

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) *Pholiota adiposa* (Fr.) Kummer Der Fuhrer in die Pilzkunde p.83. 1871

NOTES member of aurivella group (yellow to orange viscid cap with large spotlike darker scales, scaly stem, and brown spore deposit): of the aurivella group, 90% in PNW are limonella and most of the rest aurivella, adiposa is rare from North America but is distinguished by viscid scales on stem and spores 5-6 x 3-4 microns; to complicate matters, *Pholiota aurivella* (Batsch: Fr.) Kummer non sensu Batsch and *Pholiota adiposa* sensu Fr. are both given by Breitenbach & Kranzlin as synonyms of *Pholiota cerifera* (Karst.) Karst, and they give *P. adiposa* (Batsch: Fr.) Kummer sensu auct. non Fr. as a synonym of *Pholiota jahnii* Tjall. & Bas; *adiposa* found at least BC, Smith(3) examined collections from BC, Slovakia, and United Kingdom, Martin(3) reported it from BC, CO

CAP 6-9(16)cm, convex then flat; yellow to dark yellow; viscid or glutinous, with ferruginous-brown, more or less concentric scales, which dry down to resemble cherry-gum, (Smith), 3-17cm, cap eventually flat, sometimes humped; rust-colored on yellow background; with cottony-gelatinous surface scales, concentric and dropping off, viscid in wet weather, (Lincoff)

FLESH yellow, (Smith), yellowish, light brown at base, (Lincoff)

GILLS adnate to sinuate, close, broad; at first yellow or straw-yellow, becoming ferruginous, (Smith), adnate, broad; yellowish then rust-colored, (Lincoff)

STEM 5-12cm x 0.6-1.5cm, base enlarged; yellow in upper part, becoming ferruginous brown downward; viscid or glutinous, with numerous glutinous superficial squarrose or recurved scales up to the apical ring, (Smith), 6-16cm x 1-2.5cm, first whitish then yellow, covered beneath the ring by pointed rust-colored scales, gelatinous-viscous, enlarged toward base, (Lincoff)

VEIL partial veil yellowish, subfloccose, forming an evanescent ring, (Smith), membranous forming ring, which is yellow then rust-colored, (Lincoff)

ODOR none (Lincoff)

TASTE slightly bitter (Lincoff)

EDIBILITY mediocre (Europe)

HABITAT caespitose (tufted) on hardwood logs (Smith for BC), on trunks, often still living, of broadleaf species such as beech, maple and birch, in mountainous areas, (Lincoff for Europe)

SPORE DEPOSIT rust-brown (Lincoff)

MICROSCOPIC spores 5-6 x 3-4 microns, ovate to elliptic in face view, subelliptic to slightly bean-shaped in side view, smooth, with a minute germ pore, pale tawny to clay color in KOH, merely ochraceous in Melzer's, wall thin (to 0.25 microns), (Smith from specimen from England); basidia 4-spored, 16-20 x 3.5-5 microns, narrowly clavate, colorless in KOH, weakly yellowish in Melzer's; pleurocystidia of two types 1) 25-40 x 5-10 microns, subfusoid, walls thin smooth and colorless, content coagulated and shrunken away from walls, wrinkled, dark brown in KOH and in Melzer's, 2) chrysocystidia 18-28(33) x 6-9(13) microns, fusoid to somewhat fusoid-ventricose, walls thin, smooth and colorless, inclusion small, colorless in KOH and Melzer's, usually well defined, (Smith from specimen from England), spores 5-7 x 3-4 microns, elliptical, smooth, (Lincoff)

NAME ORIGIN means 'greasy'

SIMILAR aurivella but often viscid scales on stem, and scales more appressed on cap and different size spores; like limonella but different size of spores, 90% in PNW are limonella and most of the rest aurivella, adiposa is almost unknown from North America

SOURCES Smith(3), Lincoff(1)*, Martin(3)

FAMILY Strophariaceae of Order Agaricales