

Hydnellum aurantiacum



Hydnellum aurantiacum © Pat Leonard

Cap: rosette like, irregular; 30 - 50 mms diameter; silky shiny, radially fibrillose; dark brown at the centre, apricot to orange brown outer third; margin undulate and splitting in some specimens.

Stipe: central or eccentric, cylindrical; 10 - 40 × 4 - 7 mm; velutinate; orange brown, dark brown; base somewhat swollen.

Spines: usually decurrent, crowded, tapering, about 4 mm long; pale ochre, becoming tawny to purplish brown.

Flesh: pale yellowish brown, firm.

Spore print: brown.

Spores: ellipsoid; 5 – 5.5 × 3.5 - 4 μm, Q = 1.4; ornamented with flat topped warts (tubercles).

Cheilocystidia: not seen.

Pileipellis: structure not seen, but clamp connections present.

Habitat: found singly in tall Eucalypt forest growing in litter with characteristic sticks and grass shoots growing through the cap.

Notes: the pale apricot outer surface with dark brown centre of the cap, a velutinate dark brown stem, and pale cinnamon spines define this rather rare fungus.

Collections examined: PL 34614, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, Pat Leonard, 22 Jul 2008.