

Lactarius sp 'luteocremeus'



Lactarius sp 'luteocremeus' © Pat Leonard

Cap: convex at first, soon becoming centrally depressed; 45 – 90 mm diameter. Lubricious when wet, velutinate towards the centre, becoming reticulate towards edge; creamy yellow (4A2, 3A3/4); cap margin entire, in-rolled when young and often partly remaining so.

Stipe: cylindrical or somewhat tapering towards the base; 30 – 50 × 10 – 20 mm; sometimes hollow, glabrous, cream (6B6), bruising brown.

Gills: subdecurrent, quite thick and waxy and spaced out, anastomosing, creamy white drying with a purplish tinge, lamellulae usually absent.

Flesh: white but becoming rusty brown on bruising.

Taste: mild at first but slowly becoming very hot.

Chemical reactions: FeSO₄ on stipe: not tested.

Spore print: white.

Spores: globose to subglobose, 6.7 – 8.6 × 6.5 – 8.1 µm, average 7.6 ± 0.5 × 7.2 ± 0.5 µm, Q = 1 – 1.26, average Q = 1.06 ± 0.07; with weakly amyloid echinulate ornamentation to 1 µm high.

Basidia: narrowly clavate; 65 – 80 × 9 – 12 µm; 2-, 3- and 4-spored.

Cheilocystidia: fusoid, some mucronate; 80 – 110 × 8 – 12 µm.

Pleurocystidia: fusoid to subclavate, apex mucronate; 75 – 90 × 10 – 12.5 µm.

Pileipellis: a trichoepithelium, dermatocystidia absent.

Habitat: unburned Jarrah Marri forest under *Eucalyptus* species.

Notes: this is a quite distinctive looking *Lactarius* with a creamy cap with yellow centre and a white stipe that browns on bruising and a distinctive fishy smell. So far only known from the forests of south-west W.A.

Collections examined: JF245, Dickson Road, Manjimup, W.A. R. Robinson, 11 July 2011, FC245, Kingston M5, W.A., KP, 17 July 2003.