

## *Agaricus aff pilatianus*



*Agaricus aff pilatianus* © Pat Leonard

**Cap:** convex but irregular; 65 – 85 mm diameter; glabrous, but breaking in to broad scale in centre when old; chalky white but seems to bruise brown; margin entire on emergence but splitting with age.

**Stipe:** cylindrical or distinctly tapering towards base; 60 – 80 × 15 mm; glabrous; white; distinctly thickened, triangular, and persistent white ring circa 0.6 of height of stipe; base of stipe yellows on bruising.

**Gills:** free; greyish pink at first, becoming chocolate brown; crowded; lamellulae rare.

**Flesh:** white in cap and upper stipe, bright yellow towards base of stipe, but yellow fading quite rapidly after exposure to air.

**Smell:** strong, carbolic soap.

**Spores:** dark brown; ellipsoid; 4.8 – 5.6 × 3.2 – 4 μm, average 5.2 ± 0.3 × 3.5 ± 0.2 μm, Q = 1.5.

**Basidia:** clavate, four-spored.

**Cheilocystidia:** clavate to ovoid; septate, cattenate (in chains).

**Pleurocystidia:** absent.

**Pileipellis:**

**Collections examined:** PL51310, South West Brisbane Park, Pat Leonard, 13 March 2010.

**Habitat:** in small groups in dry sclerophyl forest with *Corymbia cyrtiodora*

**Notes:** one of a group of *Agaricus* species in the Section *xanthodermi* that appear in Queensland forests. This is close to the European *Agaricus pilatianus* described by Nauta on page 55 of *Flora Agaricina Neelandica* but differs by having smaller spores. It is thought that this is a synonym of *Agaricus iodosmus* Hienem. The cylindrical or tapering stipe separates it from *Agaricus xanthodermus* in the field, but this need to be confirmed microscopically by checking the cheilocystidia are cattenate (in chains).

