

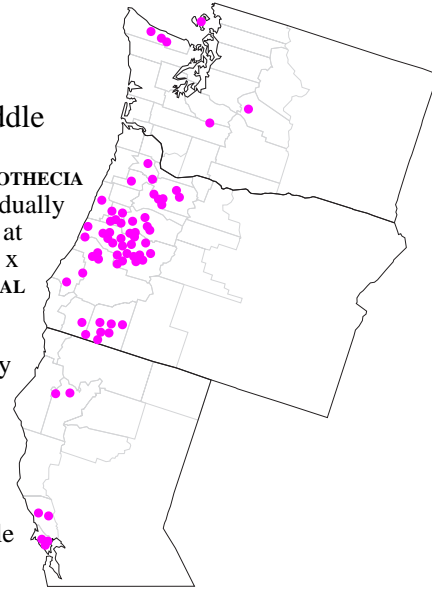
Helvella compressa (Synder) N.S. WeberROD name *Helvella compressa*

Family Helvellaceae

Morphological Habit Elfin Saddle

Description: SPOROCARPS stipitate, apotheciate, 20-80 (130) mm tall. APOTHECIA when young with margin curved over hymenial surface and obscuring it, gradually expanding, finally 2 (-3) prominent lobes usually separated by a acute sinus, at maturity compressed, in face view to 20-30 (-40) mm tall x 18-30 mm broad x 7-13 (-25) mm thick. HYMENIAL SURFACE dark gray-brown, even. ABHYMENIAL SURFACE ivory to off-white, densely and persistently villose, even. MARGIN obscuring young hymenium, straight to flaring in age. STEM 15-120 x 3-10 mm, basically round in cross section, equal to tapering toward the apex, ivory to cream color or off-white. ASCI operculate, inamyloid, thin-walled, 8-spored. SPORES ellipsoid, 19.5-21 x 12-14 µm.

Distinguishing Features: Characterized by a stipitate, apotheciate sporocarp, the margins of the apothecium curve over and obscure the hymenial surface when young, the hymenial surface is dark gray-brown while the abhymenial surface ivory to off-white and densely villose.



Distribution: Known from 67 sites within the range of the northern spotted owl: CALIFORNIA, Marin Co., Samuel P. Taylor State Park, Lily Gulch; Audubon Canyon Ranch, gulch above Volunteer Canyon; Audubon Canyon Ranch, below Bolinas Ridge Rd.; Mount Tamalpais; Sonoma Co., Annadel State Park; Camp Meeker; Trinity Co., Gray Falls, Trinity campground; Shasta-Trinity National Forest, Hobo Gulch; OREGON, Benton Co., Siuslaw National Forest, Marys Peak; Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Salem District, near Finely Wildlife Refuge; BLM, Salem District, Marys Peak Resource Area; Corvallis, Beechwood Place; Witham Hill; Clackamas Co., Wilsonville; Rivermill Park, near Estacada; Peterson Rd., near Estacada; BLM, Salem District, Elk Prairie; BLM, Salem District, Cascades Resources Area; Douglas Co., BLM, Coos Bay District, Cedar Creek; Jackson Co., Rogue River National Forest, Camp Latagwa; Rogue River National Forest, Armstrong Gulch; Rogue River National Forest, Beaver/Newt Gulch; Rogue River National Forest, Haskins Gulch; Rogue River National Forest, French Gulch; Thompson Creek; BLM, Medford District, Round Mountain; BLM, Medford District, Wellington Butte; BLM, Medford District, Miller Mountain; Josephine Co., Siskiyou National Forest, Meyer's campground; Lane Co., BLM, Eugene District, Swamp Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Little Fall Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Fox Hollow Research Natural Area; BLM, Eugene District, Harms Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Fish Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Jasper Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Cedar Flats; BLM, Eugene District, junction of Rd. 4086 and Rd. 19-6-13; BLM, Eugene District, Lost Creek; BLM, Eugene District, off Rd. 19-4-21; BLM, Eugene District, Anthony Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Rattlesnake Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Middle Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Lost Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Call Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Gosage Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Mill Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Badger Mountain; BLM, Eugene District, Martin Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Black Butte; Lincoln Co., near Siletz; Siuslaw National Forest, .4 km from junction of Rd. 37 and Rd. 3710; Linn Co., BLM, Salem District, Cascades Resources Area; BLM, Eugene District, Shotgun Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Parsons Creek; BLM, Eugene District, Cash Creek; near Scio; Peterson's Butte; Marion Co., BLM, Salem District, Crooked Finger; Washington Co., BLM, Salem District, Wirts Creek; Yamhill Co., BLM, Salem District, Tillamook Resource Area; WASHINGTON, Clallam Co., Olympic National Park, Lake Crescent; Olympic National Park, Sol Duc Park; Olympic National Park, Ennis Creek; San Juan Co., Friday Harbor Biological Station; Olympic National Park, La Poel campground; Olympic National Park, east side of Lake Mills; Olympic National Park, Mount Angeles; Kittitas Co., Easton; Pierce Co., Mount Rainier National Park, lower Tahoma Creek. Also known from throughout the western United States.

Substrate and habitat: On soil in low to mid-elevation, mixed woods often including *Pseudotsuga menziesii* or *Quercus* spp. and which may be subject to low levels of occasional disturbance.

Season: Fruits from March through July.

Reference: WEBER, N.S. 1975. Notes on western species of *Helvella*. I. Beih. Nova Hedwigia 51:25-38.



Photo courtesy of M. Seidl/H. Thiers