

stuffed, distinct from the pileus, to which it is attached with a sort of socket. Cuticle smooth, like kid, and the color of a biscuit. This looks almost the same as the common meadow mushroom, except that the gills are a creamy or pinkish white, and the spores are white, never purple or brown. This species is very common on our lawn and in the fields around Hamilton.

Stevenson describes a species similar to this in England, *Ag. Lepiota Naucinus*. It seems to be nearly the same, except that the cuticle breaks into granules, and the ring is described as tender. Taylor states that some of the American species have a slight granulation. The difference is probably one of those slight differences that characterize members of the same species on different sides of the ocean.

I have always avoided the *Naucinoides* on account of its resemblance to the *Amanita Verna*, and I have counselled others to avoid it for that reason. The most notable difference is that the *Verna* has a volva and the *Naucinoides* has not, but as the volva is generally left in the ground when the *Verna* is gathered, this is not to be depended upon as a distinguishing mark if mushrooms are picked by any one but an expert. The *Verna* grows in the woods and the *Naucinoides* in the open, but as they may meet on common ground at the edge of a wood, this also is not to be depended on.

The *Verna* being the most deadly of all the fungi, I have rejected all that resemble it, unless I could see them growing and gather them myself, though I am aware that many people eat the *Naucinoides*, taking it for the common meadow mushroom. They know nothing about the deadly *Amanita*. It is only their good luck that saves them. The same people would look with horror on a Coprin or a puff ball, and would think it sudden and sure death, although these could not possibly be mistaken for any poisonous species.

*Coprinus*—One of the commonest genus is the *Coprinus*. It is also one of the most useful to know, comprizing as it does, several esculent species that are easily distinguished.

The distinctive feature of this genus is that these mushrooms have dark spores, and after a few days exposure they turn to ink, and run away leaving only a black spot where they had been.

I had this well illustrated about a year ago. Some one kindly