

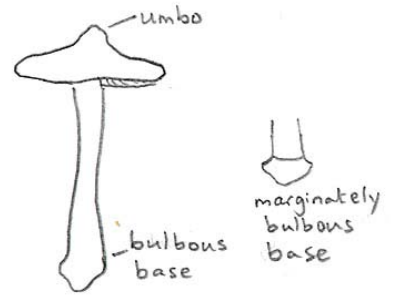
Cap typically with distinct umbo ('nipple'), usually with radiating fibrils, sometimes disrupting to scales. Whitish yellowish-ochre, light to dark brown, reddish brown, reddish, pink, violet/purple or with greenish tinges. Never sticky as sometimes in *Hebeloma*.

Gills begin pale whitish, yellowish-ochre, clay, light brown or even olive brown (rarely with pink or red tints) become dull tobacco brown as coloured by spores (**never** rust brown as in *Cortinarius* or black)

Stalk often fibrillose or scaly with scales sometimes reflexed; similar colour range to cap. Base cylindrical or often bulbous sometimes marginately so.

Weak cobwebby veil sometimes present when young.

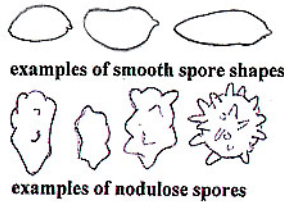
Many smell earthy or spermiatic. Other possible smells include fruity, almonds or Pelargonium



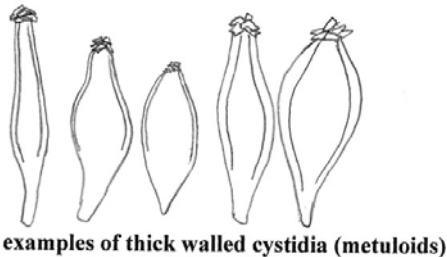
Many *Inocybe* species occur in woodland and are associated with trees, especially Oak, Beech, Hazel, Birch, Willow, Poplar and Pine. They can also occur on mountains (usually associated with dwarf willows) and on sand dunes with Creeping Willow or Marram Grass.

microscopic characters

spores - dull tobacco brown (**never** rust brown or other colours). Some species have smooth spores. In others spores are nodulose (unique to this genus).



cystidia on gill edge and face
special sterile cells which may be thin walled or thick walled with crystals of calcium oxalate (diagnostic of *Inocybe*)



cystidia on stalk
may occur almost throughout length of stalk or be only near top. Under a lens they may appear as a light scurfy coating. They are important in identification but easily rubbed off **so avoid handling the stalk.**

There are over well 100 species of *Inocybe* in Britain. Four examples are shown below



Inocybe napipes



Inocybe geophylla var *lilacina*



Inocybe calamistrata



Inocybe dunensis