

Tricholomopsis scabra



Tricholomopsis scabra © Susie Webster

Cap: convex becoming concave; 60 – 100 mm diameter; glabrous but overlain with a dense covering of radially arranged erect fibrous scales; base colour pale orange to orange buff (6A5, 6B5) with scales a reddish brown; slightly inrolled margin.

Stipe: cylindrical; 80 – 120 mm × 7 – 12 mm; orange buff (6B5); with coarse, horizontally arranged reddish brown surface fibrils.

Gills: adnexed, moderately crowded; light orange (5A4 to 5A5); a few furcate; edge entire, with lamellulae in one series.

Flesh: light orange, firm.

Spore print: white.

Spores: broadly ellipsoid; $6.6 \times 5.0 \mu\text{m}$, $Q = 1.30$; hyaline, with refractive wall.

Basidia: clavate; $25 - 35 \times 6 - 8 \mu\text{m}$, 4-spored.

Cheilocystidia: numerous, forming a sterile gill edge; cylindrical to clavate, $50 - 80 \times 6 - 12 \mu\text{m}$; 1- or 2-septate.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: a cutis of loosely woven hyphae $\pm 5 \mu\text{m}$ wide; scales of loose to dense aggregations of hyphae which are brown in KOH; clamp connections present.

Habitat: in wet sclerophyll forest and appearing to be growing on buried wood or possibly tree roots.

Notes: the combination of a scabrous cap, orange gills, white spores and growing on wood, place this clearly in the genus *Tricholomopsis*. The host could not be clearly identified in the field. Sequencing gave a near 100% match to *T. scabra*, recently described (2016) by Cooper from New Zealand. There appear to be at least two other as yet undescribed species in the genus in eastern Australia.

Collections examined: PL480221, Dorrigo National Park, New South Wales, Pat Leonard, 2 May 2021.