

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 squarrosoides* (Peck) Saccardo Syll.
Fung. 5: 750. 1887

ENGLISH NAME(S) bristly *Pholiota*

NOTES features include whitish viscid cap with erect or recurved pale tawny scales on cap and stem, growth on hardwood, and brown spore deposit; Smith's description indicated here is from Smith(3), the rest is a combination of the other sources; found at least BC (in Redhead(5)), WA, OR, ID, a common species on red alder in the Pacific Northwest (Smith(3)), Smith(3) examined collections from NS, ON, CO, ID, KY, MA, MD, ME, MI, NC, NH, NY, OR, TN, VT, WA, WY

CAP (2.5)3-7(11)cm, obtuse becoming broadly umbonate to convex, at times nearly flat; white to whitish when fresh, becoming only slightly tinged with cinnamon when old, or remaining whitish, with pale tawny recurved to squarrose scales; viscid beneath the scales, the scales dry, the margin often fringed with veil remnants, (Smith), 7.5-12.5cm, cap retains a broad knob; cream-white, covered with erect scales, pointed scales, or downcurved or recurved scales which are triangular and tawny; under scales the true surface to the cap is viscid, veil remnants on margin

FLESH thick, rather pliant; whitish, (Smith), thick, soft; whitish

GILLS adnate to sharply adnexed, close to crowded, moderately broad, more or less 0.5cm, broadest at base and tapering toward margin; whitish at first, slowly changing to dull rusty brown as spores mature, sometimes with brighter rusty stains, (Smith), broad near stem and tapering narrower near edge; whitish, then brownish tan or dull rusty brown



Michael Beug

STEM (4)5-10(14)cm x 0.5-1.0(1.5)cm, equal, stuffed or solid, fleshy-pliant; lower two-thirds covered by coarse, recurved, ochraceous tawny, persistent scales, tinged pale buff between the scales or with a tendency to stain rusty-brown near the base, ground color typically pallid, apical region white and silky; dry, (Smith), 5-10cm x 0.5-1.0cm, stuffed or solid; whitish, then brownish tan, staining rusty brown near base; dry, covered below the ring with tawny upturned scales, silky above

VEIL ring superior, pallid, often more fibrillose than membranous, often fleeting, (Smith), off-white, on breaking, hangs in points from the edge of the cap and forms a ragged fibrous-membranous often evanescent superior ring on the stem

ODOR not distinctive (Smith), often with agreeable odor of cinnamon rolls (Ammirati)

TASTE not distinctive (Smith)

EDIBILITY yes, remove the bristly scales

HABITAT singly or cespitose (tufted), on trunks and stumps of hardwood trees, especially maple, birch, beech, basswood, and alder, (Smith), fallen logs and stumps of hardwood trees, e.g. in old Douglas fir forests

SPORE DEPOSIT brown

MICROSCOPIC spores 4-5.5(6) x (2.5)3-3.5 microns, ovate to broadly elliptic in face view, subelliptic to obscurely inequilateral in side view, smooth, germ pore not evident, pale dull cinnamon in KOH, paler in Melzer's, wall less than 0.25 microns thick,

NAME ORIGIN means 'like [Pholiota] squarrosa'

SIMILAR squarrosa but paler, viscid, gills never greenish; like aurivella which has flattened scales

SOURCES Smith(3), PNW keys, Lincoff(2)*, Ammirati*, Arora*, Redhead(5), Barron*, Smith(15)

FAMILY Strophariaceae of Order Agaricales