Russula aff pseudointegra



Russula aff pseudointegra © Pat Leonard

Cap: centrally depressed; 80 - 100 mm diameter; velutinate; apple red, greyish red (11C5, 11C6); margin entire; less than ½ peeling.

Stipe: triangular in profile, attenuated at base; 40×20 - 30 mm; white with reddish tinge; glabrous, irregularly vertically ribbed.

Gills: adnexed; deep cream (5A3); thick; lamellulae absent, some interveining towards margin.

Flesh: thick, white, unchanging on exposure to air.

Taste: mild.

Smell: faintly of stewed apple.

Chemical reactions: FeSO4 on stipe: salmon; guaiac on stipe base: n.r.

Spore print: deep cream to ochre (IIIc).

Spores: broadly ellipsoid; $8.7-10.3 \times 6.5-8.3 \ \mu m$, average $9.3 \ (\pm 0.55) \times 7.6 \ (\pm 0.53)$, Q = 1.06-1.58, average $Q = 1.22 \ (\pm 0.15)$; weakly amyloid with scattered blunt warts and a few cattenate ridges and occasional fine lines, not forming a reticulum.

Basidia: clavate; $40 \times 12 - 15 \mu m$; thick walled; four spored.

Cheilocystidia: none seen.

Pleurocystidia: scarce; fusoid; thick walled; 90×14 - 15 µm; sometimes with a cross septa.

Dermatocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: an intricate cutis with some ovoid cells and clavate hyphae 5-6 μ m wide, extending above surface for up to 50 μ m.

Habitat: singly in dry sclerophyll forest under *Eucalyptus reedii*.

Notes: the combination of a large red cap, ochre spore print, white to pink tinged stipe and smell of stewed apple should allow this Russula to be identified in the field. It is very like the European *R. pseudointegra*.

Collections examined: PL 16509, Wallerawang, Pat Leonard 24 May 09; PL31411, Tully Park, Girraween, John Dearnaley, 15 Apr 2011.