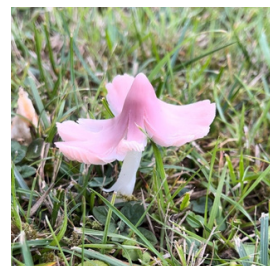


Waxcap Spotter Sheet

Waxcap are brightly coloured mushrooms that usually have a waxy or slippery cap. They are found in long-established, mown grasslands with poor nutrient levels (unfertilised). Some of the best places to look include meadows, parks, lawns, coastal grassland, churchyards and cemeteries. Identification is best conducted on fresh specimens in good condition as colour, size and shape can change with age and damage.

Key features to look for include colour and texture of the cap, stem and gills, overall shape, gill attachment and smell of the specimen. Here are some of the common and easily identifiable waxcaps found in Guernsey.

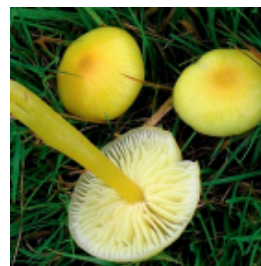


Pink/Ballerina Waxcap (*Porpolomopsis calyptriformis*)

Cap: Pink, moist and narrowly conical. Splits and turns upwards with age. Cap diameter is up to 10cm.

Gills: Free, narrowly attached to stem. Pale pink.

Stem: White, dry and smooth.



Golden Waxcap (*Hygrocybe chlorophana*)

Cap: Orange then turns yellow, wet and sticky. Domed and then flattens with age. Cap diameter is up to 7cm.

Gills: Narrowly or barely attached to stem. Pale yellow.

Stem: Yellow/orange. Usually dry but sometimes moist.

Similar to Butter Waxcap which is smaller and has broadly attached gills.



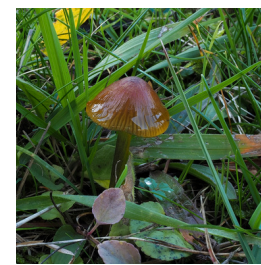
Scarlet Waxcap (*Hygrocybe coccinea*)

Cap: Red, moist and domed, becoming flatter with age. Cap diameter is up to 6cm.

Gills: Broadly attached to stem. Red/yellow.

Stem: Red/orange. Dry and smooth.

Similar species is Crimson Waxcap which is larger, with a darker red cap.

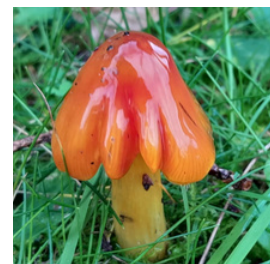


Parrot Waxcap (*Gliophorus psittacinus*)

Cap: Green/yellow-green/yellow/purple/red. Very slimy. Domed with distinct bump on top and flattens with age. Cap diameter is up to 6cm.

Gills: Broad, narrowly attached to stem. Off white/yellow/green.

Stem: Same as cap, trace of green near top, slimy.



Glutinous Waxcap (*Hygrocybe glutinipes*)

Cap: Orange or red. Very slimy/sticky usually with thick glutinous mucus. Domed then bell-shaped then flattens. Cap diameter is up to 3cm.

Gills: Yellow or pale orange/red, broadly attached, moderately spaced.

Stem: Very slimy, blobs of slime can be visible. Yellow or orange.

Photo credit Joe Ferbrache



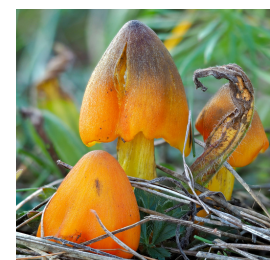
Snowy Waxcap (*Cuphophyllus virgineus*)

Cap: White and moist. Domed then flattens with age. Cap diameter is 5-7cm.

Gills: Decurrent. White.

Stem: White and moist.

Similar species is Cedar Waxcap which smells of cedar wood.



Blackening Waxcap (*Hygrocybe conica*)

Cap: Yellow/orange/red which blackens with age or damage. Conical and flattens with age. Initially moist then dry. Cap diameter is up to 10cm.

Gills: Greyish-white at first, narrowly attached to stem.

Stem: Yellow/orange. Initially moist, then dry and turns black.



Meadow Waxcap (*Cuphophyllus pratensis*)

Cap: Brownish-orange fade to pale buff. Dry. Domed then flattens with age. Cap diameter is up to 12cm.

Gills: Decurrent. Creamy to pale buff/orange.

Stem: White, dry.



This spotter sheet is **not** to be used to identify fungi for the purpose of edibility.