

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 stuntzii* Grund Mycotaxon 9: 97. 1979

NOTES features include viscid striate cap which is whitish with a slight grayish or purplish component; unchanging flesh, cream to white gills, white stem, mild odor, strongly peppery taste, and white to sometimes pale yellow spore deposit; found at least WA and apparently rare there, Thiers gives for CA, **CHEMICAL REACTIONS** cap flesh 40% formaldehyde - negative, guaiac tincture - deep blue, 10% FeSO₄ - flesh color, guaiacol - dark red, sulphvanillin - purple, sulphoformol - purplish to brown, aniline water - negative to slightly yellowish, a-naphthol - deep violet, pyrogallol - rusty brown, phenol-aniline - deep reddish brown, 2% phenol - deep reddish brown

CAP 3.5-8.3cm, broadly convex becoming flat and finally depressed with rounded or uplifted margin; pallid with a slight purplish component, more or less dingy or dull white; viscid, bald, drying polished and shining, margin tuberculate-striate, pellicle separable at margin, (Grund), 3.5-10.5cm, convex to broadly convex to flat convex when young, deeply and broadly depressed with age, margin downcurved when young, flat to irregularly uplifted to umbonate when mature; white to dingy white to pale buff to pale gray, frequently with dull lavender to pale purple tones particularly on the margin, usually slightly paler on the disc, not changing color when bruised; viscid, bald, with shallow areolations near margin, obscurely striate to tuberculate-striate, (Thiers)

FLESH 0.3-1cm off the disc; unchanging when cut or bruised, (Grund), 0.5-1.0cm thick; white, unchanging when exposed, (Thiers)

GILLS adnate or slightly adnexed, moderately close, rarely forking, occasionally subgills interspersed; cream to almost white, (Grund), "adnate to adnexed, close to subdistant, forking absent to rare"; usually white, sometimes near cream when older, unchanging when bruised, (Thiers)



Ben Woo



Christine Roberts

STEM 3.0-7.5cm x 0.9-2.2cm, mostly equal to slightly expanded at base and immediately at top where gills attach; white, not bruising but sometimes darkening slightly grayish upon handling; moist, bald, longitudinally wrinkled, (Grund), 4-7cm x 1-3cm, equal to clubshaped, stuffed; white, unchanging when bruised; dry, bald, often longitudinally wrinkled, (Thiers)

VEIL none

ODOR not distinctive or absent, (Grund), mild (Thiers)

TASTE strongly peppery, (Grund), peppery to strongly peppery, (Thiers)

HABITAT solitary, in coniferous forests, typically under hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*) and Douglas-fir, (Grund), usually solitary, rarely scattered or gregarious in coniferous-hardwood forests, the only *Russula* species in California that often grows on well-rotted conifer logs, (Thiers)

SPORE DEPOSIT white, Crawshay A, (Grund), white to pale yellow (Thiers)

MICROSCOPIC spores 8-9.5(10) x 7-7.5(8) microns, round or nearly round, echinulate with conic protuberances 0.8-1.5 microns high, some connected by thin lines forming an incomplete reticulum, ornamentation strongly amyloid, (Grund); basidia mostly 4-spo

NAME ORIGIN after Professor Daniel Stuntz of the University of Washington

SIMILAR like *cremoricolor* which has a whitish to ivory-yellow to pale yellow cap with no grayish or lavender tints, and spores with warts not more than 0.5 microns high and non-reticulate ornamentation, (Thiers); like *crenulata* which has cap more yellowish white, cap separable over most of cap, weak apple odor, mild taste, and different habitat

SOURCES Grund, Thiers(3)

FAMILY Russulaceae of Order Russulales