

## *Macrolepiota rhacodes*



*Macrolepiota rhacodes* © Apasseggonelboseque

**Pileus:** conico convex becoming convex, with an umbo; 75 – 125 mm diameter; with a dark brown central disc and dark brown scales on a dirty whitish base; margin slightly in-rolled.

**Stipe:** distinctly clavate with a sub-bulbous base and narrowing towards the apex, hollow; 90 – 190 × 8 – 20 mm; glabrous. dirty white to pale brown; with a robust downturned ring which is moveable in older specimens.

**Gills:** free; crowded; white, discolouring reddish brown on bruising.

**Flesh:** white; staining reddish brown on exposure to air.

**Spore print:** white.

**Spores:** ellipsoid or amygdaliform with a prominent germ pore; 9.5 – 13.5 × 6 – 9 µm, average 11.5 ± 1.1 × 7.6 ± 0.8 µm, average Q = 1.5; dextrinoid, smooth, thin walled.

**Basidia:** clavate; 40 – 60 × 10 – 14 µm; four spored.

**Pleurocystidia:** absent.

**Cheilocystidia:** abundant; clavate, sometimes irregular.

**Pileipellis:** a cutis, clamp connections present.

**Substrate:** in forest litter of *Eucalyptus*, *Araucaria* and of exotic coniferous trees.

**Habitat:** dry sclerophyll forests and forestry plantations and parks.

**Collection examined:** Brisbane Botanic Garden, Mt Coot-tha, Megan Prance, No specimen found in collection!

**Notes:** this large fungus with a tall slender stem and brown scales on the cap is readily recognized by the reddish brown staining of the flesh and gills when bruised.