

Lactifluus sp 'queenslandicus'



Lactifluus sp 'queenslandicus' © Pat Leonard

Cap: irregularly convex becoming centrally depressed, 50 – 90 mm diameter, covered with felted fibrils, margin in-rolled when young, orange to greyish orange (6B6). flesh white, thick.

Stipe: cylindrical, 20 – 40 × 15 – 20 mm; matt, concolorous but paler than the cap.

Gills: adnate to subdecurrent; pale white to cream, with brown spotting where latex has dried; lamellulae present in one series.

Flesh: white, firm, thick; green with ferrous sulphate, unchanging on exposure to air.

Milk: white, unchanging.

Taste: latex, mild.

Spores: off white to pale buff; subglobose; 6.3 – 8.4 × 5.12 – 6.8 μm, average 7.5 ± 0.6 × 6 ± 0.5, Q = 1.03 – 1.55, average Q = 1.26 ± 0.14; amyloid ornamentation of isolated verrucae or with a few verrucae joined by fine ridges.

Basidia: clavate to subclavate; 50 – 75 × 9 – 14 μm, four-spored.

Cheilocystidia: scattered, fusoid, thin-walled, 55 – 100 × 6 – 8.5 μm.

Pleurocystidia: similar.

Pileipellis: a trichoderm made up of thin-walled hyphae.

Habitat: in small groups under *Eucalyptus* in wet sclerophyll forest.

Notes: the orange to apricot-orange fruit bodies that exude white milk and with flesh that stains green in ferrous sulphate make this fungus relatively easy to identify to the *L. clarkeae* group; the paler stipe may distinguish this collection. These Queensland collections have significantly smaller spores than those quoted by Grgurinovic for *L. clarkeae* in South Australia, or by Bougher and Syme for that species in Western Australia.

Collections examined: PL59408, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, 19 Apr 2008; PL31010, Obi Obi Track, Montville, P. Leonard, 30 Oct 2010; GIR 60 Girraween National Park, P. Warhurst, 16 Apr 2010.