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 flavovirens (Fr.) Lundell in Lundell & Nannfeldt: Fungi exsiccati Suecici fasc. 23: 1102; Tricholoma equestre (L.) Kummer

ENGLISH NAME(S) man-on-horseback, canary Tricholoma, sandy Tricholoma, yellow-green Tricholoma

NOTES characterized by viscid yellow or brown to reddish brown cap, yellow gills, white to pale yellow stem, absent veil, farinaceous or coconut odor, habitat under pines, and white spores; the name flavovirens is favoured by some authorities (Bon(1) who separates T. auratum as a more robust species, thicker stemmed, 4-8(10)cm x 1-3cm versus 6-10cm x 0.8-1.0(1.5)cm, with a viscid cap versus dry and slightly viscid in wet weather for flavovirens, favoring sandy pine habitat whereas flavovirens found under hardwoods or conifers), and the name equestre is favored by others (Riva as explained in Breitenbach, who included T. auratum), common in the Pacific Northwest, reported specifically for BC (from Redhead(5)), for WA by O'Dell(1), for MT by Cripps

CAP 4-15(20)cm, convex becoming flat or with margin uplifted when old, margin inrolled at first; entirely yellow or brown to reddish brown toward center and yellow at margin, or sometimes olive-yellow; viscid, smooth, (Arora), 3.3-11 microns, convex to broadly convex, a low broad umbo often present, margin becoming uplifted when old; golden yellow to pale yellow overall, or disc yellowish brown when young, becoming yellowish brown to brown overall when old from brown fibrils over a yellow background; viscid, appressed-fibrillose to minutely fine-scaly over the disc, bald elsewhere, (Shanks)

FLESH thick, firm; white, (Arora), white in cap and stem, pale yellow near cap surface, (Shanks), thin; whitish, yellowish under cap surface, in stem whitish to lemon-yellow, (Breitenbach)

GILLS notched or adnexed, close, broad; yellow, (Arora), sinuate to strongly notched, close, 1.0cm broad, thin; pale yellow to yellow, (Shanks)

Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)

Michael Beug

STEM 3-10cm x 1-3(4)cm, equal or slightly enlarged at either end, solid; white to pale yellow or sometimes with darker stains at base; dry, smooth , (Arora), 2.0-10.5cm x 0.8-2.0cm, equal or with a slightly bulbous base, fibrous, solid or hollow; white to pale yellow at the top, pale yellow to yellow elsewhere, surface fibrils darkening to pale yellow brown when old; dry, innately fibrillose, (Shanks)

VEIL absent (Arora)

ODOR farinaceous or somewhat like coconut, (Arora), not distinctive to mildly farinaceous, (Shanks)

TASTE not distinctive to mildly farinaceous, (Shanks)

EDIBILITY yes, although a few are adversely affected, remove viscid cap skin, (Arora)

HABITAT scattered to densely gregarious under pines, rarely other conifers, found occasionally with madrones, and in southwest US it is quite common under aspen, (Arora), scattered to gregarious, occasionally cespitose (tufted), associated with conifers, or rarely hardwoods, (Shanks)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores 6-8 x 4-5 microns, elliptic, smooth, presumably inamyloid, (Arora), spores 4.8-8.6 x 3.4-5.8 microns, elliptic to broadly elliptic, smooth, inamyloid; basidia 4-spored, 31.2-43.2 x 7.2-9.6 microns, clavate, colorless or occasionally with granular brown contents; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia absent; clamp connections absent, (Shanks)

NAME ORIGIN means "greenish yellow" or "yellow of the spring" according to 2 sources

SIMILAR like sejunctum which has blackish radial fibers at center of cap, gills often yellow only near margin, and spores more broadly elliptic; like sulphureum which has dry cap and coal tar odor; like intermedium which has white gills; like aestuans which has a dry cap and mild odor, bitter taste, has cheilocystidia, has bright pink PDAB reaction on all parts, and is light yellowish green or greenish yellow rather than truly yellow overall (although like flavovirens it can have brown coloration on the cap)

SOURCES Shanks(2), Breitenbach(3)*(as equestre), Arora*, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Ammirati*, Lincoff(1)*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse(as equestre)*, Bessette(2)*, Barron*, Ovrebo(2), Bon(1), Cripps(2)

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales