

Boletus multicolor



Boletus multicolor © Pat Leonard

Cap: convex, 90 – 140 (200) mm diameter; glabrous, smooth, slightly greasy, shiny when dry; vivid red (10B8, 11B7); cracking to show yellow (or pink) flesh in cracks; margin retracted from pores.

Stipe: clavate, irregular, caespitose; 90 – 120 × 30 – 60 mm; vivid red but with a yellow band at the apex.

Pores: adnate; small, 2 per mm; mustard yellow, becoming ochraceous; bruising blue.

Flesh: yellow, staining blue when cut.

Spore print: olivaceous brown.

Spores: amygdaliform; 9.9 – 12.8 × 3.6 – 5.2 μm , average 11.2 \pm 0.7 × 4.5 \pm 0.35, Q = 2.1 – 3.55, average Q = 2.5 \pm 0.3; smooth, honey brown in KOH.

Basidia: clavate; 25 – 50 × 6.5 – 9 μm ; four spored; containing oil droplets.

Cheilocystidia: numerous, fusiform, with pointed apex.

Pleurocystidia: clavate, honey brown in KOH.

Pileipellis: a cutis of rampant hyphae.

Substrate: in gravelly granitic, acid, free draining soil.

Habitat: dry sclerophyll forest with *Eucalyptus campanulata* and other trees.

Notes: a very striking bolete on account of its vivid red colour, yellowish flesh and blueing on the stipe and in the cap flesh. Close to Cleland's *B. multicolor*, which Grgurinovic placed in *Xerocomus*.

Collections examined: PL44414, Bald Rock National Park, NSW, Pat Leonard, 11 Apr 2014; PL41414, Bald Rock National Park, NSW, Pat Leonard, 11 Apr 2014.