

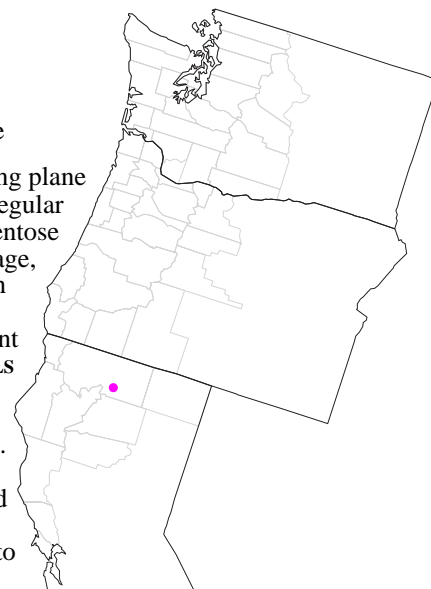
*Cortinarius verrucisporus* Thiers & A.H. Smith

ROD name *Cortinarius verrucisporus*

Family Cortinariaceae

Morphological Habit sequestrate

**Description:** CAP 3-6 cm broad at maturity, convex when young, becoming plane to plano-convex to plane shallowly depressed with age, frequently highly irregular and undulating in outline, surface dry to moist, innately fibrillose to subtomentose when young, unchanging or becoming glabrous to obscurely fibrillose with age, when very young white to pale brown, very soon becoming rusty brown with some areas colored near yellow to pale brown to brown. **MARGIN** entire, concolorous, strongly incurved, attached to the stipe by a tenacious permanent veil during all stages of development. **ODOR AND TASTE** not distinctive. **GILLS** subdecurrent to adnate, close to subdistant, pallid to pale olive when young becoming red brown as spores mature, thin, becoming noticeably crisped when dry, fragile, several tiers of reduced gills present, somewhat ventricose. **STEM** poorly developed and somewhat obscure, 1-1.5 cm long, 1-1.5 cm broad at the apex, equal to slightly bulbous, concolorous with the cap, covered with partial veil during all stages of development, solid. **PARTIAL VEIL** (cortina) permanent, tough, fibrous, concolorous with cap surface. **FLESH** up to 1 cm thick, yellow, unchanging when exposed, firm. **PELLIOPELLIS** differentiated as a layer of appressed hyphae which stain vinaceous in KOH, walls subgelatinous in KOH. **BASIDIA** 4-spored, hyaline in KOH, clavate, 27-30 x 7-9  $\mu\text{m}$ . **PLEUROCYSTIDIA AND CHEILOCYSTIDIA** absent. **CLAMP CONNECTIONS** present throughout, abundant in the veil tissue. **SPORES** ovoid, 10.5-13 x 6.5-8.0  $\mu\text{m}$ , thick-walled, conspicuously verrucose-roughened with large, coarse warts which often unite to form short reticulations.



**Distinguishing Features:** Characterized by the sequestrate habit, the presence of bright yellow stains on the cap and a strong development of warts on the spores.

**Distribution:** Endemic to California. Known from a single site within the range of the northern spotted owl: CALIFORNIA, Siskiyou Co., Horse Camp. Another site outside the assessment area is in Lassen Volcanic National Park.

**Substrate and habitat:** Forms sporocarps beneath the soil surface associated with the roots of *Abies magnifica* and possibly other *Abies* spp. above 1,00 m elevation.

**Season:** Fruits from June through September.

**Reference:** THIERS, H., AND SMITH, A.H. 1969. Hypogeous cortinarii. Mycologia 61:526-536.