

Russula aff adusta



Russula aff adusta © Katie Syme

Cap: convex, centrally depressed; 53 - 105 mm diameter; matt, dull, viscid when wet; shades of brown (5F7, 5F4) but paler at margin; margin entire.

Stipe: cylindrical; 25 - 40 × 15 - 21 mm; glabrous; white, bruising pinkish brown on handling.

Gills: adnexed to subdecurrent; creamy white; bruising pinkish brown; lamellulae present in two series.

Flesh: hard, white, pink or browning on exposure to air.

Taste: mild.

Smell: fungusy.

Chemical reactions: FeSO₄ on stipe: salmon; guaiac on stipe base: not recorded.

Spore print: white.

Spores: subglobose to ellipsoid; 6.1 - 7.8 × 5.6 - 6.8 μm, average 7.2 (± 0.55) × 6.2 (± 0.45) μm, Q = 1.17 (0.1); blunt warts and short ridges forming a partial reticulum.

Basidia: clavate; 35 - 45 × 7 - 12 μm; four spored; sterigmata to 4.5 μm.

Cheilocystidia: fusiform; 50 - 75 × 8 - 10 μm; apices mucronate or not.

Pleurocystidia: fusiform; 50 - 75 × 7.5 - 11 μm; apices mucronate or not.

Dermatocystidia: numerous; vermiform; 25 - 60 × 3 - 4 μm.

Pileipellis: a cutis of interwoven hyphae and dermatocystidia.

Habitat: in small groups in dry sclerophyll forest under *Eucalyptus*.

Notes: This dark brown *Russula* may be recognised in the field by the pink staining of the cut flesh and the salmon reaction to FeSO₄. The specimen examined here has slightly smaller and less ellipsoid spores than those described by Bougher and Syme.

Collections examined: KS 2118/09, Scotsdale Road, Denmark, WA, Katie Syme, 6 Jun 09; PL 57408, Dogrell Track, Kinkin, Pat Leonard, 13 Apr 08.