

Ionosporus australis



Ionosporus australis © Pat Leonard

Cap: convex; 30 – 50 mm diameter; glabrous, viscid when wet, shiny when dry; lead grey, brownish grey (7F2); margin acute.

Stipe: clavate, swollen at base with a short rooting base; 60 – 70 × 12 – 15 mm; ribbed, upper half covered in dark grey brown tiger stripes on a pale cream base.

Pores: adnexed; ovoid, smaller towards margin, radially elongated near stipe; 1 – 2 per mm.

Flesh: white becoming slowly pale pink on exposure to air.

Smell: not distinctive.

Spore print: pale pink.

Spores: variable shape, fusoid ellipsoid and slightly amygdaliform; $11.2 - 14.5 \times 4.4 - 5.7 \mu\text{m}$, average $12.5 \pm 0.9 \times 5.3 \pm 0.35$, $Q = 1.96 - 2.96$, average $Q = 2.4 \pm 0.3$.

Basidia: broadly clavate ; $30 - 40 \times 9.5 - 12 \mu\text{m}$; four spored.

Cheilocystidia: not observed.

Pleurocystidia: numerous, narrowly clavate; $35 - 45 \times 6 - 8 \mu\text{m}$.

Pileipellis: an ixocutis.

Substrate: growing in clay soil at the edge of a track.

Habitat: wet sclerophyll forest dominated by *Syncarpia glomulifer*.

Notes: the viscid shiny cap and spores that turn violaceous in KOH confirm that this is *Ionosporus australis*. The species has recently been described on the basis of specimens collected by Roy Halling.

Collections examined: PL 520417, Mapleton Forest, Pat Leonard, 4 Apr 2017.
PL10319, Linda Garrett Reserve, Mapleton. Pat Leonard, 7 March 2019.