

## *Grifola frondosa*



*Grifola frondosa* © Glenda Walter

**Fruiting body:** an irregularly columnar cluster of many separate branched fan shaped individual pilei; up to 120 mm height and 150 - 200 mm diameter; each individual pileus flabellate; fawn, pale brown margin paler, almost white.

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

**Pores:** decurrent down stipe; irregular, angular; radially elongated, labyrinthiform;  $\pm 2$  per mm; white.

**Flesh:** thick, white, slightly rubbery.

**Smell:** very strong and characteristic, fungusy, acidic.

**Spores:** white; ellipsoid;  $4.8 - 5.9 \times 3.4 - 4.7 \mu\text{m}$ , average  $5.4 \pm 0.35 \times 4.2 \pm 0.4 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $Q = 1.09 - 1.61$ , average  $Q = 1.3 \pm 0.14$ ; faintly amyloid (a few spores appear to have amyloid lines but may be contamination!).

**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:** **Where is the specimen?**

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