

Feature focus: *Hemimycena tortuosa*

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Fig. 1. Water droplets on the pileus and stipe of a small *Hemimycena* mushroom, growing on a substrate of decaying wood (possibly *Betula*).

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Occurring mostly on moist bark of deciduous trees, *Hemimycena tortuosa* (Dewdrop Bonnet) can display this most striking feature: the retention of water droplets on the stipe and pileus, caught in the spirally twisted caulo- and pileocystidia.

H. tortuosa is not the only species of *Hemimycena* that can be found covered with clear droplets but this field character could give you a clue to look for the distinctive cystidia under the microscope.

See <https://www.inaturalist.org/observations/265942291> for more observation details.

The equipment and technique

OM System OM1 with OM M.Zukio 90mm f/3.5 Macro Lens. Natural light. Focus stacked image consisting of 52 frames, processed in Helicon focus, cropped in Photoshop.

Focus stacking was used to achieve detail and clarity at this magnification. As this subject was reflective I opted to use natural light, thus taking advantage of the reflections without adding hot spots created by additional lighting.

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