Lactarius sp. 'pallidoaurantiacus'



Lactarius sp. 'pallidoaurantiacus' © Annitta Hearle

Cap: irregularly convex becoming centrally depressed; 50 - 90 mm diameter, pruinose to felty, somewhat rugulose; pale apricot to fawn (5A3, 6B3); margin in-rolled when young.

Stipe: cylindrical, $40 - 50 \times 12 - 15$ mm, matt, concolorous with cap,

Gills: adnate; pale white to cream, becoming brown and spotted where latex has

dried; quite shallow; intercalated with two series of lamellulae.

Flesh: white, firm, thick; unchanging on exposure to air.

Milk: white to watery white, taste mild.

Smell: cooked shellfish.

Chemical reactions: FeSO4 on stipe; strong olive green.

Spore print: white.

Spores: subglobose to ellipsoid; $7.3 - 9.2 \times 5.8 - 7.8 \mu m$, average $8.4 \pm 0.45 \times 6.9 \pm 0.6 \mu m$; Q = 1.1 - 1.4, average 1.2 ± 0.11 ; ornamentation of amyloid short ridges forming a partial reticulum, isolated verrucae scarce or absent.

Basidia: clavate, hyaline; $40 - 60 \times 8 - 11 \mu m$; 4 spored.

Cheilocystidia: scarce, fusoid, thin walled, $55 - 100 \times 6 - 8.5 \mu m$; pseusocystidia which are septate and have a rostrate terminal cell are common on the gill edge.

Pleurocystidia: scarce, clavate, hyaline.

Pileipellis: a lampotrichoderm made up of thick-walled hyphae.

Habitat: singly under *Eucalyptus* in mixed rainforest.

Notes: the very pale orange to fawn fruit bodies that exude white milk make this fungus relatively easy to identify. It can be separated from *Lf. clarkeae*, by its paler colours and from *Lf. subclarkeae* by its larger and more distinctly reticulate spores. **Collections examined:** PL 66408, Baroon Point, Montville, 21 Apr 2008. PL 11509, Nr Wallerawang, Nigel Fechner and Roy Halling, 24 May 2009. PL 59410, Mt Mee, Megan Prance, 24 April 2010; RB18; Ravensbourne National Park; Glenda Walter, 19 Apr 2013.