

Species: *Lactarius subclarkeae*



***Lactarius subclarkeae* © Pat Leonard**

Cap: irregularly convex becoming centrally depressed, 50- 90 mm diameter, pruinose to felty, margin in-rolled when young, pale apricot to fawn (5A3, 6B3).

Stipe: cylindrical, 50 × 12 – 15 mms, matt, concolorous with cap,

Gills: adnate; pale white to cream, becoming brown and spotted where latex has dried.

Flesh: white, firm, thick; green with ferrous sulphate, unchanging on exposure to air.

Milk: white, taste mild.

Spores: 6 -9 x 5 - 8 µm; Q = 1.3, ellipsoid, amyloid ornamentation of fine ridges forming a partial reticulum, isolated verrucae scarce or absent.

Cystidia: cheilocystidia scattered, fusoid, thin walled, 55 – 100 × 6 – 8.5 µm; pleurocystidia similar

Pileipellis: a trichoderm made up of thick-walled hyphae.

Habitat: singly under Eucalyptus in mixed rain forest.

Notes: the very pale orange to fawn fruit bodies that exude white milk and with flesh that stains green in ferrous sulphate make this fungus relatively easy to identify. It can be separated from the more common *L. clarkeae*, by its paler colours and its slightly smaller and more distinctly verrucose spores

Collections examined: PL 66408, Baroon Point, Montville, 21 Apr 08. PL 11509, Nr Wallerawang, Nigel Fechner and Roy Halling, 24 May 09.