

Boletus 'red and black'



Boletus 'red and black' © Pat Leonard

Cap: convex; 50 – 70 mm diameter; squamulose, also appearing punctate; fawn to light brown to almost dark chocolate; margin entire, not appendiculate.

Stipe: distinctly clavate; 30 – 50 × 15 – 30 mm; fibrillose; brown; with pink rhizoids at the base.

Pores: deeply adnexed with a decurrent tooth; white; reddening then blackening on bruising; 2 – 3 per mm, but radially elongated close to stipe.

Flesh: white; then pinkish red on exposure to air then gradually black.

Taste:

Spore print: olivaceous brown.

Spores: amygdaliform; 11.4 – 15.1 × 3.9 – 5.4 μm , average 13.1 \pm 1.05 × 4.7 \pm 0.5 μm , Q = 2.1 – 3.46, average Q = 2.82 \pm 0.4; smooth, thick walled; considerable variability in size and shape.

Basidia: clavate to almost ovoid; 17 – 25 × 8 – 11 μm ; four spored.

Pleurocystidia: broadly clavate; 25 – 35 × 9 – 11 μm ; with dark contents,

Pileipellis: a cutis.

Substrate: in burnt ground under *Kunzea* but Eucalypts nearby. Most specimens seen associated with clumps of grass, this may have given protection from fire.

Habitat: open Eucalypt forest

Notes: This robust Bolete is readily recognised by its brown to chocolate cap and its colour change to pinkish red then black on cutting. It does not key out in the Cooloola Papers. Close to *Boletus* sp 17!

Collections examined: CN83, Crow's Nest National Park, Fran Guard, 20 Apr 2013.