

Baeospora myriadophylla (Peck) Singer

ROD name *Baeospora myriadophylla*

Family Tricholomataceae **Morphological Habit** mushroom

Description: **CAP** 10-25 mm in diam., plano-convex or plane with a shallow central depression, glabrous, hygrophorous, smooth, gray-purple to dull violet when young, gray-brown to violet-brown in age, with even incurved pale gray margin when young becoming plane, wavy, or lobed. **GILLS** attached, extremely crowded, narrow, gray-purple or dull violet when young becoming paler in age or brick to dark purple. **STEM** 30-55 mm long, 1.5-4 mm across the apex, terete or compressed and cleft, equal, hollow, apex minutely pruinose, pale red-gray when young, glabrescent and gray-purple in age, base pubescent or tomentose, gray-purple or dull violet when young, gray-brown or brown in age, tomentum white or pale lavender. **ODOR** strongly fungal. **TASTE** mild. **PILEIPELLIS** with a 10 mm thick suprapellis of nongelatinized, inamyloid hyphae above a nondifferentiated subpellis. **CHEILOCYSTIDIA** abundant, broadly clavate or ventricose, up to 7 mm wide and projecting up to 13 mm above the hymenium, hyaline or pale yellow, inamyloid, thin walled. **PLEUROCYSTIDIA** abundant near the gill edge and scattered elsewhere, similar to the cheilocystidia. **CAULOCYSTIDIA** abundant, clustered, similar to the cheilocystidia with smooth or roughened hyaline, ochraceous or brown inamyloid walls up to 1 mm thick in the basal portion and typically thin walled at the apex. **SPORES** subglobose or ellipsoid, 2.7-4.2 x 2-3 µm, thin walled, weakly amyloid.



Distinguishing Features: *Baeospora myriadophylla* slightly resembles some of the larger lignicolous *Mycena* species (such as *Mycena overholtsii*, *M. radicatella*, or *M. galericulata*). However, the vivid purple colors and crowded, narrow gills readily distinguish *B. myriadophylla* from those species. Faded specimens that have lost most of the violaceous color from the cap might be confused with another white-spored lignicolous mushroom with lilac gills, *Chromosera cyanophylla*. However, *C. cyanophylla* is easily distinguished in the field by its viscid, yellow cap and stem, and widely spaced, decurrent gills.

Distribution: Widely distributed but rare to uncommon in North America and Europe. **WASHINGTON**, **Grays Harbor** Co., Olympic National Forest (ONF), Lake Quinault; **Jefferson** Co., ONF, Bogachiel River trail about 0.4 km west of park boundary; Olympic National Park (ONP), bottom, Clearwater River; ONP, Clearwater River; ONP, Enchanted Valley; ONP, Hoh Recreation area; **King** Co., Carnation; City of Redmond, Watermain Woods, Redmond; **Lewis** Co., Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBSNF), south of Alder Lake; **Pierce** Co., Mount Rainier National Park (MRNP), Green Lake; MRNP, Lower Tahoma Creek; Puyallup River, near McMillin; **Snohomish** Co., MBSNF, Barclay Lake trail; MBSNF, Barlow Pass along Sauk River; near Darrington at French Creek; MBSNF, Verlot campground; Wallace Falls.

Substrate and Habitat: Lignicolous, scattered to densely gregarious on decayed *Abies* spp. logs, sometimes buried deep within the logs, at higher elevations in mixed coniferous forests.

Season: Spring or autumn.

Reference: Phillips, R. 1991. *Mushrooms of North America*. Boston, MA: Little, Brown and Co. 319 p.



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