

Field Key to Rocky Mountain Species of *Lactarius*
By Andrew Methven

- 1. Latex often scant, orange to wine red on exposure; basidiomata staining green 2
- 1. Latex often scant, white to watery on exposure; basidiomata not staining green 4
 - 2. Latex wine red on exposure 3
 - 2. Latex orange on exposure; basidiomata orange to orange-brown; associated with *Pinus* and *Picea* *L. deliciosus* complex
- 3. Pileus azonate, cream color to light pinkish-orange; lamellae yellow to pinkish-orange; associated only with *Pinus* *L. barrowsii*
- 3. Pileus zonate, light orange zones alternating with orange-brown zones; lamellae pinkish-cinnamon; associated with *Pinus* and *Pseudotsuga* *L. rubrilacteus*
 - 4. Pileus gray-brown to brown to violet-brown 5
 - 4. Pileus yellow to yellow-orange or reddish-brown 12
- 5. Lamellae and flesh staining violet 6
- 5. Lamellae and flesh not staining violet 9
 - 6. Associated with *Salix* 7
 - 6. Associated with various conifers 8
- 7. Pileus violet-brown to lavender-brown, staining green with KOH; odor sweet, taste slightly bitter *L. brunneoviolaceus*
- 7. Pileus tan to light brown, margin paler, not staining green with KOH; odor and taste not distinctive *L. pallidomarginatus*
 - 8. Stipe dry; taste resinous; pileus and stipe green with KOH; associated with *Picea* *L. montanus*
 - 8. Stipe viscid; taste acrid; pileus and stipe not green with KOH; associated with various conifers *L. pallescens*
- 9. Odor not distinctive; pileus viscid 10
- 9. Odor of coconut; pileus dry, pinkish-gray to gray-brown; associated with *Betula* *L. glyciosmus*
 - 10. Latex white, unchanging; associated with *Abies* or *Salix* 11
 - 10. Latex white, changing to olive-gray to greenish-gray; pileus grayish-brown to lilac-gray; associated with *Betula* *L. vietus*
- 11. Pileus 5-10 cm diam; lamellae staining yellow-brown to brown; pileus gray-brown to vinaceous-brown; associated with *Abies* *L. caespitosus*
- 11. Pileus 1-5 cm diam, lamellae not staining; pileus brown to

gray-brown; associated with <i>Salix</i>	<i>L. nanus</i>
12. Pileus pale yellow to honey-yellow to yellow-orange; stipe often scrobiculate	13
12. Pileus reddish-brown; stipe not scrobiculate	24
13. Latex white, changing to and staining yellow or violet	14
13. Latex white, unchanging and unstaining	18
14. Latex changing to and staining yellow	15
14. Latex changing to and staining violet	17
15. Pileus yellow to yellow-brown	16
15. Pileus white with pale yellow zones at maturity; lamellae forked, pinkish-buff; associated with various conifers	<i>L. resimus</i>
16. Pileus light yellow-brown at maturity; margin glabrous; lamellae staining orange-brown; associated with <i>Picea</i>	<i>L. alnicola</i>
16. Pileus yellow at maturity; margin bearded; lamellae at times staining clay color; associated with various conifers	<i>L. scrobiculatus</i> complex
17. Piles 5-10 (-15) cm diam; lamellae crowded to close; associated with <i>Picea</i>	<i>L. repraesentaneus</i>
17. Pileus 2-4 cm diam; lamellae subdistant to distant; associated with <i>Salix</i>	<i>L. salicis-reticulatae</i>
18. Pileus azonate	19
18. Pileus zonate	21
19. Pileus and stipe white to cream color; associated with <i>Betula</i> or <i>Populus</i>	20
19. Pileus and stipe pink; lamellae pale pink; associated only with <i>Betula</i>	<i>L. torminosus</i>
20. Pileus and lamellae cream color; associated with <i>Betula</i>	<i>L. pubescens</i>
20. Pileus white; lamellae pink; associated with <i>Populus</i>	<i>L. controversus</i>
21. Associated with <i>Populus</i>	22
21. Associated with <i>Picea</i> ; pileus zonate, orange, margin glabrous	<i>L. olympianus</i>
22. Odor fruity or of citrus; lamellae staining gray-brown to brown	23
22. Odor not distinctive; lamellae pinkish-buff, not staining, anastomosed; pileus zonate, cinnamon-buff zones alternating with pinkish zones	<i>L. sanmiguelensis</i>

23. Odor of citrus; lamellae forked; spore deposit white to cream color *L. pseudodelicatus*
23. Odor fruity; lamellae not forked; spore deposit pinkish-buff *L. zonarius* var. *riparius*
24. Associated with *Alnus* or *Salix* 25
24. Associated with *Pinus* and *Picea* 26
25. Pileus smooth; lamellae staining brownish-orange; associated with *Salix* *L. lanceolatus*
25. Pileus squamulose to fibrillose-scaly; lamellae not staining; associated with *Alnus* *L. alpinus* var. *mitis*
26. Pileus viscid 27
26. Pileus dry 28
27. Pileus yellow-orange to orange; associated with *Abies* and *Picea* *L. luculentus* var. *laetus*
27. Pileus scarlet red; associated with *Picea* *L. badiosanguineus*
28. Pileus glabrous, deep red-brown; lamellae staining brown; odor not distinctive; taste acrid *L. rufus*
28. Pileus velutinous to squamulose, pinkish-buff; lamellae not staining; odor of burned maple syrup; taste not distinctive *L. aquifluus*