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Coprinus Notebook 1

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COPRINUS*

Key to Sections

1. Young pileus covered with a tomentum or with
hyphoid scales Sect. Coprinus
1. Young pileus either mealy or with glistening
particles, or naked 2
2. Young pileus covered with mealy or glistening
particles Sect. Farinosi
2. Young pileus glabrous by reason of the absence
of a universal veil; partial veil absent or
rudimentary Sect. Nudi

Sect. Coprinus

Key to Subsections

1. Stipe with narrow ring, usually free but occasionally
attached to the base of the stipe Subsect. Annulati
1. Stipe without ring, but occasionally with a ring-like
zone near the base Subsect. Exannulati

*The organization of this key to Coprinus species follows closely
that of J. Lange, "Flora Agaricina Danica", vol. IV, pp. 104-119.
1939.

Sect. CoprinusSubsect. AnnulatiKey to Species

1. Spores 10-15 x 6-8 μ ; pileus 7-12 cm high C. comatus
1. Spores 18-21(25) x 10-14 μ ; pileus 2-3 cm high C. sterquilinus

Subsect. Exannulati

1. Pileus almost naked but with central portion of the cuticle with inconspicuous adpressed scales, or cracking to form scales 2
1. Pileus covered with felt or pilose to floccose scales 3
 2. Spores smooth, 7-9 x 4.5-5 μ C. atramentarius
 2. Spores rough-warty, 10-12.6 x 7-8.4 μ C. insignis
3. Pileus with a yellowish or tawny calyptra; spores 17-21 x 10-13 μ C. calyptratus
3. Pileus without a calyptra 4
 4. Spores 15-25 μ long 5
 4. Spores shorter 6
5. Spores 20-25 x 10.5-16 μ C. macrosporus
5. Spores 14-17 x 10-12 μ C. picaceus

6. Spores 10-14 x 6-7.5 μ 7
6. Spores 5.5-10(11) x 4.5-7(9) μ 8
7. Pileus livid gray, covered with a white coat
of recurved scales C. radiatus
7. Pileus white hairy, becoming grayish or
blackish, with tufts of hairs around the
disc C. Tenn-14094
8. Spores more or less flattened 9
8. Spores not so (or slightly so, if globose) 10
9. Spores 5.5-6.3 μ long; hyphae of veil with
rod-like projections C. burkei
9. Spores 7-9(11) μ long; veil hyphae lacking
rod-like projections 11
10. Basidiocarps coprophilus; stipe sub-bulbous
and with a tap-root C. fimetarius
10. Basidiocarps on soil, usually around trees
or stumps 12
11. Spores subreniform; gills attached to stipe
. C. domesticus
11. Spores not subreniform; gills free 12
12. Pileus hygrophanous, watery brown when wet,
whitish or cream colored when dry C. varietgatus
12. Pileus not as above 13
13. Pileus with white to cinereous floccose tomentum;
spores subspherical, black but endospore paler in
KOH leaving the exospore hyaline, slightly flattened
. C. rotundisporus
13. Pileus and spores not as above 14
14. Pileus fibrils becoming torn into buff colored
scales 15
14. Pileus scales fawn colored C. jonesii

15. Spores with a ventral hump; pileus cuticle one
cell deep C. ebulbosus
15. Spores lacking a ventral hump; pileus cuticle
several cells deep C. quadrifidus

Sect. FarinosiKey to Species

1. Stipe with a free ring (annulus) C. ephemeroides
1. Stipe lacking an annulus 2
 2. Pileus with a sprinkling of glistening particles C. micaceus
 2. Pileus, at least when young, with a thick hyphal coating 3
3. Basidiocarps coprophilus 4
3. Basidiocarps terrestrial, often around trees or stumps 11
 4. Spores 6-10 μ long 5
 4. Spores 10-18 μ long 8
5. Stipe arising from a sclerotium 6
5. Stipe not arising from a sclerotium; spores subcordate, flattened C. cordisporus
6. Sclerotium grayish; odor alkaline C. Tenn-14080
6. Sclerotium black; odor if any not alkaline 7
7. Odor nauseating or foetid; spores with a perisporial bag in KOH C. narcoticus
7. Odor none; spores not as above C. sclerotigenus
 8. Pileus at first pale reddish brown, soon whitish and coated with reddish brown particles; lamellae distant C. curtus
 8. Pileus and lamellae not as above 9

9. Veil snow white C. niveus
9. Veil if whitish not snow white 10
10. Pileus at first covered with a light gray meal; stipe radicate; spores ovoid, not angular C. stercorarius
10. Pileus pale grayish brown, atomaceous; stipe tapering upward, not radicate; spores obscurely angular, germ-pore projecting to form a snout C. semilanatus
11. Odor nauseating; spores 11.6-14.2 x 8.3-10 μ C. cothurnatus
11. Odor mild; spores 7-9(10) μ long 12
12. Pileus at first whitish to "cartridge buff", becoming brownish C. Tenn-18563
12. Pileus not colored as above 13
13. Pileus brown to "raw umber", at first with frost-like scales which largely disappear, striatulate to disc C. Tenn-18913
13. Pileus not as above 14
14. Pileus grayish white, becoming clay color, with sharp-pointed, mealy scales, plicate to disc C. Tenn-21378
14. Pileus not as above 15
15. Spores ellipsoid, but with blunt ends; pileus grayish, disc brown C. Tenn-19631
15. Spores ovoid or ellipsoid, not blunt; pileus white with yellowish brown soft scales C. Tenn-18985

Sect. NudiKey to Species

1. Pileus with minute bristles (pileocystidia) among the cuticular cells 2
1. Pileus lacking pileocystidia 9
 2. Spores 7.5-10 μ long 3
 2. Spores 10-20 μ long 6
3. Basidiocarps coprophilus 4
3. Basidiocarps terrestrial 5
 4. Pileus surface with glistening setae (under lens), margin even C. Tenn-14063
 4. Pileus setae absent or inconspicuous, margin strongly striate or sulcate to the disc C. Tenn-23051
5. Spores flattened; pileus grayish, disc brown, margin sulcate to the disc C. angulatus
5. Spores lanceolate-ellipsoid; pileus pale alutaceous, becoming gray, margin crenate C. hiascens
 6. Basidiocarps coprophilus; spores 12.8-20 x 8-11 μ C. sassii
 6. Basidiocarps terrestrial 7
7. Spores rough (warty or wrinkled); pileus disc and backs of striae dark brown C. silvaticus
7. Spores smooth; pileus not as above 8
 8. Pileus glabrous, margin plicate; spores slightly flattened C. ephemerus
 8. Pileus finely pruinose-pubescent when young; spores not flattened C. subpurpureus

9. Lamellae distant, attached to a collarium;
commonly found on lawns C. plicatilis
9. Lamellae free, or if attached, no collarium 10
10. Lamellae free, narrow, linear, subdistant;
spores 12-15.5 x 11.5-13.5 μ , subcordate
to subtriangular; on dung C. Tenn-13374
10. Lamellae adnate, crowded; terrestrial 11
11. Spores 10-12 x 5-6 μ , ellipsoid; mature pileus
pinkish buff or paler C. Tenn-4945
11. Spores 8-9 x 4.5-5.5 μ , limoniform to keystone-
shaped; pileus disc brown, elsewhere paler brown
. C. Tenn-20780