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) Phyllotopsis nidulans (Pers. ex Fr.) Singer; Pleurotus nidulans (Pers.: Fr.) Kummer; Claudopus nidulans; Panellus nidulans

ENGLISH NAME(S) smelly oyster

NOTES recognized by pale orange fuzzy caps which grown shelflike on wood, and by strong disagreeable odor; found at least OR (Kauffman) and appears more widely on foray lists; distribution given by Breitenbach & Kranzlin as North America, Europe, Asia, North Africa

CAP 2-8cm, more or less fan-shaped to scallop-shaped, broadly convex to flat, margin at first inrolled; pale orange to orange-buff, yellow-orange, or fading to buff; often covered at first with a white chamois-like cottony pubescence, and densely hairy or fuzzy, dry, (Arora), 3-7cm wide and 2-5cm broad, semicircular, conchate, kidney-shaped, or tongue-shaped, usually attached laterally but sometimes resupinate and attached by apex, margin inrolled for a long time, irregularly wavy; orange-yellow when moist, pale ocher-yellow when dry; finely tomentose-velvety, margin tomentose-villose (with woolly fine hairs), (Breitenbach)

FLESH colored like cap or paler (Arora), thin, tough, elastic; yellowish, (Breitenbach)

GILLS close, narrow; "orange-buff to orange-yellow or pale orange", (Arora), extending radially-eccentrically toward attached part of cap, 20-30 reaching stem, 5-7 subgills between each pair of gills, broad; orange-yellow to rust-yellow, (Breitenbach)

STEM absent or rudimentary (Arora), absent or sometimes the cap drawn out into a stemlike extension, attached part often white strigose-tomentose (hairy-woolly), (Breitenbach)

VEIL absent (Arora)

ODOR "typically strong and disagreeable (like sewer gas or rotten eggs), but sometimes mild", (Arora), rather like rotten cabbage (Kibby), unpleasant, cabbagelike, (Breitenbach)

TASTE sharp, very unpleasant, (Phillips), mild, mushroomy but rather unpleasant, (Breitenbach)

EDIBILITY unknown (Arora)

Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)

Michael Beug

Boleslaw Kuznik

HABITAT "in groups or shelving masses on rotting logs and stumps (of both hardwoods and conifers)", (Arora), in groups, usually imbricate, more rarely solitary, in hardwood and coniferous forests, on rotten stumps and trunks of conifers and more rarely of hardwoods, primarily on Picea (spruce), (Breitenbach for Switzerland)

SPORE DEPOSIT "pale pinkish to apricot-pink to pinkish-brown", (Arora), cream-flesh-colored (Breitenbach)

MICROSCOPIC spores 5-8 x 2-4 microns, sausage-shaped, smooth, inamyloid, (Arora), spores 5.1-6.7 x 2.1-3.3 microns, cylindric, kidney-shaped, to allantoid (curved sausage-shaped), smooth; basidia 4-spored, 16-30 x 3.5-4.5 microns, slenderly clavate, with basal clamp; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not seen; clamps mentioned for cap cuticle and basidia, (Breitenbach)

NAME ORIGIN means "nesting, referring to the downy caps, like small nests"

SIMILAR like Crepidotus crocophyllus which has brown spore deposit

SOURCES Breitenbach(3)*, Arora*, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse*, Bessette(2)*, Barron*, Kauffman(5) (as Claudopus)

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales