

Russula sp KS2567

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Russula sp KS2567 © Katie Syme

Cap: convex, becoming centrally depressed at maturity; 16 – 57 mm diameter; greasy, sub-viscid, minutely felty, more clearly so at margin; off white but soon becoming a dull ochraceous buff, then blackish brown to fuscous; margin entire, somewhat inrolled.

Stipe: cylindrical to somewhat tapering downwards; 5 – 23 × 2 – 5 mm; dry, dull, smooth, minutely felty; white at first bruising grey-brown to blackish brown.

Gills: adnexed; moderately crowded; white, then browning and finally blackening; some anastomosing at margin; lamellulae present in intercalated series.

Flesh: solid, white, rapidly blackening on exposure to air.

Taste: mild.

Chemical reactions: FeSO₄ on stipe: n.r.

Spore print: white.

Spores: broadly ellipsoid; 7 – 8.3 × 5.5 – 7 µm, average 7.8 ± 0.4 × 6.35 ± 0.4 µm, Q = 1.03 – 1.33, average Q = 1.23 ± 0.075; ornamentation of amyloid fine lines and small warts less than 0.5 µm high, sometimes forming a partial reticulum.

Basidia: narrowly cylindrical to narrowly clavate; occasionally septate, 40 – 60 × 7 – 10 µm, 2- and 4-spored, sterigmata 5 – 7 µm.

Cheilocystidia: occasional, fusiform, dextrinoid, with a mucronate or rostrate apex.

Pleurocystidia: occasional, fusiform; 40 – 50 × 6 – 9 µm; dextrinoid, with a mucronate or rostrate apex; clavate pseudopleurocystidia are numerous.

Pileipellis: a trichoderm of narrow 2 – 4 µm slightly irregular hyphae; brown with guttules of darker brown oily contents; dermatocystidia absent.

Habitat: growing in a small group under *Eucalyptus grandis* in wet sclerophyll forest.

Notes: This blackening *Russula* is similar to *R. aff. albonigra* reported from W. Australia, the main difference being that there is no pink bruising.

Collections examined: KS2567, Cootharaba, Kildeys Rd, Queensland, Katie Syme, 9 April 2011.