

Boletus sp 21



Boletus sp 21 © Megan Prance

Cap: irregularly convex; up to 160 mm diameter; shiny, glistening, glabrous; very dark blood red (11B8, 11D8), darker where it had dried out; margin wavy, not appendiculate.

Stipe: distinctly clavate; 70 – 100 × 40 – 50 mm; glabrous; light red for upper 15 mm, then dark red for next 25 mm, dark brown to almost black in lower half.

Pores: adnexed; about 20 mm deep; dark brown, soft; bruising blue.

Flesh: creamy white at first, turning a dark blue to blue green on cutting, then gradually fading but remaining deep red in stipe.

Taste: mild.

Spore print: brown.

Spores: amygdaliform; 11.2 – 13.3 × 4.1 – 6.5 μm , average 12.4 × 5.15 μm , Q = 1.8 – 3.7, average Q = 2.4; smooth.

Basidia: narrowly clavate; $\pm 20 \times 4 - 8.5 \mu\text{m}$; four spored.

Pleurocystidia: appear to be of two types, narrow ($\pm 5 \mu\text{m}$ wide) cylindrical cells that are scarce, and wider septate, brown, utriform cells. Not clear whether either are true pleurocystidia. Good fresh material needed for a clear determination.

Pileipellis: an ixocutis?

Habitat: growing singly on alluvial soil by a creek with *Eucalyptus andrewsii* and other trees.

Notes: A very large and distinctive blood red bolete which blues strongly and has red flesh in the stipe. It does not seem to readily fit any of Watling and Li's descriptions. A single partly eaten specimen was found and more collections are needed to improve this description.

Collections examined: PL38411 (GIR56) Underground Creek Track, Girraween National Park, Ken Cowell, 16 Apr 2011.