

Russula erumpens



Russula erumpens © Pat Leonard

Cap: centrally depressed, almost as soon as it emerges; to 90 mm diameter; matt, minutely velutinate; chalk white with rusty brown stains developing; margin entire; less than $\frac{1}{4}$ peeling.

Stipe: cylindrical, moderately hard; velutinate, faintly ridged; white.

Gills: adnexed, sometimes with a decurrent tooth; thick; white to pale cream; lamellulae absent or very rare.

Flesh: white, browning slightly.

Taste: mild.

Chemical reactions: FeSO₄ on stipe: pale salmon; guaiac on stipe base: negative.

Spore print: white (I b).

Spores: subglobose; $8.2 - 9.7 \times 6.9 - 8.4 \mu\text{m}$, average $9 (\pm 0.5) \times 7.9 (\pm 0.45) \mu\text{m}$, $Q = 1.03 - 1.34$, average $1.14 (\pm 0.08)$, with a few isolated warts and short amyloid ridges to $1.5 \mu\text{m}$ high and short connectives forming a complete reticulum.

Basidia: clavate; $40 - 60 \times 10 - 15 \mu\text{m}$, four spored.

Cheilocystidia: fusiform; $70 - 95 \times 10 - 15 \mu\text{m}$; thick walled, numerous, some mucronate.

Pleurocystidia: fusiform; $70 - 90 \times 10 - 15 \mu\text{m}$; numerous; thick walled, some mucronate.

Dermatocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: a complex trichoderm with narrow hyphae $2 - 4 \mu\text{m}$ some of which appear to be encrusted.

Habitat: singly or in groups under *Eucalyptus microcorys* and other *Eucalyptus* sp. in both wet and dry sclerophyll forests.

Notes: an all white *Russula* with a central depression often filled with debris and a very hard stem. It fits Cleland and Cheel's description well, but spore sizes are distinctly smaller and with a lower Q ratio than reported by Grgurinovic.

Collections examined: PL 13609, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, Pat Leonard, 20 Jun 09; PL47313, Mapleton Falls National Park, Pat Leonard 9 Mar 2013.