

A new *Cantharellus* from Maine

BY LUCIEN M. UNDERWOOD

Cantharellus multiplex

Cespitose-multiplex from a compact base which is nearly black when dry ; pilei more or less flabellate, compound, 3-5 cm. wide, nearly as long, blackish above in drying, cinereous beneath and concolorous to the base of the stipe where it joins the blackish base ; stipe 2-4 cm. long, often deeply grooved above by the decurrent margins of the pileus, occasionally somewhat tubular by their union along the outer edges ; hymenium radiately venulose-reticulate with irregular cross veinlets and frequent minute slit-like fissures and larger irregular depressions ; spores copious, 5-6 μ in diameter often appearing coarsely lobed when freshly moistened as though formed of united granules.

On the ground in dense woods of spruce and fir, Seal Harbor, Mt. Desert, Maine, August, 1898.



CANTHARELLUS MULTIPLEX sp. nov., about one-fourth natural size.

The above description was taken from dried specimens which were sent me by Mrs. Elizabeth W. Woodworth, of White Plains, New York, who has also furnished the photograph from which the half-tone illustration was prepared. Mrs. Woodworth furnishes also the following data with reference to the plant in a fresh condition : " Growing in a large irregular mass and weighing from one to three pounds. * * * The color of the fresh pileus was dull purple or purplish lead color, the flesh was decidedly

purple, tender and brittle ; spores white or whitish, very abundant, dusting the entire plant ; height six to twelve inches ; taste mild, odor aromatic. The plant suggested to me curly cabbage. * * * every curly edge having a silvery line, perhaps from the light colored spores ; * * * the leaf-like divisions are about a quarter of an inch in thickness, thinning out toward the edge. It breaks very easily when fresh. It is very rare in the Maine woods. I have found it for two years in the same place—two plants each year. * * * It grew on dry bare ground (possibly from decayed wood beneath) in dense second growth woods of spruce and fir."

The plant is a remarkable one and from its habit might well form a distinct genus since it has little in common with *Cantharellus* except its fold-like gills. It will perhaps be safer for the present to leave it in its present position.