

Russula sp 20



Russula sp 20 © Pat Leonard

Cap: appanate to centrally depressed, 45 – 60 mm diameter; rugulose, uneven with small bumps, reflective; light yellow brown (6D7); rimulose at cap margin (cracking radially).

Stipe: cylindrical, hollow, chambered; 10 - 40 × 5 - 15 mm; glabrous; pale yellow brown (5A3).

Gills: adnexed; pale yellow brown with a darker edge; lamellulae absent.

Flesh: white at first but browning slightly on exposure to air.

Taste: mild at first then slowly hot.

Smell: strong, resinous as in pine resin.

Chemical reactions: FeSO₄ on stipe: salmon; guaiac on base of stipe: negative.

Spore print: pale cream to off white.

Spores: globose; 8.1 – 9.8 × 7.7 – 9.6 μm, average 8.7 ± 0.4 × 8.45 ± 0.45 μm, Q = 1 – 1.07, average Q = 1.03 ± 0.02; with bold amyloid ridges and warts forming a zebroid partial reticulum.

Basidia: narrowly clavate; 55 – 65 × 12 – 15 μm; four spored.

Cheilocystidia: not observed.

Pleurocystidia: fusoid cylindrical; 55 – 65 × 9 – 13 μm; a very few with mucronate apices.

Dermatocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: an ixocutis of irregularly arranged gelatinised hyphae.

Habitat: growing in soil in a dry sclerophyll forest dominated by Eucalypts.

Notes: this relatively small *Russula* with a rimulose brown cap is in the Foetentinae and probably quite close to the European *R. illota* but it is smaller and has different spores. An undescribed *Russula* that is not in Cleland or Grgurinovic.

Collections examined: CH022, Chermside Hills Nature Reserve, Brisbane, Pat Leonard, 31 Mar 2012; PL57413, Arthur Harold Reserve, Cooloola, Great Sandy National Park, Pat Leonard, 12 Apr 2013.