

Macrolepiota eucharis



Macrolepiota eucharis © Patrick Leonard

Cap: convex with a distinct umbo; 60 mm diameter; felty fibrillose; grey brown; with a black central disc and distinctive black squamules, denser towards the centre; smaller, paler and more scattered towards the margin.

Stipe: cylindrical; 140 × 8 mm; fibrillose, dark brown; base distinctly bulbous with a well-defined edge looking almost like a volva; ring fugacious remains appear to be white.

Gills: free; crowded; white; with a fimbriate edge.

Flesh: white.

Smell: none noted.

Taste: mild.

Spore print: white.

Spores: ellipsoid; 11 – 15 × 7.5 – 8.5 µm; Q = 1.55; thick walled with an apical germ pore; dextrinoid.

Basidia: four spored; may have clamps at the base.

Cheilocystidia: gill edge appears to be sterile with simple clavate cells (cheilocystidia?)

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: a trichoderm of septate hyphae, the terminal cells have rounded ends.

Habitat: growing in a very mixed forest in the Great Sandy National Park which contains *Eucalyptus*, *Syncarpia*, *Allocasuarina* and *Agathis* amongst many other species. This collection was made close to a mature *Syncarpia*.

Notes: The combination of a convex umbonate cap with black scales and a very tall stem make this *Macrolepiota* very distinctive, it is however rare. *M. clelandii* is found in similar habitats but has brown squamules and is a slender fungus.

Collections examined: PL450319, Patrick Leonard, Track to Lake Poona, 20 March 2019.