

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 placita* Burl. group Arora

ENGLISH NAME(S) pleasing *Russula*

NOTES group includes small, fragile, mild-tasting yellow-spored species which usually have some purple or reddish-purple in cap; group probably includes *lilacea*, *abietina*, *puellaris*, *chamaeleontina*, *placita*

CAP 2-7(10)cm, convex to flat or somewhat depressed; dark purple to wine-colored, reddish-violet, or brownish-purple, often darker at the center and paler toward margin, but sometimes brown to yellowish at center and sometimes washed out when old; viscid when moist, smooth, margin usually striate when old, at least obscurely

FLESH rather thin, fragile; white

GILLS adnate to adnexed or free, close; white or creamy soon becoming yellow and finally dull ochre-yellow

STEM 2-8cm x 0.5-2cm, equal or slightly thicker at either end, soft and spongy inside, fragile when old; white; dry

VEIL none

ODOR mild

TASTE mild in general but *placita* proper peppery

EDIBILITY edible but tasteless

HABITAT solitary to scattered or gregarious in woods, associated mainly with conifers

SPORE DEPOSIT yellow-ochre to light yellow

MICROSCOPIC spores 7-10 x 6-9 microns, elliptic to nearly round, amyloid warts with or without ridges

NAME ORIGIN means 'pleasing'

SOURCES Arora*

FAMILY Russulaceae of Order Russulales



Ben Woo