

Russula wollumbina



Russula wollumbina © Pat Leonard

Cap: centrally depressed; 40 – 50 mm diameter; glabrous; old rose pink (13C7) in the centre, paler creamy pink to almost white at margin; margin entire; hardly peeling.

Stipe: usually tapering strongly; 15 – 18 mm at apex, 5 – 6 mm at base, 25 – 60 mm tall; glabrous, some vertical shallow ridges; white with pale pink areolate flush; hollow.

Gills: adnate to subdecurrent; white to pale cream; no lamellulae, some interveining.

Flesh: white, unchanging on exposure to air.

Taste: mild.

Chemical reactions: FeSO₄ on stipe: nil to very pale salmon; guaiac: n.r.

Spore print: white to pale cream (Ib).

Spores: ellipsoid; 6.2 – 8.6 × 5.6 – 7.6 μm, average 7.7 ± 0.9 × 6.3 ± 0.5, average Q = 1.23; ornamented with strong amyloid ridges and warts to 0.5 μm.

Basidia: clavate; 25 – 30 × 10 – 12 μm, thick-walled, four-spored.

Cheilocystidia: fusiform; 50 – 60 × 12.5 μm, thick walled.

Pleurocystidia: as cheilocystidia, some mucronate.

Dermatocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: an irregular trichoderm with some long terminal hairs.

Habitat: in dry sclerophyll forest under *Eucalyptus* sp.

Notes: this rose pink *Russula* has characteristic cap colours and usually a strongly tapering stipe. Specimens with a taller stipe do occur and are more difficult to recognise.

Collections examined: PL27308, Linda Garrett Park, Mapleton, Pat Leonard, 28 Mar 2008. PL13509, Wallerawang, NSW, Pat Leonard, 24 May 2009; PL34309, Maroochy Bush Botanic Garden, Pat Leonard, 22 Mar 2009.