

## *Leucocoprinus cepaestipes*



*Leucocoprinus cepaestipes* © Pat Leonard

**Cap:** plano convex with a broad umbo, or conico-convex; 50 – 95 mm diameter; surface granulate to mealy and covered in small loose rounded scales which readily wash off in heavy rain; entire cap chalk white; margin entire or faintly striate.

**Stipe:** cylindrical with a more or less extended bulb at the base; 70 – 100 × 5 – 10 mm; glabrous and a yellowish straw colour above the ring, with white loose granules below; ring large, white, fragile; with prominent rhizomorphs at base often trapping substrate when the fungus is lifted.

**Gills:** free; white; relatively crowded and up to 5 mm deep.

**Flesh:** white, thin.

**Smell:** weakly of burnt rubber

**Spores:** ellipsoid, 7.5 – 10 × 5.5 – 7 µm; with a germ pore and a distinct hyaline cap; strongly dextrinoid in Melzer's reagent.

**Basidia:** 20 – 35 × 8 – 12 µm, four spored and surrounded by pseudoparaphyses.

**Cheilocystidia:** abundant, 35 – 45 µm long and variously shaped, most being narrowly clavate

**Pleurocystidia:** absent

**Pileipellis:** an irregular cutis made up of hyphae 7 – 10 µm wide, some of which branch and have nodulose excrescences.

**Habitat:** found in litter in rainforest habitats, also in gardens and occasionally in large pots, usually after heavy rain.

**Notes:** The all white granulate powdery cap, stipe with a ring, white granules and an elongated bulbous base are good field characters. Confirm by observing the germ pore and measuring spore size. The current collections fit precisely with Aberdeen's description, but differ from Vellinga's in both spore size, the all white cap and the structure of the pileipellis which Vellinga considers to be a critical character in this group. The Queensland material appears to be an undescribed species.

**Collections examined:** PL 27310, Buderim gardens, Pat Leonard, 10 March 2010.