

Lactifluus 'aurantiorubra'



Lactifluus 'aurantiorubra' © P.L. Leonard

Pileus: shallowly convex becoming centrally depressed; 55- 110 mm diameter; matt, tomentose, velutinate, azonate; reddish orange to orange (6B6); margin entire, in-rolled when young.

Stipe: cylindrical or tapering towards base; solid; 20 – 55 × 15 – 30 mm; matt, subvelutinate, usually paler than the cap.

Gills: adnate to subdecurrent to decurrent; subdistant; thick; pale cream, to pinkish cream with dark brown spotting where latex has dried; lamellulae present in two intercalated series.

Flesh: white, firm. thick.

Milk white, drying brown, taste mild.

Smell: of cooked shellfish.

Spore print: white (1b)

Spores: ellipsoid; 7.6 – 9.3 × 6 – 7.6 µm, mean 8.6 ± 0.5 × 6.9 ± 0.45 µm, Q = 1.2 – 1.5, mean Q = 1.25 ± 0.08, broadly ellipsoid; amyloid ornamentation of isolated verrucae or with a few verrucae joined into ridges.

Basidia: subclavate; 55 – 85 × 7 – 12.5 µm; four spored.

Pleurocystidia: present, irregularly fusoid, thin walled, 65 – 130 × 4 – 7 µm.

Pileipellis: a lamprotrichoderm made up of ovoid cells that become elongated into fusoid thick-walled terminal cells up to 100 µm long.

Substrate: soil.

Habitat: under *Nothofagus* in native forests.

Material examined: description based on New Zealand material.

Notes: the dried apricot orange fruit bodies, white milk and association with *Nothofagus* make this fungus easy to identify in the field. Not yet found in Queensland.