

Fistulina spiculifera



Fistulina spiculifera © Adrian Harris

Cap: an appanate to somewhat umbonate bracket; 45 – 60 mm radius; cap surface shiny and covered in small scales (spicules) which are more frequent towards the margin; a bright blueish red (12B7, 12B8); margin blunt, rounded.

Stipe: a narrow point of attachment, but not a true stipe.

Pores: small; concolourous with cap at first but seemingly becoming paler with age.

Flesh: rubbery; monomitic; between 20 and 45 mm thick, blueish red at first becoming a liver brown colour with age; bleeds reddish liquid when young fruit bodies are cut.

Taste: a meaty taste and somewhat slimy texture.

Smell: not noticeable.

Spore print: hyaline, colourless.

Spores: broadly ellipsoid; $4 - 6 \times 3 - 4 \mu\text{m}$;

Basidia: not observed.

Pleurocystidia: absent

Pileipellis: an ixocutis of prostrate hyphae with column like outgrowths which form the spicules.

Habitat: on living *Syyncarpis glomulifera* trees in wet sclerophyll forest.

Notes: this blueish red bracket with small upright granules (spicules) on the cap is unmistakable. First described by Mordecai Cooke in 1886 it appears to be rare in Queensland but is said to be common in the Jarrah forests of Western Australia.

Collections examined: Linda Garrett Reserve, Adrian Harris, 13 June 2015.