

Simocybe pruinata



Simocybe pruinata © Gretchen Evans (wrong image)

Cap: convex with a central depression when mature; 15 – 20 mm diameter; matt, felty, pruinose, more pronounced in the centre; tobacco brown, reported to have green tones when young; margin entire, downturned.

Stipe: cylindrical with a slightly swollen base; 20 – 25 × 2 mm; scurfy; brown; directly attached to woody substrate.

Gills: adnate; closely spaced, dark tobacco brown.

Flesh: thin, pale brown.

Spore print: dark brown.

Spores: ellipsoid; 5.6 – 6.8 × 3.7 – 4.8 μm , average 6.2 ± 0.4 × 4.3 ± 0.3 μm , Q = 1.2 – 1.6, average Q = 1.4 ± 0.1; smooth walled with the hint of a germ pore in a few spores only.

Basidia: clavate; four spored.

Pleurocystidia:

Pileipellis: a trichoderm with hyphal ends fusoid, brown; clamp connections present, some cap hyphae have external banding of dark zebroid stripes.

Substrate: large log, stump of what appears to be a *Eucalyptus*.

Habitat: wet sclerophyll forest.

Notes: This small dark brown fungus growing on wood with a dark brown spore print is not easy to place. Microscopic characters and its substrate suggest *Simocybe*.

Horak's key relies on olivaceous green tones in young specimens in the first couplet, these were not seen in the Queensland collection and the key leads to *S. tabacina*, Nevertheless the microscopic characters all fit *S. pruinata*.

Collections examined: PL8612, Egerton property, Montville, Jun 2012.