

Shellfish-scented Russula
Crab Russula

Russula xerampelina
(Schaeffer) Fries



OVERALL: Rockburn Branch Park, 8/12/2009, R. Solem.
SIDE: Rockburn Branch Park, 8/12/2009, J. Solem.
GILLS: Rockburn Branch Park, 8/25/2010, J. Solem.

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Crab Russula

[*Russula xerampelina*](#)
Russulaceae

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

ID: Cap dark red to purple/olive-green, stains ochre/olivaceous, smooth/ powdery; convex (flat in age). Stalk white to red, stains like cap. Odor fishy/crab-like. Use FeSO₄.

Habitat: Solitary, scattered, groups. On ground in conifer or mixed forests.

Cap: 2 – 6" [5 – 15 cm]

Purple/olive-green/purple-red, blackish red near margin; peels only at margins. Stains ochre/olivaceous. Dry. Smooth/powdery. Convex (flat/slightly depressed in age). Margin radially lined. Flesh white (brown in age). Fishy or shellfish smell.

Gills: White/cream. Attached. Close to almost distant in age.

Spores: Yellow/pale ochre.

Stalk: 2 – 3" x 0.6 – 1.2" [5 – 7.5 cm x 1.5 – 3 cm]

White to red. Stains ochre/olivaceous. Smooth/powdery. Wrinkled/grooved. Tapers up. Solid (hollow/spongy in age).

Frequency: Occasional.

Locations: PIGTL, RKBRP, SLMLP.

Notes: Mycobank 211051. FeSO₄ turns stalk green.

References: Bar 314. K&M 351. Kuo. Lin 707, 330. Phi 137.