

## *Russula* sp 16 Sp Nov.



*Russula* sp 16 © Pat Leonard

**Cap:** convex then appanate with a small central depression; 45 - 90 mms diameter; purplish green, greyish green (30B3, 30C4) with a greyish red or purple (6D8, 16D4) centre; margin entire.

**Stipe:** cylindrical to slightly clavate; 40 - 70 × 12 - 15 mms; striate; white at apex and base with a reddish rose tint (10A3, 10B3) over the central 2/3rds.

**Gills:** adnate to adnexed; white, thick; no lamellules.

**Flesh:** white, hot, bitter with a foetid smell on drying.

**Chemical reactions:** FeSO<sub>4</sub> on stipe: salmon; Guaiac on stipe base: nil.

**Spores:** white; subglobose, 8.3 – 10.9 × 7.3 – 9.1 μm, average 9.7 ± 0.6 × 8.6 ± 0.45 μm, Q = 1.06 – 1.26, average Q = 1.13 ± 0.07; with prominent blunt amyloid warts and a few connectives. The Crows Nest collection had slightly smaller spores.

**Basidia:** clavate; 30 – 40 × 8 – 10 μm, two and four spored.

**Cheilocystidia:** fusiform; 65 - 100 × 10 - 15 μm; thick walled in outer half with refractive contents at apex.

**Pleurocystidia:** similar to cheilocystidia.

**Dermatocystidia:** absent.

**Pileipellis:** a confused oedotrichoderm of irregular inflated and regular hyphae sometimes branching at their apices.

**Substrate:** in sandy soil under *Kunzea* and *Eucalyptus*.

**Habitat:** open Eucalypt forest and rainforest with *Eucalyptus* and *Kunzea*.

**Collections examined:** PL 31608, Central Station, Fraser Island, 25 June 2008; CN63, Crows Nest National Park Lil Spadijer, 20 Apr 2013.

**Notes:** This large *Russula* with an olive green cap with a purplish centre is very distinctive has some similarities to *R. lenkunya* and was thought at first to be a colour form. But it appears to have larger spores with more prominent ornamentation and connectives so it may well be a distinct species. More collections needed.

