

## *Cantharellus formosus* Corner

ROD name *Cantharellus formosus*

**Family** Cantharellaceae

**Morphological Habit** chantrelle

**Description:** **CAP** 2-14 cm in diam, dull orange to orange, sometimes with a faint pink coloration, margin enrolled to flat to trumpet-shaped. **STEM** 40-80 mm tall, 4-22 mm in diam, equal to tapered downwards, concolorous with cap. **ODOR** sweet. **TASTE** pleasant. **PILEPELLIS** a turf of free hyphal ends, 4-9  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam, with brown-colored contents. **BASIDIA** 4-6 spored, clavate, 86-120 x 4.5-6  $\mu\text{m}$ , with long sterigmata up to 7  $\mu\text{m}$ . **CYSTIDIA** absent. **CLAMP CONNECTIONS** abundant. **SPORES** broadly ovoid to ellipsoid, 7-9 x 4.5-6  $\mu\text{m}$ , smooth, thin-walled, hyaline, inamyloid.

**Distinguishing Features:** Characterized by the finely scaly, yellow-brown cap, yellow to orange hymenial ridges and a white to pink spore print. *Cantharellus formosus* was listed in the FEMAT and the ROD before the taxonomy was clearly understood. Further examination of collections labeled *C. formosus* and *C. cibarius* from within the range of the northern spotted owl revealed them to be conspecific. *Cantharellus cibarius* does not occur in western North America. The difficulty lies in the highly variable characters of *Cantharellus formosus*. The extra attention focused on *Cantharellus formosus* allowed Redhead et al. (1998) to clarify the species concept of *Cantharellus cibarius* and *Cantharellus formosus*.



**Distribution:** Known to be common and widespread throughout the region from coastal northern California, north to Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

**Substrate and habitat:** Forms solitaire to clustered sporocarps in association with various Pinaceae spp., particularly *Picea sitchensis*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, and *Tsuga heterophylla* in second-growth and old-growth forests.

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

**Reference:** REDHEAD, S.A., NORVELL, L.L., AND DANELL, E. 1998. *Cantharellus formosus* and the Pacific golden chanterelle harvest in western North America. Mycotaxon 65:285-322.



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