

Boletus sp 'Willsons Downfall'



Boletus sp 'Willsons Downfall' © Pat Leonard

Cap: planoconvex; 140 – 230 mm diameter; glabrous, shiny when dry; cracking to show yellow (or pink) flesh in cracks; margin retracted from pores.

Stipe: tapering, but sub-bulbous at the base; 100 – 120 × 50 – 60 mm; punctate with chains of red punctae giving an overall red appearance, with a narrow raised red network at the apex.

Pores: sub-decurrent; ochraceous becoming dark red; staining blue on bruising.

Flesh: white; instantly turning dark blue on exposure to air.

Spore print: red ochraceous.

Spores: cylindrical, amygdaliform; $9.2 - 12.3 \times 3.1 - 4.5 \mu\text{m}$, average $10.6 \pm 0.8 \times 3.8 \pm 0.3 \mu\text{m}$, $Q = 2.16 - 3.51$, average $Q = 2.82 \pm 0.36$; smooth.

Basidia: clavate to sub-capitate; $35 - 50 \times 5 - 8.5 \mu\text{m}$; four-spored; with oil droplets.

Pleurocystidia: flexuous, a bit like cheilocystidia on *Hebelomas*!

Pileipellis: a cutis of repent hyphae.

Substrate: in dry clay soil on a bank.

Habitat: dry sclerophyll forest with *Eucalyptus* sp.

Notes: the smooth cap and punctate stipe suggest that this may be near *B. punctato-brunneus*, but the cap size, spore colour and blueing of the flesh clearly distinguish this collection.

Collections examined: PL41414, Willsons Downfall, NSW, Pat Leonard, 11 Apr 2014.