

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 virescens* (Schaeff. ex Secr.) Fr. Epicr.
Myc.: 355. 1838

ENGLISH NAME(S) quilted green *Russula*

NOTES easily identified by greenish to greenish-gray, areolate cap, white spores, and association with hardwoods; this English name also used for the eastern *crustosa* which has orange (Lincoff(1) says yellow, pink and brown) tones in cap and pale orange-yellow spores; Phillips gives as found throughout northern and eastern North America, there are unconfirmed reports from British Columbia, and it has been recorded from MT (Arora), Burlingham gives distribution as ME to VA and west to MI and OH, Europe, Shaffer examined collections from MD, MI, NC, TN, **CHEMICAL REACTIONS** on cap flesh: FeSO₄ grayish yellowish pink, 2% phenol dark reddish brown, formalin pale pink (almost colorless), guaiac slowly moderate bluish green, SV pale purplish gray, (Shaffer)

CAP 5.5-14cm, when young deeply pulvinate (cushion-shaped) with an incurved margin and a slightly depressed disc, becoming convex to flat-convex with an umbilicate-depressed center, eventually irregularly flat or deeply concave; moderate olive, grayish o

FLESH 0.3-0.8cm thick at midradius, firm-brittle at first, spongy-brittle when old; white to yellowish white, unchanging when cut, the stem pith sometimes staining light yellowish where cut, (Shaffer), thick, brittle; white, (Arora)

GILLS adnate to adnexed, close, equal, acute near margin, interveined, rarely or often forked at or near stem; pale yellow, unchanging when injured; edges entire, (Shaffer), adnate to adnexed or even free, fairly close; white or creamy, (Arora)



Boleslaw Kuznik

STEM 4-8cm x 1.5-3.5cm, flared at top and more or less equal below, obclavate, or narrowing to base, solid at first, later stuffed; yellowish white, becoming at most pale grayish yellow where bruised, dry, dull, longitudinally rugulose, minutely scurfy at top, elsewhere bald, 3-9cm x 1-3(4)cm, more or less equal, firm, brittle; white; dry, more or less smooth, (Arora)

VEIL none

ODOR odorless or nearly so (Shaffer), pleasant (Phillips)

TASTE almost tasteless, gill slightly farinaceous or nondescript, (Shaffer), mild (Arora), mild, nutty, (Phillips)

EDIBILITY edible and choice (Arora)

HABITAT solitary, scattered, or gregarious on soil and humus in deciduous woods, (Shaffer), solitary to widely scattered or in groups under hardwoods, especially oak and beech, in Montana under birch, (Arora)

SPORE DEPOSIT yellowish white, Romagnesi Ib to almost IIa, (Shaffer), white or with a faint yellow tinge, (Arora), white, Crawshay A-B, (Phillips)

MICROSCOPIC spores 6-9(10) x 5-7 microns, elliptic to nearly round, amyloid warts and/or ridges, (Arora), 6-9(10.2) x 5.1-6.8(7.9) microns, usually broadly elliptic to broadly obovate, occasionally elliptic, obovate, reniform, pip-shaped, or subglobose;

NAME ORIGIN means 'becoming green'

SIMILAR like aeruginea which averages smaller, lacks the strong tendency to areolate pattern on cap, and has creamy to pale orange-yellow spore deposit

SOURCES R.L.Shaffer Brittonia 22:236 1970, Arora, Phillips*, Lincoff(1)*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse*

FAMILY Russulaceae of Order Russulales