

## 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)** *Neolentinus lepideus* (Fr.:Fr.) Redhead & Ginns  
Trans. mycol. Soc. Japan 26: 357. 1985; == *Lentinus lepideus*  
(Fr.ex Fr.) Fries

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** train-wrecker, scaly *Lentinus*

**NOTES** distinguished by scaly whitish cap, tough white flesh, serrated gills, membranous veil, growth on wood, white spore deposit, and cylindric inamyloid spores; called train-wrecker because it destroys railroad ties, causing derailments; found at least WA, ID, and reported BC, AZ, CT, ME, MT, NH, NY, elsewhere in North America, Europe

**CAP** 5-15(20)cm, convex to flat; whitish to buff or pale yellow; usually with darker (brownish) scales, dry or slightly viscid, margin sometimes beaded with droplets when young

**FLESH** thick, tough, not decaying readily; white, but often aging or bruising yellow

**GILLS** usually decurrent but sometimes notched or adnate; whitish to buff or in one form yellow, often bruising brownish and/or yellowish when old; edges entire when young but often serrated when old

**STEM** 3-5(10)cm x 1-3cm, central to somewhat off-center, may be equal or tapered at base or bulbous, solid, tough and hard; colored more or less like cap, white and minutely hairy above ring, usually with brownish to reddish-brown recurved scales or fibrils below ring

**VEIL** membranous, forming a pallid superior to apical ring on stem which may be slight or disappear when old

**ODOR** anise-like, pungent or fragrant

**TASTE** somewhat disagreeable

**EDIBILITY** quite good, but tough flesh requires thorough cooking, use only young caps, as older specimens may have unpleasant taste

**HABITAT** solitary, scattered, or in small groups on conifer logs, stumps, fence posts and other lumber, sometimes also on oak

**SPORE DEPOSIT** whitish



Michael Beug



Joy Spurr



Bryce Kendrick

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 9-12 x 4-5 microns, nearly cylindric, smooth, inamyloid, (Arora), spores 7.5-12.0 x 3-4.5 microns, cylindric-elliptic, smooth, some with droplets; basidia (2-)4-spored, 30-50 x 6-8 microns, slenderly clavate, with basal clamp; cheilocystidia: marginal cells 25-30 x 2-3.5 microns, cylindric, filiform, sometimes flexuous; cap cuticle of +/- parallel to irregular hyphae 3.5-6.5 microns wide, septa with indistinct clamps, (Breitenbach)

**NAME ORIGIN** means "scaly"

**SOURCES** Arora (as Lentinus), Phillips\*(as Lentinus), Lincoff(2)\*(as Lentinus), Schalkwijk-Barendsen\*, Bessette(2)\*(as Lentinus), Courtecuisse\*, Martin(3)

**FAMILY** Polyporaceae of Order Polyporales