Boletus sp 20

***Boletus* sp 20 © Pat Leonard**

Cap: convex to plano convex; 30 – 50 mm diameter; matt, minutely velutinate; dark plum red, greyish ruby (12C6) to dark brown; cap margin retracting from pores.
Stipe: clavate; 50 × 12 – 20 mm; floccose above striate below; floccules on upper surface bright red, striations brown on paler background.
Pores: adnexed; yellow becoming stained bright red from spores; bruising blue black.
Flesh: buff, turning red in cap and upper stipe, blue in tubes and flesh above them and blackish in stipe centre.
Taste: not attempted.
Spore print: dark red.
Spores: fusoid to amygdaliform; 14.7 – 22.8 × 4.6 – 6.4 µm, average 18.2 ± 2 × 5.2 ± 0.5 µm, Q = 2.9 – 4.6, average Q = 3.5 ± 0.4.
Basidia: Broadly cylindrical to narrowly clavate; 35 × 10 µm; often septate; mostly two spored in this collection.
Pleurocystidia: not seen.
Pileipellis: an irregular trichoderm.
Habitat: growing in a small troop in open Eucalyptus forest dominated by *Eucalyptus andrewsii*.
Notes: This very distinctive fungus may be in the genus *Rubinoboletus* but there appears to be some taxonomic dispute about this, which is beyond the competence of this author. The spores also seem far too large for the genus, so it is retained in *Boletus* for the moment. The plum cap, bright yellow pores that turn red and red upper stipe combined with the complex colour change to the flesh and very large spores separate this species from all others.
Collections examined: PL35411, Tully Park, Girraween, AV?, 17 Apr 2011.