

Sweet Spine

Hydnellum suaveolens (Scopoli) P. Karsten



OVERALL: Big Branch, 7/2/2009, R. Solem.
 OVERALL: Big Branch, 7/31/2008, J. Solem.
 OVERALL: Pigtail, 8/7/2014, J. Solem.
 FERTILE SURFACE: Pigtail, 8/7/2014, J. Solem.

Sweet Spine

[*Hydnellum suaveolens*](#)
 Bankeraceae

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ID: Cap beige/tan (center darker in age), tomentose; shallowly convex (flat in age). Fertile surface buff/deep brown, pallid spines. Stalk bright violet-blue, tomentose; darkens when rubbed. Use KOH.

Habitat: Solitary (usually), sometimes fused in groups. On ground in conifer forests; ours found in forests transitioning from conifer to deciduous.

Cap: 1.6 – 5.9" [4 – 15 cm]
 Dull white/beige (deep brown from center out in age), convex (expanded and flattened in age), tomentose, soft; flesh fibrous.

Fertile surface: Spines (1/16 – 1/4" [2 – 5 mm]) pallid, buff/deep brown; long, decurrent.

Stalk: 1.2 – 2" x 0.4 – 1" [3 – 5 cm x 1 – 2.5 cm]
 Bright violet-blue, zoned w/ violet/violet-black; tomentose; hard, woody, darkens when rubbed. Violet-blue mycelium.

Spores: *Brown*. Irregular, angular, warted.

Frequency: Uncommon.

Locations: BIGBR, PIGTL.

Notes: Mycobank 100887. Pigtail specimen identified by examination of spores by R. Solem. KOH on flesh bluish.

References: Kuo. Lin 433fn. M&M 405. Phi 323. Rog.



SPORES (4.4 – 5.0 X 3.3 – 4.0 µm):
 Pigtail, 8/7/2014, R. Solem.