

Phaeocollybia kauffmanii (A.H. Smith) SingerROD name *Phaeocollybia kauffmanii*

Family Cortinariaceae

Morphological Habit mushroom

Description: CAP 8-15 (-25) cm in diam, campanulate with enrolled margin, glabrous, viscid to glutinous, orange to brown. FLESH firm, creamy white, frequently staining orange. GILLS more or less free, crowded, pale pink-tan becoming red-brown from spores. STEM aerial portion 200-400 x 15-35 (40) mm, gradually tapered to a long pseudorhiza, dry, longitudinally striate, pale pink-tan, becoming darker to nearly black in age, thick cartilaginous rind densely packed with a pallid pith. ODOR faintly farinaceous. TASTE farinaceous. CHEILOCYSTIDIA 30-40 x 5-9 μ m, narrowly clavate; clamp connections absent. SPORES limoniform to amygdaliform with a small apical beak, 8-10 (-11) x 4.5-6 (-7) μ m, rugulose-roughened, amber in KOH.

Distinguishing Features: Characterized by a viscid, orange- to chestnut-brown, involute campanulate cap, a cucumber-farinaceous odor, and a massive cartilaginous pink stem filled with dense, firm, white pith. *Phaeocollybia californica* is much smaller and more fragile, has longer, darker spores, and tibiiform cheilocystidia. *Phaeocollybia oregonensis* has a drab colored cap, small bullet-shaped, pale, punctate-roughened spores, and occasional clamp connections. *Phaeocollybia piceae* is smaller and more fragile and lacks the dense, firm stiptipith.

Distribution: Endemic to the Pacific Northwest. Known from 34 sites within the range of the northern spotted owl: **CALIFORNIA**, Del Norte Co., Jedediah Smith State Park, Stout Grove; Six Rivers National Forest, Smith River National Recreation Area, Dry Lake; **Humboldt Co.**, King Range Conservation Park; Prairie Creek State Park; Patrick's Point State Park; McKinleyville; **Mendocino Co.**, Russian Gulch State Park; Jackson State Forest; Van Damme State Park; **Shasta Co.**, Castella; **Sonoma Co.**, Camp Meeker; **OREGON**, **Benton Co.**, Siuslaw National Forest, Marys Peak, Chintimini Creek; Siuslaw National Forest, Marys Peak campground loop trail; **Clackamas Co.**, Mount Hood National Forest, Wildcat Mountain; Estacada; **Coos Co.**, Winchester Forest; **Douglas Co.**, Lake Tahkenitch; Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Roseburg District, Johnson Creek; **Lincoln Co.**, Siuslaw National Forest, 7.5 km from Dolph junction; **Linn Co.**, BLM, Salem District, Quartzville Rd., near Dogwood picnic area; **Multnomah Co.**, Mount Hood National Forest, Larch Mountain; **Tillamook Co.**, BLM, Salem District, Bald Mountain, Camp Cooper; Siuslaw National Forest, lower Cascade Head rd.; Siuslaw National Forest, Cascade Head Experimental Forest; **WASHINGTON**, **Clallam Co.**, Olympic National Park, Rugged Ridge trail; **Grays Harbor Co.**, near Copalis; Sylvania Lake State Park; **Jefferson Co.**, Olympic National Park, between Twin Creeks; Spruce Creek; **Mason Co.**, Schafer State Park; **Pierce Co.**, Mount Rainier National Park, upper Tahoma campground; Mount Rainier National Park, Ipsut Creek; **Snohomish Co.**, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Barlow Pass; **Whatcom Co.**, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Silver Fir campground. Also known from British Columbia and Idaho.

Substrate and habitat: Associated with the roots of *Abies amabilis*, *Picea sitchensis*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, and *Tsuga heterophylla*.

Season: Fruits from late September through early January.

Reference: SMITH, A.H. 1957. A contribution toward a monograph of *Phaeocollybia*. Brittonia 9:195-217.

Photo courtesy of C. Ardrey

