

Campanella tristis



Campanella tristis © Jerry Cooper

Pileus 4-30 mm diam., semi-orbicular to reniform, surface drab white, cream or pale grey, turning glaucous or greenish-grey and finally black with age, drying buff to ochraceous, moist, flabby to gelatinous in texture, translucent when wet, floccose when dry, surface tessellate, following outline of lamellae, margin inrolled.

Lamellae: well spaced, simple or intervenose, white, becoming dingy, staining verdigris, greenish or black when aged, drying chrome. Lamellae attached to slightly decurrent when stipe obvious, thin, simple, in one series in smaller basidiomes, forking or strongly intervenose in larger ones, cross-veining usually slightly below the level of the radiating main veins.

Stipe: 2-3 x 1 mm, lateral or excentric, fibrous, downy fibrillose, straight or more often geotropically curved, even, sometimes attached to the by pad of mycelium. Spore print white. Smell none, taste unknown.

Spore print: white.

Spores: broadly ellipsoid to humped on the abaxial side; $8.0-10.5 \times 5.5-7.0$ (8.5×6.0) μm , $Q = 1.4$, somewhat variable in shape and size, hyaline, inamyloid, not dextrinoid, acyanophilic, thin-walled, sometimes with one large guttule or many, apiculus broad. Spores appear to shrivel easily developing the longitudinal ridges depicted by Stevenson (1964) for *K. dorotheae*.

Basidia 20-35 x 5-10 μm , clavate, with four sterigmata 4.5 μm long.

Cheilocystidia: on the lamellar margin 30-40 x 3-4 μm , versiform but basically clavate, sometimes with various short protuberances, in clusters of 3-6 but not very plentiful.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Trama: of hyaline, strongly gelatinised, interwoven hyphae up to 4 μm diam. with conspicuous medallion shaped clamp connections.

Subhymenium narrow, of closely interwoven hyphae, somewhat gelatinised.

Context of thin, gelatinised, interwoven hyphae like the trama.

Pileipellis an indistinct cull of irregularly arranged, repent, sometimes faintly encrusted hyphae giving rise to curving, erect, diverticulate hyphae in a Rameales to asterostromelloid structure, hyaline to suamineous iii sometimes with resinous incrustations to which spores readily cling. Subpellis faintly yellow in KOH. Stipe cortex of narrow (2 µm diam.) hyphae producing numerous caulocystidia of Rameales structure, golden brown in ammonia. Chemical reactions: KOH on pileus gives a brownish colour, phenol gives a darker than natural verdigris tinge.

Habitat: Caespitose and gregarious on dead wood of the indigenous species, in mixed podocarp-dicotyledonous forest.

Notes: This species has strong affinities with the fungi described in Singer's Subsection Aerugineae (Singer 1975), which are either always glaucous in colour or become so with age. It is very close to the South American species *C. aeruginea* Sing. (Singer 1975), differing in having basically clavate rather than ampullaceous cheilocystidia and not being confined to monocotyledonous hosts. Singer stated ^{that} *C. aeruginea* has no stipe or pseudostipe, but many specimens of *C. tristis* are astipitate with age.