

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 saponaceum* (Fr.) Staude Die Schwämme Mitteldeutsch.: 127. 1858

ENGLISH NAME(S) soapy *Tricholoma*

NOTES distinguished among *Tricholomas* by the dry cap which is variable in color but often has greenish tints, by orangy-pink color of flesh at or near base of stem (often visible on outside as well), and distinctive odor; may represent a complex of species; common in the Pacific Northwest, and CA, reported specifically for WA by O'Dell(1), frequent on foray lists from BC, reported by Kernaghan from AB, also elsewhere in North America and in Europe

CAP 4-12(18)cm, convex to flat or with uplifted, often wavy margin; "olive to greenish-gray, gray, yellowish-olive, brownish-olive, grayish-brown, coppery, or with rusty tints, or sometimes dingy gray at center and pallid toward margin"; "dry or moist but not viscid, smooth or cracking into scales in dry weather", (Arora), 3-17cm, convex to flat-convex, often with a broad umbo, margin inrolled at first becoming uplifted and wavy with age; greenish yellow, olive, or grayish brown, occasionally copper when old; moist or dry rather than viscid, bald, rarely with scattered appressed fibrils over disc, (Shanks)

FLESH thick; white, but may stain slowly yellowish or pinkish when bruised, usually pinkish in base, (this pinkish base flesh color present in the majority of specimens from any group), (Arora), whitish, in stem whitish to pale gray but pinkish in the base, (Shanks)

GILLS "adnate to adnexed or notched, well-spaced, rather thick"; "white or tinged olive or yellowish, sometimes stained reddish", (Arora), sinuate, close to subdistant, 0.3-1.0cm broad, thin or somewhat thick; white to yellowish white, not staining or discoloring, (Shanks)



Fred Stevens (MykoWeb)



Michael Beug



Boleslaw Kuznik

STEM 5-12(20)cm x 1-3cm, shape variable but often thickest in middle and narrowing below to a somewhat rooting base, solid; white or tinged variously yellow or with the cap color; stem smooth or with small scales, (Arora), 3-10(25)cm x 0.6-2.5cm, equal or slightly ventricose, narrowing toward base, the base pointed or somewhat rooting; colored as gills overall or only at top, the rest brownish gray, base orange white or pinkish; silky fibrillose or bald and somewhat moist, (Shanks)

VEIL absent (Arora)

ODOR mild to farinaceous, soapy, or "of washrooms", (Arora), historically described as like soap, rather sharp and rancid with a sweet overtone, (Shanks), fragrant, said to be of soap or flowers, or sour like sesame oil, or of green almonds, (Kibby)

TASTE mild to farinaceous, soapy, or "of washrooms", (Arora), historically described as like soap, rather sharp and rancid with a sweet overtone, (Shanks), mushroomy (Phillips)

EDIBILITY no (Arora)

HABITAT "solitary, scattered, tufted, or in groups or troops under both hardwoods and conifers", (Arora), solitary to cespitose (tufted) with hardwoods or conifers, (Shanks)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores 5-6 x 3-4 microns, elliptic, smooth, presumably inamyloid, (Arora), spores 5.3-7.2 x 3.4-4.8 microns, elliptic, smooth, inamyloid; basidia 4-spored, 24-33 x 5.8-6.2 microns; pleurocystidia and cheilocystidia absent; clamp connections scattered throughout, (Shanks)

NAME ORIGIN means "soapy"

SOURCES Shanks(2), Arora*, Phillips*, Lincoff(2)*, Ammirati*, Kibby*, Courtecuisse*, Bessette(2)*, O'Dell(1), Kernaghan

FAMILY Tricholomataceae of Order Agaricales



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