

163. *Hygrophorus Russula* Fr. (EDIBLE)

Syst. Mycol., 1821 (as *Tricholoma*).

Illustrations: Hard, Mushrooms, Fig. 51, p. 71, 1908. (As *Tricholoma Russula*.)

Michael, Führer f. Pilzfreunde, Vol. II. (as *Tricholoma Russula*.)

Ricken, Blätterpilze, Pl. 4, Fig. 1.

Peck, N. Y. State Mus. Bull. 54, Pl. 77, Fig. 1-5, 1902. (As *Tricholoma Russula*.)

Bresadola, Fungh. mang. e. vel., Pl. 22. (As *Tricholoma Russula*.)

Plate XXVI of this Report.

PILEUS 5-12 cm. broad, firm, convex, at length plane or depressed with margin elevated-wavy, *viscid* when moist, *pale pink to rosy-red*, somewhat variegated, disk somewhat scaly-dotted, margin at first involute and floccose-pruinose. FLESH compact, thick, white or at length reddish-tinged. GILLS rounded behind, at length spuriously decurrent, narrow, acuminate at ends, thickish, white at first then reddish-spotted, *trama of divergent hyphae*. STEM stout, usually short, 3-7 cm. long, 15-25 mm. thick, firm, solid, *dry*, equal or subventricose, apex white-flocculose, *white, becoming reddish in age*. SPORES narrowly elliptical, apiculate, smooth, white in mass. BASIDIA slender, elongated, 45 x 5-6 micr. ODOR and TASTE mild.

Solitary or caespitose in troops. On the ground, among leaves, in frondose woods of oak, maple, etc. Ann Arbor, Detroit, Marquette, New Richmond and throughout the State. September-November. Common.

This *Hygrophorus* has usually been placed with the *Tricholomas* with which it has some affinity; but the character of the gills, which are somewhat waxy and whose trama is composed of divergent hyphae, the attenuated lower part of the basidia and its general characters ally it much better to *Hygrophorus* where Quelet and Ricken also place it. The involute, slightly floccose margin of the pileus is similar to that of *H. pudorinus*. It often occurs in troops in late autumn, when it is covered by leaves which it pushes up so as to form humps which betray its presence. It is among the very best of edible mushrooms, especially after cold weather sets in, at which time it is free from grubs. The bright color is similar to that of some *Russulas*, hence the specific name. *Tricho-*

*loma rubicunda* Pk. is doubtless *H. Russula* in spite of the argument for its autonomy by E. M. Williams in the Plant World, Vol. 4, p. 9, 1901. *H. erubescens* Fr. is similarly colored, but consistently of a different habit, long stemmed and narrow-capped. The latter species as I saw it in Sweden, seems to me to be quite distinct.

164. *Hygrophorus pudorinus* Fr. (EDIBLE)

Syst. Myc., 1821.

Illustrations: Cooke, Ill., Plate 911.

Gillet, Champignons de France, No. 347.

Peck, N. Y. State Mus. Bull. 67, Pl. 83, 1903.

Ricken, Blätterpilze, Pl. 4, Fig. 3, 1910.

PILEUS 2-10 cm. broad, firm, convex-campanulate, subexpanded, obtuse, *viscid* when moist, *pale tan color, pinkish-buff or tinged incarnate*, glabrous, even, margin at first involute and minutely downy. FLESH compact, thick, white or tinged flesh-color. GILLS acuminate-subdecurrent, subdistant, thickish, narrow, sometimes forked, interspaces venose, *usually connected at the stem by a narrow border*, trama of divergent hyphae. STEM 3-8 cm. long, 5-20 mm. thick, *stout*, compact, solid, *dry*, equal or tapering downward, white, buff or incarnate-tinged, *floccose-scabrous at apex*, floccose-fibrillose or glabrescent downwards. SPORES cylindric-elliptical, smooth, 6-9 x 3.5-5 micr. BASIDIA slender, 45-50 x 6-7 micr., 4-spored. ODOR and TASTE mild. *Edible*.

Gregarious to caespitose. On the ground, often among grass, in hemlock or frondose woods or thickets. Ann Arbor, Detroit, New Richmond. September-November. Frequent.

This is a variable species with us as regards size and coloration. Late in the season a small form appears (form *minor*) which has always a white stem, and forms considerable patches in oak woods. It is possible that this form is *H. arbustivus* Fr. In the typical and luxuriant specimens of *H. pudorinus* the stem is tinged flesh-color to pale isabelline. Occasional specimens are larger than the sizes given above, which are made to include form *minor*. All of these are delicious food.