

Multifurca australis



Multifurca australis © Pat Leonard

Cap: centrally depressed to infundibuliform; 80 – 90 mm diameter; minutely velutinate; concentrically zoned; pale yellow to orange (4A5) zones alternating with cream; margin in-rolled at maturity.

Stipe: tapering towards base, hollow; 35 – 40 × 12 – 20 mm; glabrous and white with pale peach coloured scrobiculi.

Gills: decurrent; very crowded; pale peach to light yellow (4A4); shallow; some bifurcating.

Milk: copious, white.

Flesh: white, firm, unchanging on exposure to air.

Taste: milk very hot after a short delay.

Smell: farinaceous.

Spore print: cream.

Spores: broadly ellipsoid; 5.2 – 6.3 × 4.1 – 5.8 µm, average 5.7 ± 0.33 × 4.85 ± 0.5 µm, Q = 1.03 – 1.41, average Q 1.19 ± 0.09; weakly amyloid with sparse low warts and a few short ridges.

Basidia: narrowly clavate; 50 – 75 × 6 – 7.5 µm; 2 and 4 – spored basidia present.

Cheilocystidia: absent.

Pseudocystidia: numerous, clavate; 50 – 60 × 6 – 8 µm; thin walled.

Dermatocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: an ixotrichoderm composed of thin (3 – 4 µm) septate hyphae that narrow towards a rounded end.

Habitat: wet sclerophyll forest with *Eucalyptus pilularis* and other forest trees.

Notes: the zoned cap, coloured bifurcating gills and small weakly amyloid spores all suggest this collection is in the genus *Multifurca*. However, it differs from the recently re-discovered *M. stenophylla* in its cap colour and host preference.

Collections examined: PL30614, Linda Garrett Forest, Mapleton, Teresa Bint, 14 June 2014.