

## *Hygrocybe hayi*



*Hygrocybe hayi* © Fran Guard

**Cap:** convex, 10–15mm diameter; scarlet, with a slight central darker red depression, drying to a paler orange, with a saffron margin; smooth, slightly sticky.

**Stipe:** central, cylindrical with slight tapering towards base; 20–30 × 1.5–3mm; scarlet at apex, and grading to saffron at base.

**Gills:** decurrent, widely spaced, deeply arcuate, yellowish.

**Flesh:** thin, saffron in colour.

**Spore print:** white.

**Spores:** broadly ellipsoidal; 9–11 × 6.5–8 µm

**Substrate:** leaf litter.

**Habitat:** hoop pine forests and wet eucalypt forests.

**Frequency:** rare.

**Notes:** there are more than ten red *Hygrocybe* species but only two have decurrent gills. This species is very similar to *Hygrocybe cantharellus*, but that has a drier, more velvety cap and narrower spores.

**Collections examined:** AQ794954, Dilkusha, Maleny, Fran Guard, 6 Apr 2011.