

Grifola colensoi



Grifola colensoi © Sapphire McMullan Fisher

Fruiting body: an irregularly columnar cluster of many separate branched, fan shaped, individual pilei; up to 1000 mm height and 400 - 600 mm diameter; each individual pileus flabellate, dark grey with paler zones, margin white.

Stipe: laterally attached, broad and shallow, narrowing to point of attachment to main fruiting body, almost white at base.

Pores: decurrent down stipe; rounded to slightly angular; ± 2 per mm; white.

Flesh: thick, white, slightly rubbery.

Smell: very strong and characteristic, fungusy, acidic.

Spores: white; subglobose to ellipsoid; 5 - 6 μm .

Cheilocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: a cutis of repent hyphae.

Habitat: at the base of living and dead *Eucalyptus* trees in both wet and dry sclerophyll forests.

Collections examined: AQ791310, Lake Baroon Car Park, Montville, Pat Leonard, 21 Jun 2008.

Notes: this unusual large dark grey multi-lamellate fungus with a strong smell is found attached to the base of a Eucalypt and is readily identified as a *Grifola colensoi*. This is only the second record of this species in Queensland.