

## *Bovista cunninghamii*



### *Bovista cunninghamii* © Pat Leonard

**Fruiting body:** irregularly ovoid, lobed; 20 - 25 mm diameter; covered in small mealy squamules which rub off; white.

**Exoperidium:** white, thin.

**Stipe:** a small dark coloured rooting strand is present; 20 – 30 × 1 – 2 mm.

**Endoperidium:** white.

**Gleba:** pale cream to pale yellow becoming olivaceous with age; somewhat viscid in fresh specimens.

**Flesh:** white, becoming very pale yellow.

**Smell:** distinctive, sweet, like plum blossom.

**Spores:** subglobose, 4.2 – 5.5 × 3.8 – 4.5 µm, Q = 1.15; very faintly ornamented; with a straight pedicel up to 1.5 µm long with a truncate end.

**Substrate:** growing in almost pure sand.

**Habitat:** wallum, in a grassy patch where *Allocasuarina littoralis* is the dominant tree species.

**Notes:** this small white puffball is immediately identifiable by its minute squamules (view with lens) and its distinctive rooting strand.

**Collections examined:** PL9613, Marcus Beach Section, Noosa National Park, Pat Leonard, 15 Jun 2013.