Mutinus boninensis

***Mutinus boninensis* © Susie Webster**

Egg: The immature fruiting body is a white to pale brown egg shaped sac, up to 10 mm diameter, encasing the stinkhorn in a gelatinous substance. The egg-like sac splits to release the rapidly expanding receptacle (fruiting body) and leaves an elongated volva (sac remnants) at the base. Often found with several eggs growing together.
Pileus: sharply conical; to 15 × 10 mm; covered by the gleba (fertile spore mass) - an olivaceous thick slime which is cleared by visiting insects exposing a pale golden brown surface; apex perforate.
Stipe: cylindrical, narrowing towards apex and base, hollow; 80 × 10 mm; spongy, dry, smooth; white overall or slightly pinkish at apex; with a white volva at the base that is usually buried in the substrate; usually attached to several tough but fine rhizoids at the base..
Indusium: absent.
Flesh: spongy.
Smell: foetid, like rotting meat, but faint compared to other Phallales.
Spore print: olivaceous brown.
Spores: ellipsoid to cylindrical; 3.9 – 4.45 × 2.3 – 2.75 µm, average 4.2 ± 0.3 × 2.5 ± 0.2 µm, Q = 1.39 – 2.08, average Q = 1.65 ± 0.16; smooth, clear.
Substrate: in litter, often buried.
Habitat: occurring singly and seemingly rare; found in rain forests and wet woodland sites.
Material examined: FEG LG31, Linda Garrett Reserve, Susie Webster, 16 June 2014.
Notes: *Mutinus boninensis* is a small delicate member of the Phallales, it is recognised by its orange gleba and white stipe. There is considerable doubt about the correct name for this fungus. Cunningham and the interactive catalogue have this as *M. borneensis*, Imazeki and Fuhrer as *Mutinus (Jansia) boninensis*,