

## 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 queletii* Fr. group

**NOTES** *queletii* group consists of purple-capped, red or purple-stemmed, hot-tasting *Russulas* with creamy spores, it includes *queletii* (favors spruce), *sardonia* (gills turn pink with ammonia, has greenish or yellowish tints in cap, favors pine, =*drimeia* according to Courtecuisse), and *torulosa* (firmer and more compact than *queletii* and with less acrid taste, favors spruce): it is unclear which of these species occur in Pacific Northwest, but mushrooms are not uncommon fitting the general description of the group; Burlingham and O'Dell list *Russula queletii* for WA and Grund lists *torulosa* for WA

**CAP** 3-10cm, purplish red, wine purple, violet, usually fairly dark

**FLESH** white, may be tinted cap color under surface

**GILLS** white to cream

**STEM** 3-10cm x 0.5-2.5cm, concolorous with cap or paler

**VEIL** none

**ODOR** mild, pleasant, or fruity

**TASTE** peppery

**HABITAT** conifers

**SPORE DEPOSIT** cream to pale ochre (*torulosa* white or pale cream)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores for *queletii* 8-10 x 7-9 microns, Patterson ornamentation type A-3, (PNW keys), spores for *sardonia* 7-9 x 6-8 microns, elliptic, warts up to 0.5 microns high, ridges present (Phillips), spores for *torulosa* 7-9 x 5.5-7 microns, with low warts forming crests and also with some connections

**NAME ORIGIN** presumably after Lucien Quelet, 1832-99, first President of Societe Mycologique de France

**SOURCES** PNW keys, Phillips (*sardonia*)\*, Courtecuisse\*

**FAMILY** Russulaceae of Order Russulales