

Chalciporus piperatus (Bull.) Bataille



Chalciporus piperatus © Pat Leonard

English name: Peppery Bolete.

Cap: shallowly convex; 30 – 70 mm diameter; dry, minutely felty; cinnamon to sienna; margin entire.

Stipe: ± cylindrical but sometimes tapering towards the base; 20 – 70 × 6 – 12 mm; glabrous; yellow brown to red brown with a distinctive bright yellow base and mycelium.

Pores: adnate to subdecurrent; reddish brown; quite large (1 or two per mm), polygonal.

Flesh: yellowish brown, unchanging on exposure to air.

Taste: peppery hot.

Spores: reddish brown; elliptical; 9.3 – 11 × 3.6 – 5.5 µm, Q = 2 – 2.7; smooth and slightly thick walled.

Habitat: originally found with introduced Birch and Pine trees that hosted *Amanita muscaria* it has now spread along tracks in to native forests with *Nothofagus* and *Leptospermum*.

Records:

Notes: introduced and believed to be parasitic upon *Amanita muscaria* a species with which it always seems to be associated. Distinguished from the native *Chalciporus* by its bright yellow base and mycelium. It is found along well walked tracks at the entrance to native forests.