

Leucocoprinus cretaceus



Leucocoprinus cretaceus © Pat Leonard

Cap: broadly parabolic, then convex with a flat top or a broad umbo; 40 - 80 mms diameter; cap white but covered in red brown fibrils which break in to small squamules so that the apex becomes fuscous in appearance.

Stipe: irregularly cylindrical to somewhat clavate; 60 - 120 × 8 - 10 mm; white but covered in red brown fibrils; with a ring which appears to be ephemeral.

Gills: free, white, with a fimbriate (finely serrated) edge which browns with age.

Flesh: thin, white.

Spore print: white.

Spores: ellipsoid; 9 - 10 × 7 - 8 μm; thick walled, with an indistinct germ pore; weakly dextrinoid.

Cheilocystidia: not examined.

Pileipellis: a cutis with tufts of hyphae extending to form squamules.

Habitat: growing in caespitose groups and singly on a large pile of rotting wood chips.

Notes: this distinctive white spored fungus is said to be of tropical origin. It is not clear whether it is native to Queensland given that all the collections so far have been made on artificial habitats such as woodchip. This fungus has also been recorded as *L. cepaestipes*, see Vellinga in FAN V for a discussion of the nomenclature problems.

Collections examined: PL 26308, Montville, 17 Mar 2008.