

## *Panus* sp. 'Cooloola'



*Panus* sp. 'cooloola' © Pat Leonard

**Cap:** plano convex with a central depression; 60 mm diameter; glabrous to somewhat greasy; brownish orange (7C7) to reddish brown (8D8); margin appendiculate.

**Stipe:** cylindrical, piston shaped; 55 – 65 × 12 -n15 mm; pale brown; very tough; attached to wood; caespitose.

**Gills:** decurrent; cream becoming pale orange; crowded; lamellulae in two intercalated series.

**Flesh:** white, rubbery; appears to be tangled and interwoven with two (or 3?) types of hyphae (dimitic?).

**Smell:** not distinctive.

**Spore print:** white.

**Spores:** oblong;  $\pm 5 \times 3 \mu\text{m}$ .

**Basidia:** not observed.

**Cheilocystidia:** not observed.

**Pleurocystidia:** not observed.

**Pileipellis:** an ixocutis, gelatinised.

**Habitat:** wet sclerophyll forest verging on rainforest with a range of *Eucalyptus* and related species. Specimens caespitose on tree roots.

**Notes:** Pegler puts this species in the genus *Panus* on account of the thick walled non-branching skeletal hyphae. The pileus is glabrous and the fungus is lignicolous placing it in section velutini. But none of the species listed in that section possesses the characters of this collection. *P. velutinatus* and *P. ciliatus* are close but both have a velutinate cap rather than the glabrous one in this collection.

**Collections examined:** PL850521; Pettigrews Rd, Cooloola, Cooloola Bioblitz, 16 May 2021.