

## *Cortinarius subarcheri*



*Cortinarius subarcheri* © Patrick Leonard

**Cap:** convex at first, becoming applanate; 35 – 45 mm diameter; glutinous to viscid when young and violet to violaceous purple colour, drying out and becoming pale brown with age so that violaceous colour can only be seen at the apex of the stipe.

**Stipe:** cylindrical, 60 – 70 × 4 – 6 mm; glabrous with fine fibrils; white with a violaceous tinge which may be restricted to the apex of the stipe when mature; remains of the cobweb-like veil or cortina are indistinct.

**Gills:** pale lilac at first, becoming pink and then rapidly rusty brown as the spores mature.

**Flesh:** thin, pale.

**Spore print:** rusty brown.

**Spores:** amygdaliform; 9.5 – 10.5 × 5.5 - 7 µm; verrucose.

**Basidia:** clavate, 30 – 40 × 7 – 8 µm, four spored.

**Pleurocystidia:** absent.

**Pileipellis:** a cutis of repent hyphae (with clamp connections?)

**Habitat:** growing in troops in soil amongst litter in wet sclerophyll forests.

**Notes:** this is a tall *Cortinarius* with a viscid cap and violaceous tones. Described by Cleland in 1928, there have been relatively few collections (<60) in subsequent years. It is difficult to recognize in the field. This appears to be the first record of this fungus in Queensland.

**Collections examined:** PL1150521, Tewantin National Park, Judith Hewitt, 30 May 2021.