

Gymnopilus purpuratus



Gymnopilus purpuratus © Mushroom Observer

Pileus: convex; up to 50 mm diameter; covered in warty fibrils or matt fibrillose, reddish purple-brown (15D5, 15D6).

Lamellae: adnate, with tooth in the dry state and are rich rust-coloured without being paler at the margin.

Stipe: 8 – 35 × 3 – 5 mm, are very dark purplish red, upcurved above the pileus margin and fibrillose to longitudinally striate. There are no obvious velar remains.

Flesh: is illustrated as purple in Cooke's illustration (1888).

Spore print: bright rust.

Basidiospores: ellipsoid to amygdaliform; 7.5 – 8.7 × 4.8 – 5.7 μm, Q = 1.64; moderately verrucose with darker rust ornamentation forming occasional small ridges, with a small plage, inamyloid at first, and weakly dextrinoid at 24 hours.

Basidia: broadly clavate; 17 – 21 × 5 – 7 μm; four-spored, sterigmata to 4 μm; containing dark-rust, pigmented basidioles of the same overall size.

Cheilocystidia: are of two different types: (i) cylindrical to ventricose, 18 – 26 × 4.0 – 4.5 μm, with a gradually sloping 'neck' section surmounted by a capitellum 3 μm wide with occasional terminal thickening, mostly hyaline, occasionally pigmented; (ii) narrowly saccate cystidia, 14 – 16 × 7 – 8 μm which are also pigmented.

Pleurocystidia: not seen.

Caulocystidia: 33 – 42 × 7 – 8 μm; lecythiform, all hyaline.

Pileipellis: a disrupted cutis consisting of radially parallel, dull melleous, lightly encrusted hyphae with rounded to finger-like terminal cells which would not reinflate to the point where they could be accurately measured.

Growth habit and habitat: Originally described from tree-fern stems of unknown origin in a glasshouse at Kew.

Collections: on collection at BRI and reported present by the ALA but doubtfully present in Queensland.