

Lactarius aridapersicum



Lactarius aridapersicum © Pat Leonard

Cap: broadly convex becoming centrally depressed; 40 - 55 mm diameter; dull, glabrous, subtomentose; light brown (7B6, 7C6 to brownish orange (7C8) towards outer edge, faintly striate at margin.

Stipe: cylindrical, tapering somewhat towards base; 45 - 50 × 8 - 12 mm, concolorous with cap.

Gills: subdecurrent, flesh pink; crowded, arranged in two intercalated series.

Flesh: white to faintly brownish, unchanging on exposure to air.

Milk: watery white milk, mild to slightly acrid.

Spore print: white.

Spores: sub-globose to ellipsoid $7.2 - 9.3 \times 6.4 - 8.3 \mu\text{m}$, average $8.3 \pm 0.6 \times 7.3 \pm 0.5 \mu\text{m}$, $Q = 1.03 - 1.35$, average $Q = 1.14 \pm 0.08$; with quite strong amyloid ridges forming an almost complete reticulum.

Basidia: subclavate to almost cylindrical; $40 - 50 \times 8 - 12 \mu\text{m}$, four spored.

Cheilocystidia: fusiform, macrocystidia, scattered, $60 - 85 \times 8 - 12 \mu\text{m}$, pseudocystidia clavate.

Pleurocystidia: fusiform, $60 - 85 \times 8 - 12 \mu\text{m}$, apices sharply pointed some bifurcate.

Pileipellis: a cutis.

Habitat: growing singly under Eucalyptus in wet sclerophyll forest.

Notes: a *Lactarius* which has been identified as *L. mea* and only revealed as distinct by phylogenetic studies. It is not easy to identify, the dried apricot colour, and crowded gills may offer clues to its identity.

Collections examined: PL 26708, Spring Reserve, Tewantin, 23 Jul 2008; PL720415, Bald Rock National Park, Pat Leonard 10 Apr 2015.