

*Russula* sp 19

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### *Russula* sp 19 ©

**Cap:** applanate with a central depression; up to 70 mm diameter; glabrous and subviscid when fresh to minutely velutinate when dry; cream to pale buff (2A3) at first but blackening rapidly, margin acute, not peeling.

**Stipe:** cylindrical with a central waist; 35 × 10 mm; glabrous, buff, blackening rapidly.

**Gills:** sub-decurrent; pale off white at first, blackening from the edge; lamellulae present in one or two tiers.

**Flesh:** white, blackening on cutting.

**Taste:** mild.

**Chemical reactions:** FeSO<sub>4</sub> on stipe: black; guaiac on stipe base: unclear, masked by blackening..

**Spores:** white, subglobose; 6.6 - 7.6 × 5.6 - 6.6 μm, average 6.9 (± 0.35) × 6.2 (± 0.35) μm, Q = 1.02 – 1.22, average 1.1 (± 0.07); strongly blue-black amyloid reticulate ornamentation with a few isolated warts.

**Basidia:** clavate; 35 - 50 × 10 μm; majority four spored.

**Cheilocystidia:** numerous, fusiform; ± 50 × 8 μm, many with strongly dextrinoid contents.

**Pleurocystidia:** numerous; narrowly clavate; 40 - 60 × 7.5 - 12.5 μm with strongly dextrinoid contents.

**Dermatocystidia:** present as long septate cells, 2 - 4 μm wide and up to 120 μm long, which stain differentially with sulphovanillin giving a zebroid effect.

**Pileipellis:** a complex trichoderm.

**Habitat:** found singly in wet lowland forest with *Melaleuca* and *Eucalyptus*.

**Notes:** This fungus is very close (spores somewhat smaller) to that included in Bougher & Syme as *Russula* aff *albonigra*, but the strongly reticulate spores and absence of reddening in the flesh place it closer to *Russula atramentosa* Sarnari.

**Collections examined:** PL 4037, Wallace Park, Noosaville, Pat Leonard, 14 March 07.