

## *Pseudocolus garciae* (Möller) Lloyd, 1907

**Description:** Fruiting body consists of a stipe topped by long, vertical arms that are usually fused together at the tips. Up to 50 mm high. Colour is white. To quote Lloyd: it looks like “chicken's feet”.

**Egg:** Whitish, splits into three lobes when mature. The egg remnants are seen as a volva at the base of the mature receptacle's stem.

**Stipe:** White, long, smooth, cylindrical, hollow. Walls are unchambered.

**Arms:** 3-4, white, tapered towards the tip, united at the tips, 4-sided. A ridge runs down both sides of the full length of the arms. Interior consists of one large tube that runs along the inner face, backed by three tubes that form the outer portion.

**Gleba:** Carried on the inside of the arms. Smells like decaying fish.

**Spores:** 5 x 1-1.5 µm, bacilliform.

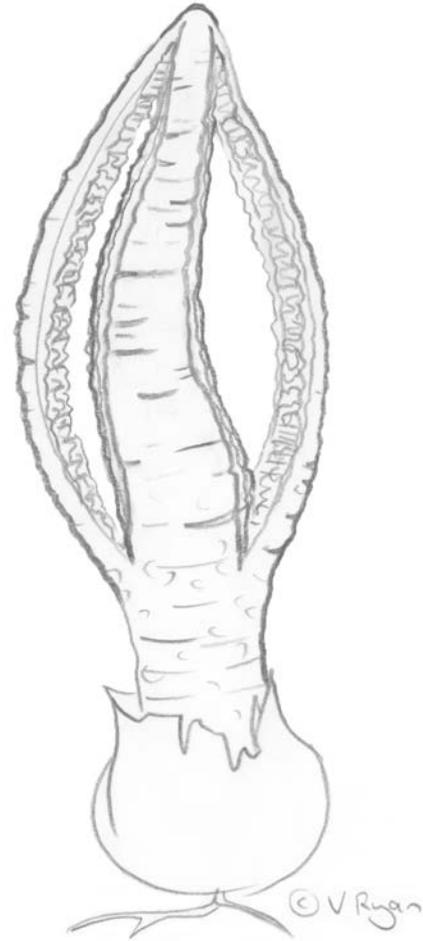
**Habitat:** Rainforest?

**Notes:** This species is so far only known from Southern Brazil. The above description is from Dring (1980), which he took from Möller.

William Chambers Coker and John Nathaniel Couch: “*Colus Garciae* Möller from Brazil has much the same appearance (as *Pseudocolus fusiformis*), but differs principally in the absence of chambers in the wall of the stem, a remarkable peculiarity for a Phalloid.” *The Gasteromycetes of the Eastern United States and Canada*, 1928, p. 7.

Joan Cribb has described and photographed a similar-looking fungus in Queensland. The 60 mm tall, white, 3 armed fungi were growing with a group of much larger (130 mm), similar-looking but 6-armed fungi. *Variations observed in South East Queensland Stinkhorns*, *Queensland Naturalist* 43 (1-3) 2005; pp. 16-18

More recently, Megan Prance has also seen and photographed a similar fungus with 4 arms. Some were 80 mm high and others to 140 mm.



Drawing based on descriptions by Dring from Möller.