

Bitter Waxcap

*Hygrocybe mucronella*



OVERALL: Pigtail, 10/23/2009, R. Orr.

Bitter Waxcap

[\*Hygrocybe mucronella\*](#)  
Hygrophoraceae

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
					+	-	-	-	-	-	+

**ID:** Cap and stalk, bright orange-red. Taste bitter.

**Habitat:** Scattered, groups. On ground in moss under conifers.

**Cap:** 0.5 – 1.2" [1.3 – 3.2 cm]

Bright orange-red, lighter toward margin (chrome yellow in age). Smooth, sticky. Margin slightly translucent-striate. Convex (broadly convex in age). Flesh thin, reddish-orange. Taste bitter.

**Gills:** Whitish (yellow/yellowish-orange in age). Attached. Subdistant. Broad.

**Spores:** White.

**Stalk:** 1 – 2.5" x 1/16 – 1/4" [2.5 – 6.3 cm x 2 – 7 mm]

Colored like cap or paler; often translucent. Smooth. Sticky. Nearly equal.

**Frequency:** Uncommon.

**Locations:** PATRP, PIGTL.

**Synonyms:** *Hygrocybe reai*, *Hygrophorus reai*.

**References:** BBF 144, 289. Phi 80. Rog.