

## *Auritella arenicolens*



*Auritella arenicolens* © Pat Leonard

**Cap:** convex to irregular undulating; 15 – 35 mm diameter; velvety and fibrillose, dark brown (8F7), margin entire, not striate

**Stipe:** cylindrical tapering slightly towards base; 15 – 30 × 5 – 12 mm; brown fibrillose on the upper half on a pale base.

**Gills:** adnate; thick; dark brown at maturity with lamellulae in two intercalated series.

**Flesh:** tough pale ochraceous.

**Smell:** sour?

**Spore print:** brown.

**Spores:** ellipsoid, amygdaloid; 8 × 5 µm; smooth, thick-walled.

**Basidia:** clavate; 40 – 60 × 7 – 10 µm; four-spored.

**Cheilocystidia:** numerous forming a sterile edge to the gill; 60 – 90 × 8 – 12 µm; sinuous, with a subcapitate apex.

**Pleurocystidia:** absent.

**Pileipellis:** nearest to being a cutis but irregular with interwoven hyphae and clamp connections; appearing brown in KOH.

**Habitat:** growing in a small group in sand in Wallum heath with *Melaleuca quinquenervia* and *Allocasuarina littoralis* nearby.

**Notes:** this collection keyed to the genus *Inocybe* in FunKey but it lacks pleurocystidia with metaloids at the apex and has very distinctive long, sinuous cheilocystidia. In Matheny and Bougher's paper on the genus *Auritella*, this collection keys to *A. dolichocystis* on account of the spores being <10 µm long on average. Comparing full descriptions suggested that this was close to *Auritella arenicolens* and in the description of that species the variability in spore size is remarked upon.

**Collections examined:** PL140521, Coolum National Park north of Coolum High School, Pat Leonard, 4 May 2021.