

## 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)** *Russula bicolor* Burl. Mycologia 5: 311. 1913

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** 'bicolored Russula'

**NOTES** characterized by small to medium size, cap which is pale yellow mixed or splotched with orange-red, viscid and peeling at margin, peppery brittle flesh, white stem, and white spore deposit; found at least OR (Burlingham said Murrill's collection seems to be the same as type), WA (Grund), and reported (e.g. Paul Kroeger, Ben Woo) from BC, Thiers gives for CA, type from VT, **CHEMICAL REACTIONS** positive, probably buff to FeSO<sub>4</sub> with cap flesh, deep purple reaction to SV with cap flesh, (Grund)

**CAP** up to 8cm, coppery red intermixed with pale yellow or ochre; viscid when wet, margin striate when old, peeling at margin, (PNW keys), up to 8cm, broadly convex, soon nearly flat; coppery-red, intermixed with pale-yellow or ochre; viscid when moist, bald, pellicle separable on margin, margin even, becoming striate when mature, (Burlingham), 4-8cm, convex then flattened; copper red mixed with yellow-orange or pale ochre; smooth, viscid when wet, cuticle separable for one-quarter of radius, (Phillips)

**FLESH** somewhat fragile; white, (PNW keys), subfragile; white, (Burlingham), white (Phillips)

**GILLS** medium close, no subgills; white, (PNW keys), narrowed at the inner end but not free, subclose, equal, broad at outer end, intervenose; white drying yellowish, (Burlingham), subcrowded, medium to broad; white, (Phillips)

**STEM** white (PNW keys), 4.5cm long, up to 1.5cm wide, spongy becoming hollow, white, (Burlingham), 3-7cm x 1.0-2.0cm, spongy, white, (Phillips)

**VEIL** none

**ODOR** not distinctive (Phillips)

**TASTE** peppery (PNW keys, Burlingham, Phillips)

**EDIBILITY** yes (Phillips)

**HABITAT** mixed woods, (PNW keys), type collected under yellow birch in Vermont, (Burlingham), particularly under birch (Phillips)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white, Crawshay A, (PNW keys), white (Burlingham, Phillips)



Michael Beug



Joy Spurr



Ben Woo

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 8-9.5 x 7-8 microns, ornamentation Patterson type B-2, (PNW keys), nearly round, echinulate (spiny), (Burlingham), spores 8-9.5 x (5.5)7-8 microns, elliptic, warts 0.3-0.4(0.5) microns high, many isolated, some catenulate, few or no connecting fine lines; pleurocystidia 40-45 x 5-10 microns, clavate, acute or appendiculate, granular, minutely banded, or empty, cheilocystidia 32-35 x 5-7 microns, few, flask-shaped or clavate, apices appendiculate or rounded, granular, or minutely banded, (Hesler), spores 8-10 x (6)7-8 microns, warts less than 0.5 microns, almost no connecting lines, (Phillips)

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'two-colored' (Latin)

**SOURCES** Burlingham(1), Hesler(6), Phillips\*, Ammirati(5), PNW keys, Grund(2), Thiers(3)

**FAMILY** Russulaceae of Order Russulales