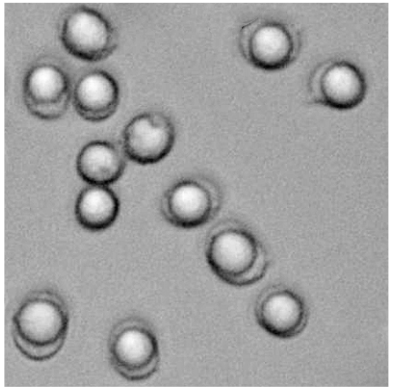
Peppery Milk Mushroom

*Lactifluus piperatus*
(Linnaeus) Kuntze



OVERALL: North Laurel Park,10/12/2008, *J. Solem*.
GILLS, LATEX and STEM: Pigtail, 6/30/2009, *R. Solem*.
TOP: Pigtail, 8/20/2020, *JI Solem*.
OVERALL: Scott's Cove, 7/15/2014, *J.Solem*.
SPORES (6.5-7.8 x 5.3-6.2 µm): Pigtail, 8/26/2020, *R.Solem*.

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*Lactifluus piperatus*
*Russulaceae*

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**ID**: Cap buff; convex/flat (funnel-shaped in age). Stalk white. Latex white/cream, may dry brownish. Pronounced odor, acrid taste. Use KOH.

**Habitat**: Scattered, groups. On ground in hardwood/mixed forests.

**Cap**: 2 – 4.7" [5 – 12 cm]
White/buff/pinkish tan. Often zonate, smooth. Convex/flat/funnel-shaped. Margin inrolled, hairy (smooth/wrinkled in age). Flesh white/pinkish tan. Latex white/cream; unchanging or may dry pale green/brownish. Taste acrid. Pronounced odor.

**Gills**: White/cream tinged w/ pink; bruise brown. Decurrent. Close/very crowded. Narrow, often forked.

**Spores**: Cream/*white*. Ellipsoid, ornamented w/ fine lines. 6.5-7.8 x 5.3-6.2

**Stalk**: Up to 2.8" x 1.2" [7 cm x 3 cm]
White/flesh-colored. Dry. Smooth. Solid.

**Frequency**: Common.

**Locations**: BIGBR, BOLPL, GONRA, HIRIP, LONGC, MANWD, MPENA, NOLAP, PIGTL, RKBRP, WSTRP.

**Notes**: Mycobank 230270. Pigtail and Scott's Cove specimens identified by examination of spores by R. Solem. KOH turn cap pale magenta. Bitter acrid taste grows stronger. Do not swallow!

**Synonym:** *Lactarius piperatus*

**References**: Bar 309. BBF160key. BBH 74. BHB 220, 105-106. Bin 153. Bni 63. E&S 201. Kuo. M&M 97. Phi 109. Rog. Stu 40. http://www.first-nature.com/fungi/id_guide/russulaceae/lactarious_piperatus.htm.