

## 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 pectinata* (Bull.) Fr. Epicr. 358. 1838; *Russula consobrina* var. *pectinata* (Fr.) Singer

**NOTES** features include viscid dull yellow-brown or grayish brown cap with tuberculate-striate margin, cap skin which peels up to halfway with difficulty, white stem which may become somewhat brownish or grayish from base up, pleasant to unpleasant odor,

**CAP** 4-7cm, dull yellow brown or grayish brown, viscid when wet, margin widely grooved, sometimes halfway to center, not readily peeling, (PNW keys), 2.4-6.7(10.0)cm, convex, then flat with depressed center; avellaneous stramineous with umber or bister s

**FLESH** colored like cap under surface, dingy white elsewhere, (PNW keys), at first somewhat rigid but soon elastic-fragile when maturing; white, eventually slightly brownish or grayish in base of stem or slightly yellowish gray in rind of stem, under cap surface usually a narrow zone of stramineous or grayish ochraceous; unchanging, (Singer)

**GILLS** close; white, sometimes with rusty spots, (PNW keys), varying from almost free to decurrent with a tooth, close to subdistant, narrow to broad, 0.2-0.8cm, most often 0.6-0.8cm, narrowest in middle to broadest in middle, equal or with intermixed subgills, anastomosing, sometimes forked; cream pallid, rarely grayish pallid, sometimes slightly staining brownish when bruised, becoming slightly paler than "cartridge buff", (Singer)

**STEM** white, (PNW keys), 2.0-4.3(5.0)cm x 0.6-1.4(1.7)cm, ventricose below (very frequently), or widening or narrowing downward, stuffed to hollow, always hollow when mature, rather fragile with more rigid rind; white, not bright colored at base but sometimes with glaucous ring at apex, becoming pallid white, and frequently somewhat brownish or grayish from the base upward; very minutely pruinose or bald or more distinctly pruinose at top, with scarce and indistinct basal tomentum or if distinct the tomentum strigose and white, (Singer)

**VEIL** none

**ODOR** unpleasant like coal gas, (PNW keys), very variable in old specimens (smoked herring, camembert cheese, spermatic, but in younger specimens almost invariably pleasantly like *Russula mariae* or *Lactarius volemus*, (Singer)

**TASTE** hot, (PNW keys), slightly to strongly peppery, with a more or less developed disagreeable by-taste, (Singer)

**HABITAT** road edges, open woods, park areas, (PNW keys), on the ground, preferring conifers and Fagales, also on watered lawns, (Singer)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white to pale cream, Crawshay C-D, (PNW keys), between Crawshay B and C (Singer)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 8-9 x 5.5-6 microns, Patterson ornamentation type A-2, A-3, (PNW keys), spores 6-10 x 6-8.5 microns, mostly 7.3-9 x 6.2-8 microns, ornamentation 0.6-1.0 microns of type VI, (Singer)

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'comblike'

**SIMILAR** like *sororia* and *pectinatoides* which can look similar when dried but from which it differs in spore ornamentation (Singer)

**SOURCES** Singer(8), Lange, PNW keys, Shaffer(4)

**FAMILY** Russulaceae of Order Russulales