

*Lactifluus aurantioruber*



*Lactifluus aurantioruber* © P.L. Leonard

**Pileus:** shallowly convex becoming centrally depressed; 55 – 110 mm diameter; matt, tomentose, velutinate, azonate; reddish orange to orange (6B6); margin entire, in-rolled when young.

**Stipe:** cylindrical or tapering towards base; solid; 20 – 55 × 15 – 30 mm; matt, subvelutinate, usually paler than the cap.

**Gills:** adnate to subdecurrent to decurrent; subdistant; thick; pale cream, to pinkish cream with dark brown spotting where latex has dried; lamellulae present in two intercalated series.

**Flesh:** white, firm, thick.

**Milk:** white, drying brown, taste mild.

**Smell:** of cooked shellfish.

**Spore print:** white (1b)

**Spores:** ellipsoid;  $7.6 - 9.3 \times 6 - 7.6 \mu\text{m}$ , mean  $8.6 \pm 0.5 \times 6.9 \pm 0.45 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $Q = 1.2 - 1.5$ , mean  $Q = 1.25 \pm 0.08$ , broadly ellipsoid; amyloid ornamentation of isolated verrucae or with a few verrucae joined into ridges.

**Basidia:** subclavate;  $55 - 85 \times 7 - 12.5 \mu\text{m}$ ; four-spored.

**Pleurocystidia:** present, irregularly fusoid, thin-walled,  $65 - 130 \times 4 - 7 \mu\text{m}$ .

**Pileipellis:** a lamprotrichoderm made up of ovoid cells that become elongated into fusoid thick-walled terminal cells up to 100  $\mu\text{m}$  long.

**Substrate:** soil.

**Habitat:** under *Nothofagus* in native forests.

**Material examined:** description based on New Zealand material.

**Notes:** the dried apricot orange fruit bodies, white milk and association with *Nothofagus* make this fungus easy to identify in the field. Not yet found in Queensland.