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) Phaeocollybia kauffmanii (A.H.Smith) Singer emended Norvell Can. J. Bot. 78: 1057. 2000; == Naucoria kauffmanii A.H.Smith

NOTES the large brown Phaeocollybias of the Pacific Northwest have been determined by Norvell to comprise at least five species (number of collections in parentheses): kauffmanii (149), benzokauffmanii (20), redheadii (109), ammiratii (89), and luteosqua

CAP (3.0)4.5-15.0(19.5)cm, conic-convex and usually sharply minutely papillate when young, expanding to broadly bellshaped with broad low umbo and slightly downcurved or occasionally uplifted margin, the edge remaining inrolled; pristine caps often zonate with deep orange-brown or bright brownish orange disc, pale to bright brownish orange margin, and deep yellow-brown or orange-brown edge, occasionally +/- uniformly deep orange-brown or bright orange overall, blackish or deep brown where damaged, dried cap generally reddish copper, often with darker vinaceous or blackish pointed disc; viscid to heavily glutinous, bald, smooth, opaque, not striate

FLESH 0.3-1.0cm thick at disc, firm; when young pale yellow cream or smoky pink, when wet often developing a 0.1-0.3cm wide brown zone next to gills or between otherwise confluent cap and stem flesh; in stem firm, pale light pink or dull ivory, turning deep orange-brown when crushed or cut, long, narrow, yellow-brown or orange-brown lines occasionally visible when water-soaked

GILLS free or sometimes attached by small tooth, crowded when young, becoming subcrowded when old, gills + subgills 13-38 at edge, 8-20 at midpoint, subgills in 5-7 tiers with 2-6 interspersed, narrow when young becoming very broad when mature, to 2.0cm broad, ventricose with end nearest stem almost truncate, thin, occasionally forked; pale buff when very young, darker as maturing, and dull smoky golden brown when old; edges uneven to slightly serrulate (finely toothed), eroded when old

Michael Beug

Paul Kroeger

STEM 4.0-6.0(11.0) above ground, including pseudorhiza up to 40cm, 0.9-2.5cm wide at top, usually widening to 1.0-3.7cm above ground before narrowing downwards to the pseudorhiza, stem central to slightly eccentric, round in cross-section, cartilaginous rind 0.1-0.3cm thick, pseudorhiza generally 2/3 to 5/6 of overall length, gradually tapering to blunt origin; top pale yellow-brown or buff when young, developing darker tones when mature, in lower part darkening to deep orange brown, when cut staining orange then brown, pseudorhiza overall deep red or orange brown, or paler at the origin; moist, matte-smooth, appressed fibrillose (hand lens) with fine longitudinal striations

VEIL when present as scattered fibrils or scant fibrillose patches on stem top

ODOR mildly to strongly farinaceous, occasionally not distinctive

TASTE slightly to strongly farinaceous, occasionally slightly bitter

HABITAT solitary, scattered or gregarious, often in loamy soils with high humus content in coastal or inland mesic closed-canopy mixed coniferous rainforests, less frequent in poor soils in open mixed coniferous-deciduous forests; fruiting in fall

SPORE DEPOSIT cinnamon brown ("cinnamon", "buckthorn brown")

MICROSCOPIC 8.5 x 5 +/- 0.4 x 0.2 microns, overall range 7.5-10 x 4-6 microns, fusoid-elliptic or almost boat-shaped in face view, inequilaterally almond-shaped or lemon-shaped in side view, terete (round in cross-section) to slightly compressed, verrucu

NAME ORIGIN after Calvin Henry Kauffman 1869-1931 professor of botany Michigan University

SIMILAR like ammiratii which can with difficulty be differentiated in the field by slightly more fragile stature, straight to only slightly inrolled mature cap margin, and vinaceous lower stem above ground, and which when dried usually has a gold metallic sheen, microscopically clearly separated by frequent clamp connections that are particularly noticeable on cheilocystidia and narrow suprapellicular hyphae; like benzokauffmanii which has drab colored cap; like luteosquamulosa which has cap that is dry to moist, appressed-scaly, ochraceous yellow when mature; like redheadii which has young cap pale tawny becoming red-brown to medium dark brown when old, larger spores, and cheilocystidia generally pedicellate and capitate to subcapitate

SOURCES Norvell(2)

FAMILY Cortinariaceae of Order Agaricales