

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) *Phaeolepiota aurea* (Matt. ex Fr.) Maire ex Konr. & Maubl.; *Pholiota aurea* (Fr.) Kummer; *Togaria aurea* (Fr.) W.G. Smith; *Lepiota pyrenacea* Quelet

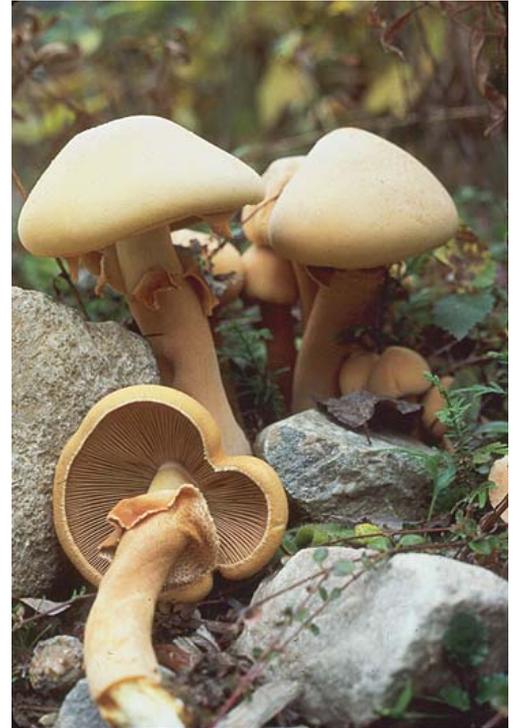
ENGLISH NAME(S) gold-cap, golden false *Pholiota*

NOTES no other large brown-spored mushroom is golden-brown to pale orange with a granulose coating on both the cap and stem, features include orange-ochraceous dry cap which is granulose to unpolished and often appendiculate, close pallid gills which become cap-colored, cap-colored dry stem that is bald above membranous ring and sheathed with covering similar to cap below ring, mild to slightly pungent odor, growth under alder, light yellow-brown to orange-buff spore deposit, and microscopic characters; Smith(3) examined collections from BC, WA, AK, reported also from ID, Breitenbach & Kranzlin give distribution as North America, Europe, Asia

CAP 6-20(30)cm, obtuse to convex becoming broadly convex, flat, or broadly umbonate; orange to orange-tan, tawny-yellow, or golden brown, often becoming paler when old; surface covered with grains that wash away with age, bits of veil remnants along edge, (Arora), 7-20(30)cm, convex to obtusely bellshaped when young, expanding to obtusely umbonate or nearly flat finally; orange-buff to orange-ochraceous in buttons, usually paler when old, rarely merely ochraceous; dry, granulose to unpolished (when old when most of the veil particles have weathered away); margin often appendiculate with veil remnants, (Smith)

FLESH thick; pallid or yellowish, (Arora), moderately thick in disc, firm; pallid, unchanging, in stem whitish or somewhat streaked with orange down center, (Smith)

GILLS adnate to notched or free, close; pallid or pale yellowish becoming tawny to orange-brown, (Arora), adnate or at times with a short decurrent tooth, close, moderately broad; pallid in buttons, becoming more or less colored as cap or darker, edges colored as faces; edges entire, (Smith)



John Dennis

STEM 5-15(25)cm x (1)2-4(6)cm, widening toward base; orange to buff or colored as cap, grains on surface extending up to an including the underside of the ring, (Arora), 10-15(25)cm x (1.5)3-5(6)cm, enlarging downward to somewhat clubshaped, stuffed becoming hollow; more or less colored as cap though sometimes darker at top; dry, unpolished, smooth and bald above ring, but below ring sheathed with covering similar to that of cap, base white mycelioid and with a few short white poorly developed rhizomorphs, (Smith)

VEIL membranous, color like cap, sheathing the stem and breaking to form a superior flaring or funnel-like ring which eventually collapses or becomes skirtlike, ring smooth on upper surface and granulose on underside, (Arora), ring flaring membranous, persistent to mid-maturity, finally becoming pendulose and disappearing in extreme age; peronate sheath separable to base of stem, (Smith)

ODOR strong, aromatic, (Lincoff(1)), mild to slightly pungent, (Smith)

TASTE mild to slightly astringent (Smith)

EDIBILITY questionable, some reports of illness, (Arora)

HABITAT groups and clusters on rich humus and soil, under hardwoods and conifers, (Arora), several to clustered, on compost and leaf litter, (Lincoff(2)), gregarious or cespitose (tufted) often near the edges of roads under alder (*Alnus*), (Smith)

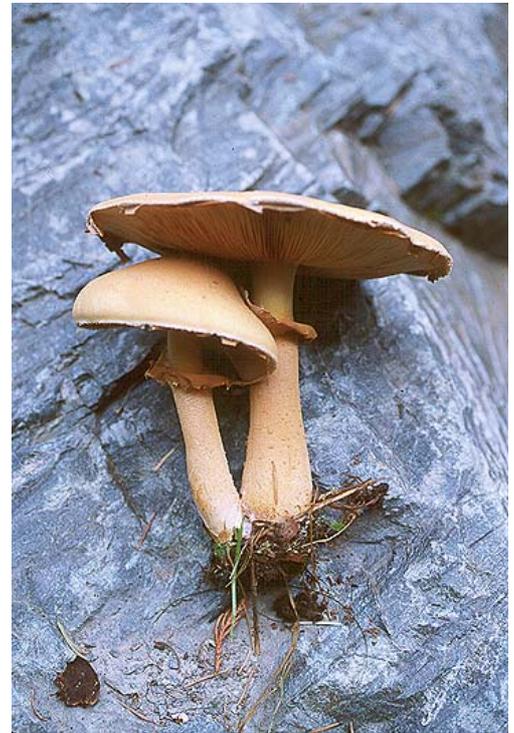
SPORE DEPOSIT pale yellow-brown to orange-buff, (Arora), light yellow-brown to orange-buff, (Smith)

MICROSCOPIC spores 10-14 x 5-6 microns, elliptic, smooth to minutely rough, (Arora), spores 10.7-13(14) x 5-6 microns, somewhat elliptic, smooth or some with minute markings, with one large central oil drop, wall thin and many spores collapsing, no germ pore evident; basidia usually 4-spored, clavate, thin-walled, colorless to pale brownish in KOH, occasionally with a highly refractive body as revived in KOH; pleurocystidia absent or rarely clavate-mucronate and brownish in KOH, 26-30 x 7.5-8.5 microns, cheilocystidia absent; clamp connections present, (Smith)

NAME ORIGIN means 'golden'

SOURCES Smith(3) (as *Pholiota*), Arora, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Lincoff(1)*, Ammirati*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Courtecuisse*, Redhead(6), Breitenbach(4)*

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales



Andrew Parker



Andrew Parker



Alvin Funk