow(6), Breitenbach(3)\*, Kauffman(5)

**FAMILY** Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales



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