

## 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 populinum* Lange Dansk. Bot. Arkiv. 8: 14. 1933

**ENGLISH NAME(S)** poplar *Tricholoma*, the sandy

**NOTES** characterized by reddish brown viscid cap, association with cottonwood or poplar, usually in sandy soil, and tendency to grow in densely packed masses or long arcs; occurs at least in WA (Ammirati, Ovrebo), BC (Turner), ID (Ovrebo), CA (Shanks), MT (Cripps)

**CAP** 5-16cm, convex with inrolled margin becoming flat or with uplifted margin; "dull reddish-cinnamon to pale dingy reddish-brown, margin usually paler or whitish"; "viscid when moist, then dry, often radially streaked or with watery spots", smooth, (Arora), 6-10cm, flat-convex to wavy-convex; "sage brown" to "fawn color", lightening toward margin, often whitish-dusty or chalky appearing in places; viscid when moist, bald, often reticulate - innately-fibrillose on disc, (Ovrebo), 8-12cm, convex with inrolled margin; rosy brown, paler toward margin; viscid, bald, occasionally with watery spots near margin, (Shanks)

**FLESH** firm, thick; white, (Arora), thick; whitish, buff, in stem whitish-buff, (Ovrebo), white, rosy near cap surface, white in stem, (Shanks)

**GILLS** typically adnexed or notched, close; "white, developing reddish-brown spots and stains, especially on edges", (Arora), sinuate to broadly sinuate, broad; whitish and becoming darker, eventually discoloring brown in patches on edge and face, (Ovrebo), sinuate; white, discoloring reddish brown, (Shanks)



Alvin Funk



John Dennis

**STEM** 2.5-7.5cm x 1-3cm, equal or widening downwards, solid, firm; "dull whitish, developing dingy reddish-brown stains in age or after handling", (Arora), 5-7.5cm x 1.5-2cm, narrowing toward base, often flattened, twisted and bent; white especially toward top, discoloring brown in patches or all over, yellowing toward base; bald with occasionally dark fibrils projecting, area near top slightly pruinose, (Ovrebo), 5-10 x 1-3cm, equal or narrowing towards base, solid; whitish at first, colored as cap at maturity, sometimes yellowish at base, (Shanks)

**VEIL** absent (Arora)

**ODOR** strongly farinaceous (Arora), farinaceous (Ovrebo, Shanks)

**TASTE** strongly farinaceous (Arora), farinaceous (Ovrebo, Shanks)

**EDIBILITY** yes but be sure associated with cottonwood and is not pessundatum (Arora)

**HABITAT** "scattered to densely gregarious, frequently fruiting in large fairy rings or dense masses in sandy soil or along rivers, apparently always in association with poplar or cottonwood", (Arora), gregarious or cespitose (tufted), under *Populus*, often in sandy soil, (Ovrebo), gregarious to cespitose (tufted) in sandy soil with *Populus*, (Shanks)

**SPORE DEPOSIT** white (Arora, Ovrebo)

**MICROSCOPIC** spores 5-6 x 3.5-4 microns, elliptic, smooth, presumably inamyloid, (Arora), spores 6.8-7.5 x 3.3-4 microns, elliptic to oblong in face view, beanshaped to near fusiform (spindle-shaped) in side view, smooth, inamyloid, with droplets; basidia 27.8-32 x 6-6.8 microns, clavate, colorless in KOH, yellow in Melzer's; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia absent; clamp connections absent, (Ovrebo), spores 5.5-6.5 x 3.5-4 microns, elliptic, smooth inamyloid; basidia 4-spored 25-35 x 6-7 microns, clavate; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia absent, (Shanks)

**NAME ORIGIN** means 'pertaining to poplar'

**SIMILAR** pessundatum except somewhat paler cap and associated with cottonwood, often in large masses or rings

**SOURCES** Shanks(2), Ovrebo(4), Arora, Lincoff(2)\*, Ammirati\*, Courtecuisse\*, Turner(1), Cripps(2)

**FAMILY** Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales