

## 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)** *Tricholoma atroviolaceum* Smith Mycologia 36: 256-257

**NOTES** features include large size, dry blackish to dark grayish brown or violet-tinted cap that is densely fibrillose-scaly, sinuate to adnexed close gills that are brownish to grayish or pinkish-tinged, typically staining blackish, thick sometimes bulbous stem that is brownish with scattered squamules darkening to violaceous or yellowish, farinaceous odor and taste, growth under conifers, and whitish spore deposit; description derived from Smith(17) except where indicated; found at least WA, OR

**CAP** 5-12(14)cm, obtuse and with a lightly incurved margin when young, becoming broadly umbonate or flat, the margin spreading or recurved somewhat when old and often plicate or splitting radially; blackish violet from the dense covering of fibrils, ("dark grayish brown" over central part and "benzo brown" along margin, darker when old); dry, covered over all except on margin by minute recurved blackish violet scales

**FLESH** thin but rigid and brittle, 0.4-0.5cm near stem; sordid brownish gray to nearly "drab-gray", no color change when cut or bruised but sometimes gradually darkening

**GILLS** sinuate to adnexed, close, 1-2 tiers of subgills, broad, up to about 1cm broad, very brittle; dull cinnamon overcast with gray ("light cinnamon-drab", "light drab" or "wood-brown", edges usually staining blackish; edges uneven to eroded

**STEM** 6-14cm x 1-3cm, equal to enlarged in upper part or sometimes with an abruptly bulbous base, solid; pallid at first but soon tinged "benzo brown" and finally quite dark; appressed fibrillose and becoming somewhat furfuraceous at times from the broken cuticle

**ODOR** very strongly farinaceous

**TASTE** slightly to strongly farinaceous

**HABITAT** under conifers

**SPORE DEPOSIT** presumably whitish



Michael Wood (MykoWeb)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 7-9 x 4.5-6 microns, subelliptic to subovoid, inamyloid, (Smith); basidia 4-spored, pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia not differentiated, (Smith), spores 7.2-10 x 4.8-7.2 microns, elliptic to broadly elliptic, smooth, inamyloid; basidia 4-spored, 43-56 x 8.6-12 microns, clavate; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia absent; clamp connections absent (Shanks)

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'black-violet'

**SIMILAR** *atrosquamosum* and *squarrulosum* have cheilocystidia; *luteomaculosum* lacks violet tones on the cap and has cheilocystidia and pleurocystidia

**SOURCES** Smith(17), Smith(6), Ammirati(5), Shanks(2)

**FAMILY** Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales