

Sarcodon fuscoindicum (K. Harr.) K. Harrison

ROD name *Sarcodon fuscoindicum*

Family Hydnaceae

Morphological Habit tooth fungus

Description: CAP 40-180 mm in diam., convex to plane or centrally depressed, at first smooth, cracking to form scales in age, violet-black to blue-black, or black, margin wavy, somewhat paler or more purple. **CONTEXT** firm but brittle, deep slate-purple or violet.

SPINES 2-6 (15) mm long, usually decurrent, deep violet to deep blue-violet to deep lavender, tips usually paler or lilac. **STEM** 20-100 mm long, 10-20 mm thick, equal or tapered below, central or off-center, concolorous with spines. **ODOR** mild to somewhat farinaceous or cinnamonlike. **TASTE** indistinct. **BASIDIA** 40-45 x 4-7 μ m, clavate, 4 spored. **CYSTIDIA** absent.

SPORES subglobose to ellipsoid, angular-nodulose, coronate, 6.3-7.5 x 5.3-6.3 μ m, inamyloid, acyanophilic, spore print brown.

Distinguishing Features: *Phellodon atratus* is blue-black, much smaller and tougher. *Hydnum cyanellum* has similarly colored cap, but paler context, cinnamon-brown spines with white tips, and a bitter taste. *Sarcodon fulgineo-violaceum* has a vinaceous-brown cap, brown or cinnamon-brown spines, gray context in stem base, and an acrid taste. *Sarcodon rimosus* has vinaceous-brown to vinaceous-tan cap rather than deep purple.

Distribution: Endemic to western North America. **CALIFORNIA**, Del Norte Co., Six Rivers National Forest, Smith River National Recreation Area, Dry Lake trail; Crescent City; **Mendocino** Co., 8 km east of Fort Bragg; **Napa** Co., near Calistoga; **OREGON**, **Clackamas** Co., Mount Hood National Forest (MHNF), Little Crater Lake; MHNF, Mile Bridge; Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Cascades Resource Area, Pine Rockcut on Molalla River corridor; MHNF, Salmon River, Wapinita Hwy.; MHNF, Still Creek; MHNF, Douglas trail; **Douglas** Co., BLM, north Myrtle Creek; Reedsport area; **Hood River** Co., MHNF, Hood River Ranger Station; **Josephine** Co., Takilma; **Lane** Co., Willamette National Forest (WNF), Lost Creek; **Linn** Co., WNF, 3.2 km northwest of Crescent Mountain; WNF, Hensley Creek; WNF, Moose Creek; **WASHINGTON**, **Chelan** Co., Wenatchee National Forest (WENF), Swauk Pass; **Clallam** Co., Olympic National Park (ONP), Elwha River; ONP, Mount Angeles; Olympic National Forest, Mount Storm King; ONP, Olympic Hot Springs; **Island** Co., Langley, Whidbey Island; Useless Bay, Whidbey Island; **King** Co., Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest (MBSNF), Stampede Pass; **Kitsap** Co., Bremerton; **Lewis** Co., Gifford Pinchot National Forest (GPNF), La Wis Wis campground; Mount Rainier National Park (MRNP), Ohanapecosh entrance; **Mason** Co., Mason Lake, Shelton area; south of Oak Patch Lake; **Pierce** Co., MRNP, Lower Tahoma; **Skagit** Co., MBSNF, Easy Pass trail; **Skamania** Co., GPNF, Pacific Crest Trail; Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument, Spirit Lake; **Yakima** Co., WENF, Rimrock Lake.

Substrate and Habitat: Scattered to gregarious on soil.

Season: Autumn and winter.

Reference: Arora, D. 1986. Mushrooms demystified. Berkeley, CA: Ten Speed Press. 959 p.

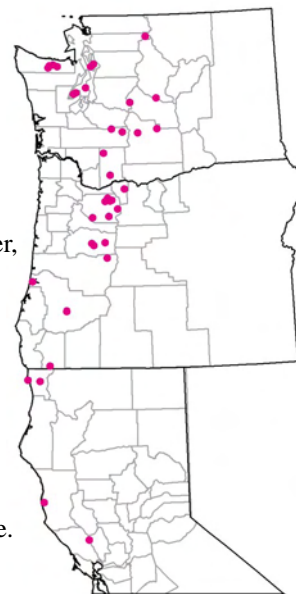


Photo courtesy of David Arora