

Agaricus arvensis



Agaricus arvensis © Michael Kuo

Pileus: convex becoming plano-convex; 60 – 105 mm diameter; minutely fibrillose or glabrous; fibres forming squamules near the margin in some collections; white, but at least the centre discolouring yellowish brown; margin appendiculate and with floccose veil remnants.

Stipe: cylindrical, sometimes narrowing towards the apex; 55 – 120 × 10 – 22 mm; glabrous above ring, smooth or fibrillose below; white but often yellowing slightly below ring on bruising; wide, descending, with squamules below forming a cogwheel.

Gills: free, very crowded; pale pink then pinkish brown.

Flesh: thick, white, sometimes yellowing a little in the stipe; smells of aniseed or marzipan.

Spore print: chocolate brown.

Spores: ellipsoid; 7 – 9 × 5 – 6 µm; average 8.25 ± 0.35 × 5.6 ± 0.3 µm, Q = 1.3 – 1.65, average Q = 1.48 ± 0.08, thin walled, no germ pore.

Basidia: clavate; 15 – 20 × 9 – 11 µm; mostly four spored.

Cheilocystidia: mostly in chains with the apical cell langeniform.

Pileipellis: an ixocutis of hyphae 4 – 8 µm wide with yellowish brown intercellular pigmentation.

Substrate: in rich soil.

Habitat: in paddocks with grazing animals, also parks and on roadsides.

Material examined:

Notes: this species is recognized by the combination of a largish white cap which turns yellowish brown in the centre, a ring with a cogwheel of squamules below and the smell of anise or marzipan. A good edible Agaric.