

## *Geastrum velutinum*



*Geastrum velutinum* © Pat Leonard

**Exoperidium:** pale reddish brown, breaking into 5 – 7 rays, split into 2 layers on drying up; up to 30 mm diameter; covered in velvety hairs; not trapping debris.

**Stipe:** absent, endoperidium sessile.

**Endoperidium:** globose; brown; up to 50 mm diameter; tomentose.

**Peristome:** well defined, fibrillose, conical.

**Flesh:** thin.

**Spore print:** brown ochraceous.

**Spores:** globose; 5 – 6 × 5 – 6  $\mu\text{m}$  excluding ornamentation, with prominent blunt spines to  $\pm 1 \mu\text{m}$ .

**Habitat:** growing in sandy soil in needle litter under *Callitris columellaris*.

**Notes:** this small, ochraceous, sessile earthstar is difficult to identify in the field. Also known as *Geastrum javanicum* in Queensland.

**Collections examined:** PL21409, Marcus Beach, Noosa National Park, Pat Leonard, April 2009; GE008, Tin Can Bay, Gretchen Evans; May 2009 (?); PL21409, Marcus Beach, Noosa National Park, Pat Leonard, 14 Mar 2012; PL30522, Marcus Beach, Noosa National Park, Pat Leonard, 3 May 2022.

