

Austroboletus mutabilis



Austroboletus mutabilis © Roy Halling

Cap: convex to plano convex; 30 – 60 mm diameter; viscid when fresh; dark red to brownish red at first, fading to brownish orange and then orange yellow; margin not appendiculate but veil remnants may adhere to it.

Stipe: irregular, tapering to base or apex; 60 – 120 × 5 – 10 mm; reticulate, with ridges covered in viscid, honey-coloured glutinous veil remnants, white overall.

Pores: adnate to adnexed; white at first becoming pinkish brown; staining dark pink to light brown when bruised.

Flesh: soft, white, unchanging.

Taste: slightly acidic.

Spore print: greyish red to reddish brown.

Spores: amygdaliform to subfusoid; 11.9 – 14.7 × 4.9 – 7 µm, average 12.9 × 5.8 µm, average Q = 2.23; spore wall pitted.

Basidia: clavate, four spored.

Pleurocystidia: fusoid to lageniform.

Pileipellis: an ixotrichoderm, gelatinous and somewhat tangled.

Substrate: in sandy granitic soils.

Habitat: in sclerophyll forest with *Allocasuarina littoralis* and *Eucalyptus intermedia*.

Notes: the viscid red cap, reticulate stipe and cap colour change towards orange and yellow are the distinguishing features of this species.