

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) *Stropharia aurantiaca* (Cooke) Orton in Transactions of the British Mycological Society 43: 181, 381. 1960; *Naematoloma aurantiacum*; *Hypholoma aurantiacum*

NOTES distinguished by bright reddish orange cap which is slightly viscid or dry, margin often hung with veil remnants, whitish stem which bruises reddish orange, tendency to grow in parks or gardens, and dark spore deposit; may have originated in Australia and travelled to the Pacific Northwest on wood or sawdust; found at least in BC, CA

CAP 1.5-5.5cm, convex becoming broadly umbonate or flat; bright scarlet to red-orange or orange, or at times brick-red to rusty-reddish to reddish-brown; slightly viscid or dry, smooth, margin often hung with whitish veil remnants, (Arora), 1.6-5.6cm, convex then expanded-convex, margin remaining incurved for some time, sometimes broadly obtusely umbonate; "red-lead" (Royal Botanical Garden color guide) or "crimson-lake" (RBG) to deep wine-red, sometimes slightly paler at margin; viscid when moist, wrinkled-rugulose round center and slightly paler in places when dry, margin with dentate scales from white or whitish, later slightly yellowish, veil at first, (Watling)

FLESH pallid, not bruising blue (Arora), in cap colored as surface, in stem yellowish or ochraceous, often red in places where cut, drying pale ochraceous or slightly reddish, (Watling)

GILLS adnate or notched, sometimes seceding, close; pallid or yellowish when young, then grayish-brown or grayish-olive and finally purple-brown to purple-black in old age, (Arora), adnate, sometimes slightly emarginate, rather crowded; whitish then pale olivaceous or clay-olive, finally olive-umber, edges white flocculose at first, later sometimes with reddish stains (also sometimes in places on gill faces), (Watling)



Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)



Paul Kroeger



Boleslaw Kuznik

STEM (2)3-7(10)cm x 0.2-0.6(1.0)cm, equal or with base slightly swollen or narrowed, white or tinged yellow above, developing bright orange to reddish-orange stains over lower half, base sometimes with white to yellow mycelial threads, (Arora), 1.6-10cm x 0.2-0.8cm, up to 1.5cm at base, equal with clavate-bulbous or slightly thickened base, stuffed then hollow; whitish then pale yellowish or ochraceous, sometimes flushed with color of cap or crimson-lake in places when handled, sometimes fading again when dry; apex white pruinose, whitish or slightly yellowish fibrillose-floccose veil forming ring-zone and patches below this, sometimes later disappearing and leaving stem streaky-striate, base white-tomentose

VEIL membranous but very thin, whitish, soon disappearing or forming a slight easily obliterated ring on stem, (Arora), whitish or slightly yellowish fibrillose floccose veil forms ring zone on stem and leaves patches below it, veil sometimes later disappearing, veil also leaves white to whitish later yellowish dentate scales on cap margin, (Watling)

ODOR none (Watling)

EDIBILITY unknown (Arora)

HABITAT scattered to gregarious on wood chips, sawdust, and humus rich in lignin, often on lawns, in gardens etc, (Arora)

SPORE DEPOSIT dark purple-brown (Arora), purplish-brown (Watling)

MICROSCOPIC spores 10-14 x 6-9 microns, elliptic, smooth chrysocystidia present on gill faces, (Arora), spores 11-13 x 6-7.5 microns, elliptic with germ pore; basidia 4-spored, 34-38 x 10-11 microns; pleurocystidia clavate with or without pointed appendage, chrysocystidia (contents yellow in alkali), cheilocystidia 30-40 x 5-8 microns, apex 3-6 microns, cylindric-fusiform or slightly lageniform, often flexuose; cap cuticle of filamentous clamped hyphae, 6-12 microns diameter; clamp connections present, (Watling)

NAME ORIGIN means 'orange', *Malum aurantium* = orange

SOURCES Watling(3), Arora*(as *Naematoloma*), Courtecuisse*

FAMILY Strophariaceae of Order Agaricales