# ***Boletus obscureorubeus*** T.-H. Li & R. Watling

.

**Pileus:** convex; 45 - 53 mm diameter; rich blood-red with tinge of purplish chestnut, then becoming darker, almost blackish red (colour of congealed blood) at centre and blood-red outwards; margin even, with a pale red-orange lip hardly overhanging the pores.
**Stipe:** ± 50 - 70 × 10 - 12 mm, rich red on luteous background although later the latter only evident at apex, dirty buff at base, minutely dotted throughout then becoming carmine-red.
**Tubes:** greenish yellow, blueing.
**Pores:** rich orange with blood-red and tinged with orange, blue on bruising.
**Flesh:** buff in stipe, yellow in pileus and stipe apex, immediately blue, some reddish carmine in insect larvae-holes.
**Spores:** boletoid; 12 - 17.5 × 4.5 - 6 µm; smooth, honey-coloured in ammoniacal solutions.
**Basidia:** 24 - 29 × 8 - 11 µm; 4-spored.
**Pleurocystidia:** ventricose; 45 - 55 × 11 - 14 µm.
**Pileipellis:** a palisade, red-brown in ammoniacal solutions, with the terminal elements 5 - 15 µm wide and usually pointed at apex.
**Habitat**: on ground in dense shade, in wet sclerophyll forest.
**Collections**: Wat. 10692, Red Hill Trail, Tidbinbilla, ACT, 26 Apr 1974; Wat. 10662, ditto, Tidbinbilla, 27 Apr 1974.
**Notes:** The structure of the hymenophoral trama indicates this species to be assignable to subgenus *Xerocomus*, but its dark red pileus and reddish orange pores are anomalous in that group. The colours of the basidiome resemble *Boletus rubeus* Frost and its allies (q.v.). It is close to *Boletus* sp 19 but that has significantly larger spores.