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) Schizophyllum commune Fries Syst. Myc. 1: 330. 1821

ENGLISH NAME(S) split-gill

NOTES features include fanshaped whitish hairy caps which are scattered in groups, rows, or fused clusters on hardwood, tough flesh, and well-spaced white gills with edges that appear split or grooved lengthwise; in Canada, found in BC, OR, WA, ID, also AB, MB, NB, NF, NS, NT, ON, PE, PQ, SK, AR, AL, AZ, CA, CT, DC, FL, GA, IA, IL, IN, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, ME, MI, MN, MO, MS, NC, NH, NY, OH, OK, PA, SC, SD, TN, TX, VA, WV, (Ginns(5)), also found in Europe

CAP 1-4cm, fan-shaped (or vase-shaped if stem central) , margin usually lobed and inrolled in dry weather; white to grayish-white, gray or sometimes brownish-gray when wet; dry, densely hairy, (Arora), 0.5-5cm in diameter, up to 0.2cm thick, generally gregarious, often imbricate, effused-reflexed to laterally stipitate, (Ginns)

FLESH tough, leathery, thin; pallid or grayish, (Arora), hard, brittle, waxy; tan, (Ginns)

GILLS radiating from point of attachment, well-spaced; "white to grayish; edges appearing split or grooved lengthwise (i.e. cuplike in cross section), rolling back in dry weather", (Arora), split, brittle, waxy; pale tan; smooth, (Ginns)

STEM absent or present only as narrowed basal point of attachment, (Arora), up to 0.7cm long and 0.3cm wide, generally round in cross-section, (Ginns)

ODOR pleasant (Phillips), sourish, like Heterobasidion annosum, mild, (Breitenbach)

TASTE pleasant (Phillips)

EDIBILITY too small and tough to be of value, but some natives of Madagascar sometimes chew them, (Arora)

HABITAT scattered or in groups, rows, or fused clusters on hardwood sticks, stumps, logs, etc.", (Arora), on wood of a broad range of species, (Ginns)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Arora)

Michael Wood (MykoWeb)

MICROSCOPIC spores 3-4(6) x 1-1.5(3) microns, cylindric, smooth, (Arora), spores 6-8(9) x 2-2.4(2.8) microns, cylindric with broadly rounded ends in face view, adaxially flattened to slightly concave or basally bent in side view, smooth, thin-walled, inamyloid; basidia 4-spored, 20-25 x 4-6 microns, slenderly clavate, (Ginns), pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not seen; basidia with clamps, some septa in cap cuticle with clamps, (Breitenbach)

NAME ORIGIN means 'common'

SOURCES Ginns, Ginns(5), Arora*, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Lincoff(1)*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen*, Kibby*, Bessette(2)*, Barron*, Breitenbach(3)*

FAMILY Schizophyllaceae of Order Agaricales