

Lentinus sajor-caju



Lentinus sajor-caju © Fran Guard

Cap: infundibuliform; 60 - 100 mm diameter; dry and smooth, chalk white, with small orange brown scales, mainly clustered towards centre, becoming yellowish brown at maturity; margin deeply inrolled.

Stipe: cylindrical, central or somewhat eccentric; 15 - 20 × 12 - 25 mm: short and very tough, white; with a large pendulous tough ring separating the apex of the stipe from the gills which is conspicuous in younger specimens.

Gills: deeply decurrent; white, shallow, crowded.

Flesh: white, tough in older specimens.

Spore print: white.

Spores: bacilliform; 5 - 9 × 2-3 μm, average 6.5 ± 0.4 × 2 ± 0.2, Q = 3.2.

Cheilocystidia: clavate, thin walled.

Pileipellis: a cutis.

Habitat: in groups attached to dead and dying trees in a rainforest habitat under restoration, most frequent on stumps of *Ligustrum* species being removed from site.

Notes: this deeply infundibuliform white fungus, with a very short stipe and a ring, growing on dead wood should be easy to recognise. In Queensland it seems to be mainly found on *Ligustrum* and may therefore be an introduced species, although it is very widely distributed in tropical forests in South East Asia. Young fruiting bodies are eaten in Vietnam and Malaysia.

Collections examined: PL 51107, Fran Guard, Dilkusha, Maleny, 10 November 2007.