

## *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 – 15 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.