

## 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 semiglobata* (Batsch ex Fr.) Quelet;  
*Psilocybe semiglobata* (Batsch:Fr.) Noordeloos

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** hemispherical *Stropharia*, dung roundhead, round *Stropharia*

**NOTES** uniquely glutinous veil distinguishes from close relatives, but see also *semigloboides*; features include viscid to slimy yellow to yellow-brown cap which may be hemispherical, gills that are grayish, then dark purple-brown to black, slender viscid or slimy white to yellowish stem, with fragile fibrillose ring or zone, spicy fenugreek odor, growth with dung, manure, straw, grazed or fertilized grass or rich soil, and dark purple-brown spore deposit; Stamets says transferred to *Psilocybe* and says it is widely distributed throughout North America and much of the temperate regions of the world, Murrill reported it from WA, CA, Breitenbach & Kranzlin give distribution as North America, Europe, Asia, North Africa, Australia

**CAP** 1-5(6)cm, hemispherical (rounded) or broadly bell-shaped, becoming convex or rarely flat, occasionally with umbo; not hygrophanous, pale yellow to straw-colored, yellowish-buff, or yellow-brown, margin often paler; smooth, viscid or slimy from separable gelatinous pellicle, sometimes hung with whitish veil remnants

**FLESH** thin; pale or watery yellowish, not bruising

**GILLS** typically adnate but sometimes separating, close to nearly distant, broad, with 1 to 2 tiers of intermediate gills; at first grayish, then dark purple-brown to black, edges remaining purplish to whitish

**STEM** 3-8(13)cm x 0.2-0.6cm, typically long and slender, equal or slightly enlarged at base, stuffed with yellowish pith at first becoming hollow with age; white to yellowish, not bruising; somewhat fibrillose above veil, viscid or slimy below (when moist)

**VEIL** slimy, delicate, forming a fragile, superior, fibrillose ring or zone on stem which is soon blackened by falling spores, or sometimes disappearing entirely



Boleslaw Kuznik (MykoWeb)



Stan Czolowski

**ODOR** mild, or clean, spicy, like fenugreek

**TASTE** mild (Breitenbach)

**EDIBILITY** yes, not hallucinogenic, but easy to confuse with poisonous species

**HABITAT** solitary or in small groups on cow or horse dung, manure, rich soil, straw, and grazed or fertilized grass, spring summer or fall

**SPORE DEPOSIT** dark purple-brown

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 15-19 x 7.5-10 microns, elliptic, smooth; basidia 4-spored; pleurocystidia difficult to find, 32-46 x 9-14 microns, cheilocystidia narrowly spindle-shaped or wider in middle with a long flexuous neck, 26-38 x 6-9 microns, (Stamets), basidia 4-spored, 33-41 x 12-15 microns, clavate or ventricose, without a basal clamp; clamps mentioned for cap cuticle, (Breitenbach)

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'hemispherical'

**SIMILAR** like semigloboides which has much paler gills and different spore characters, and differs in habitat; like coronilla which has shorter stem 2-5cm long which is not viscid, more prominent ring; like stercoraria

**SOURCES** Arora\*, Lincoff(1)\*, Schalkwijk-Barendsen\*, Kibby\*, Stamets (as Psilocybe)\*, Courtecuisse\*, Bessette(2)\*, Barron\*, Ammirati(11)\*, Breitenbach(4)\*, Murrill(4)

**FAMILY** Strophariaceae of Order Agaricales