

## *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 × 6.4 – 8.3 µm, average 8.3 ± 0.6 × 7.3 ± 0.5 µm, Q = 1.03 – 1.35, average Q = 1.14 ± 0.08; with quite strong amyloid ridges forming an almost complete reticulum.

**Basidia:** subclavate to almost cylindrical; 40 – 50 × 8 – 12 µm, four spored.

**Cheilocystidia:** fusiform, macrocystidia, scattered, 60 - 85 × 8 – 12 µm, pseudocystidia clavate.

**Pleurocystidia:** fusiform, 60 – 85 × 8 – 12 µm, apices sharply pointed, some bifurcate.

**Pileipellis:** a cutis.

**Habitat:** growing singly under *Eucalyptus* in wet sclerophyll forest.

**Notes:** a *Lactarius* which was identified as *L. mea* using Grgurinovic's key. Phylogenetic studies have revealed that this is a distinct species. It is not easy to identify; the dried apricot colour and crowded gills may offer clues to its identity, but more collections are needed to confirm this.

**Collections examined:** PL26708, Spring Reserve, Tewantin, 23 Jul 2008; PL720415, Bald Rock National Park, Pat Leonard 10 Apr 2015.