

## 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 limonella* (Peck) Saccardo Syll. Fung. 5: 753. 1887; *Pholiota squarroso-adiposa* Lange

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** lemon-yellow *Pholiota*

**NOTES** member of aurivella group; of the aurivella group, 90% in PNW are limonella and most of the rest aurivella (differs in spore size); Smith describes squarroso-adiposa Lange separately but says they may be identical, and Hansen gives squarroso-adiposa Lange as a synonym, and Ammirati says that the name squarroso-adiposa has also been applied to limonella; description derived from Smith(3) unless otherwise specified; common in Pacific Northwest, Smith indicates for BC, WA, OR, type is from NY, reported by Volk(3) from AK, Breitenbach & Kranzlin give distribution as North America, Europe

**CAP** 2.5-5cm, convex or nearly flat, sometimes with an umbo; lemon yellow when fresh, with scattered reflexed or somewhat erect fibrillose reddish or tawny scales; viscid

**FLESH** thin; yellow

**GILLS** sinuate-adnate or slightly adnexed, close, narrow, 0.2-0.4cm broad; whitish becoming ferruginous

**STEM** 3-7cm x 0.3-0.5cm, equal; pallid or yellowish with scattered yellow recurved scales; smooth above the ring

**VEIL** forms floccose (cottony) fleeting yellow ring

**ODOR** not distinctive

**TASTE** not distinctive

**EDIBILITY** no (Phillips)

**HABITAT** in dense groups and clusters, usually on rotting logs and trees of hardwood, especially maple, sometimes in wounds in living trees, some forms also on compost, (Ammirati), type found on beech in New York, squarroso-adiposa tufted in large masses on alder and maple logs, (Smith), on hardwood or conifer wood, (PNW keys)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** rusty brown (Phillips)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 6.5-7.5 x 4-5 microns, ovate to elliptic in face view, bean-shaped to obscurely inequilateral in side view, smooth, with a distinct germ pore causing apex to appear somewhat truncate in some, wall about 0.3 microns thick, dull tawny to

**NAME ORIGIN** means "little lemon"



Michael Beug



Ben Woo

**SIMILAR** like aurivella and adiposa which are also in aurivella group but different size spores, 90% in PNW are limonella and most of the rest aurivella (spores 7-9.5(11) x 4.5-6 microns in Smith; Farr et al. reported in PNW keys to give 8.5-10.2 x 5-6.5 microns for aurivella and 6.5-9.3 x 3.7-5.6 microns for limonella), adiposa is almost unknown from North America; like aurivelloides, found at least Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico, which has broader spores than aurivella (8-11(1.5) x 6-7(8) microns) and different pleurocystidia; like flammans which has smaller spores (4-5 x 2-3 microns), brilliant yellow cap, gills and stem

**SOURCES** Smith(3), Phillips\*, Ammirati\*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen\*, Courtecuisse\*, PNW keys, Smith(15), Breitenbach(4)\*, Hansen, L.(2)

**FAMILY** Strophariaceae of Order Agaricales