

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 puellaris* Fr. Epicr. Myc. 383. 1838

NOTES features include tendency for stem, flesh, and gills to turn yellowish (or often whole fruiting body when old), striate somewhat viscid cap that is dark purple to wine-colored or red or pink or red-brown or dark brown, often with yellow overtones, cap skin that peels about halfway, white young flesh, whitish young gills, mild odor and taste, and cream to yellow spore deposit; included in PNW keys, Thiers gives for CA, frequent in eastern North America according to Phillips, also in Europe including Austria, Sweden, United Kingdom

CAP 3-5cm, dark purple center shading to purplish pink or flesh pink at edge; cap skin peeling 1/2, margin striate, (PNW keys), 3-5(6)cm, convex depressed; blackish purple, shading off into pale pinkish purple towards the margin; cap skin separable, cen

FLESH fragile; white, aging waxy yellow, (PNW keys), thinnish (Rayner); yellowing (Hansen), often yellowing markedly overnight (Moser), fragile; white, (Phillips)

GILLS creamy white becoming yellowish (PNW keys), rounded near stem, rather distant; whitish, becoming somewhat yellowish, (Lange), ventricose; pale ochreous, (Rayner), cream then yellowing, (Hansen), often yellowing markedly overnight (Moser), moderately spaced; pale ochre, (Phillips)

STEM rather slender, white aging yellowish, (PNW keys), rather slender, somewhat clubshaped; yellowish, with age becoming amber-yellow; venoso-striate, (Lange), 2-6.5cm x 0.5-1.5cm, white, usually staining entirely pale ochreous especially along the elongate reticulate veining, all parts becoming or bruising pale ochreous, (Rayner), 3-6cm x 0.7-1.5cm, white but almost always distinctly yellowing all over or in large patches, (Hansen), yellowing markedly overnight (Moser), 2.5-6cm x 0.5-1.5cm, equal to club-shaped, soft, white, usually staining entirely yellow-ochre, (Phillips)

VEIL none

ODOR not distinctive (PNW keys), pleasant, (Phillips)

TASTE mild (PNW keys, Phillips)

EDIBILITY yes (Phillips)

HABITAT common under conifers, rare in boggy woods of alder and birch, (PNW keys), rather rare, on boggy ground, mostly under *Alnus* and *Betula* (Lange for Europe), deciduous and coniferous trees, fairly frequent, (Rayner for Britain), most coniferous and deciduous forests (Hansen for Europe), in mixed deciduous woods

SPORE DEPOSIT cream yellow to yellow buff, Crawshay D, (PNW keys), white, often called ochre, probably on account of the ochre-staining gills, (Lange), pale ochreous, Crawshay D-E, never found to be B-C as said to be by Pearson, (Rayner), cream (Hansen), pale yellow, Crawshay D-E, (Phillips), yellow to pale ochraceous in deposit, (Thiers)

MICROSCOPIC spores 8-10 x 7-8 microns, ornamentation Patterson type A-1, B-2, (PNW keys), spores 9-9.5 x 7.5 microns, oval-round, warty, (Lange), spores 6.5-9 x 5.5-7 microns, warts rounded to slightly conical, up to 1.25 microns high, mostly isolated b

NAME ORIGIN means 'maidenly'

SIMILAR brunneoviolacea which favors oak

SOURCES Lange, Rayner, Hesler(7), Hansen, L.(2), Moser(1), Phillips*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse*, PNW keys, Thiers(3)

FAMILY Russulaceae of Order Russulales