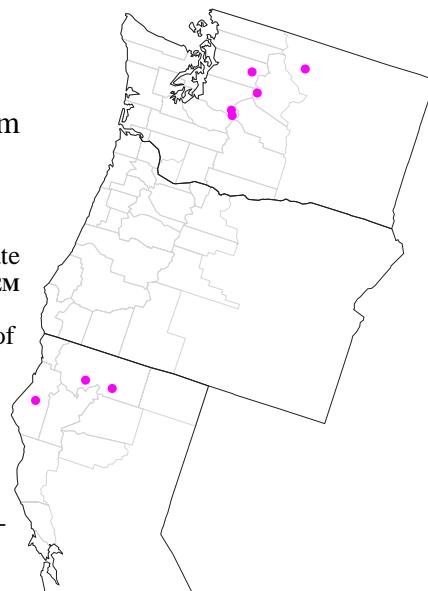


Mycena overholtsii A.H. Smith & SolheimROD name *Mycena overholtsii*

Family Tricholomataceae

Morphological Habit mushroom

Description: CAP 20-50 mm diam, convex, becoming plano-convex and pellucid-striate in age, subhygrophanous, glabrous, sooty gray when young, fading in age to pale gray, margin becoming gray-white. **GILLS** broadly adnate to subdecurrent, broad, white to pale gray, often staining yellow or gray. **STEM** 40-100 x 2-6 mm, cylindric or enlarged and connate at the base, terete or compressed, puberulous to glabrous above, base covered with a dense layer of white to tan downy tomentum, apex white to tan, base concolorous but becoming dingy red-brown under the tomentum in age. **ODOR** yeast-like. **TASTE** mild. **PILEIPELLIS** an ixocutis of repent hyphae 1.5-3.5 μm diam, smooth or with a few scattered simple diverticula, embedded in a gelatinous matrix. **PILEUS TRAMA** dextrinoid. **STIPITPELLIS** a layer of repent smooth (or with few scattered diverticula) hyphae, with irregularly cylindric and often lobed terminal cells occurring in dense tufts and curving outward. **BASIDIA** 4-spored. **CHEILOCYSTIDIA** (30-) 45-65 x 2-5.5 (-8) μm , scattered, subcylindric to subfusoid, smooth, hyaline. **PLEUROCYSTIDIA** uncommon, similar to cheilocystidia. **CLAMP CONNECTIONS** present. **SPORES** narrowly pip-shaped, 6-7.5 x 3-4.5 μm , smooth, amyloid, white spore print.



Distinguishing Features: Characterized by forming some of the largest sporocarps of any *Mycena*, with caps up to 50 mm in diameter and a stem up to 100 mm long. It forms a dark gray cap that fades to pale gray in age and with exposure, gills that are white to pale gray and often subdecurrent, and a pallid stem that has the lower half covered in downy white to tan tomentum.

Distribution: Known from eight sites within the range of the northern spotted owl; **CALIFORNIA, Humboldt Co.**, Six Rivers National Forest, intersection of Rd. 30 and rd. 2; **Siskiyou Co.**, Mount Shasta, near Horse Camp; Klamath National Forest, Russian Wilderness Area, near Sugar Lake; **WASHINGTON, Chelan Co.**, Wenatchee National Forest, Steven's Pass; **Pierce Co.**, Mount Rainier National Park, along Kotsuck Creek; Mount Rainier National Park, Ghost Lake; Mount Rainier National Park, Yakima Park Rd., below Sunrise Point; **Snohomish Co.**, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Barlow Pass. It is also found outside the assessment area on the Okanogan National Forest in Washington. Not known from Oregon. Also known from Wyoming.

Substrate and habitat: Restricted to conifer forests above 1,000 m elevation, particularly those with *Abies* spp. and usually found in gregarious, caespitose clusters on decayed wood near snow banks or just after snow melt.

Season: Fruits from March through July.

Reference: SMITH, A.H. 1947. North American species of *Mycena*. University of Michigan Press, Ann Arbor. 521 p.



Photo courtesy of T. O'Dell
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