

## *Ramaria araiospora* Marr & Stuntz

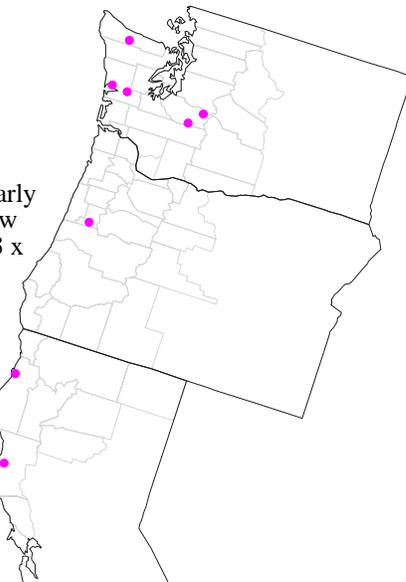
ROD name *Ramaria araiospora*

Family Ramariaceae

Morphological Habit coral

**Description:** **SPOROCARPS** 5-13 x 2-8 cm, base white to yellow-white, or discoloring brown-white, branches red in youth, pale red at maturity, apices nearly concolorous in primordial sporocarps, apices of mature sporocarps maize yellow or pale to deep orange, context concolorous. **STEM** single, slightly bulbous, 2-3 x 1.5 cm, sometimes nearly fasciculate, covered with a thin white basal tomentum; branching up to 6 times from the base, polychotomous to dichotomous, axils acute or turbinate and branches slight to moderately divergent, internodes elongated in mature sporocarps, branches mostly slender, 1-5 mm diam, some basal branches up to 4 cm diam, forked or finely divided near apices; apices acute to subacute. Consistency fleshy-fibrous when fresh, brittle when dried. **FLESH** of stem inamyloid; **PYR**, **ANW**, **GUA**, **PHN**, or **ANO** negative; occasionally exceptions occurring with **GUA**, and **ANW**.

**ODOR** not distinctive. **TASTE** not distinctive. **FLESH HYPHAE** parallel near the surface to interwoven towards the base, parallel in the branches, mostly uninflated, some moderately inflated, 4-14  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam, walls smooth to slightly fluted, cyanophilic, thin, 0.25-1  $\mu\text{m}$ , ampulliform swellings near septa, 8-15  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam, walls of the vesicles moderately ornamented in the stem, slightly ornamented in the branches, crystalline masses occurring in the stem. **GLEOPLEROUS HYPHAE** present but infrequent, 3-4.5  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam. **SUBHYMENIA** of interwoven hyphae, 2-3  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam, thin-walled. **BASIDIA** clavate, 43-75 x 7-12  $\mu\text{m}$ , contents not granulate, 1-4 spored. **STERIGMATA** 4-8  $\mu\text{m}$  long, straight, erect or slightly divergent. **CLAMP CONNECTIONS** absent. **SPORES** subcylindrical, 8-13 x 3-4.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , (mean = 9.9 x 3.7), finely ornamented with cyanophilic warts.



**Distinguishing Features:** The two varieties of *R. araiospora* are separated on the sole characteristic of the presence or absence of yellow apices at maturity. *Ramaria subbotrytis* is coral pink when young, fading to creamy ochraceous when mature. The apices of *R. subbotrytis* tend to be rounded and those of *R. araiospora* subacute to acute.

**Distribution:** Endemic to the Pacific Northwest. Known from eight sites within the range of the northern spotted owl: **CALIFORNIA**, **Humboldt** Co., Big Lagoon; **Mendocino** Co., Jackson State Forest; **OREGON**, **Benton** Co., Bureau of Land Management, Salem District, Reese Creek; **WASHINGTON**, Clallam Co., Olympic National Park, Soleduc Falls; **Pierce** Co., Dalles Recreation Area; Mount Rainier National Park, Lower Tahoma Creek; **Grays Harbor** Co., 16.5 km west of Hoquiam; Lake Sylvia State Park.

**Substrate and habitat:** Fruits in humus or soil and matures above the surface of the ground. Associated with *Abies* spp., *Pseudotsuga menziesii* and *Tsuga heterophylla*.

**Season:** Fruits in October and November.

**Reference:** MARR, C.D. AND STUNTZ, D.E. 1973. *Ramaria* of Western Washington. *Biblio. Mycol.* 38:1-232.



Photo courtesy of C. Marr