

Scleroderma citrinum



Scleroderma citrinum © Pat Leonard

Fruit body: spherical, or lobed, tuber-like; 30 – 100 mm diameter; covered in coarse yellow to yellow-brown warts; when it is mature the outer layer (peridium) ruptures to release the spores.

Stipe: rudimentary but with numerous white mycelial strands.

Gleba: purplish brown almost black with white tramal plates embedded (but not chambered).

Flesh: thin, up to 1.5 mm, whitish.

Spore print: very dark brown.

Spores: globose; 9 – 11 × 9 – 11 µm; densely covered in spines to 3.5 µm high and irregular ridges that form an incomplete reticulum.

Basidia: clavate, four-spored, spores sessile.

Habitat: solitary or in small groups in litter of *Eucalyptus* forests.

Notes: this yellow earthball was at first thought not to be in Queensland but its presence on mulch in a botanic garden suggests it may have been introduced.

Collections examined: PL 260317, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, Pat Leonard, 15 Mar 2017.