

## *Mycena pulchra*



*Mycena pulchra* © Joan Dennis

**Cap:** convex with a central umbilicus; 15 – 40 mm diameter; bright reddish pink (9A6, 11 A 8), flamingo pink, fading to pale pink with age; margin  $\pm$  smooth.

**Stipe:** cylindrical to somewhat flattened, tough, centrally attached, curved; 15 - 30  $\times$  1.5 - 4 mm; bright reddish pink, but paler than cap and white towards base; fruiting singly.

**Gills:** adnate or with a sub-decurrent tooth; white; lamellulae arranged in two series alternating with lamellae; 16 – 18 lamellae reach the stipe.

**Flesh:** thin, white.

**Spore print:** white.

**Spores:** ellipsoid; 10.4 – 14.6  $\times$  5.7 – 8.8  $\mu\text{m}$ , average 13  $\pm$  1.23  $\times$  6.7  $\pm$  0.84, Q = 1.5 – 2.5, average Q = 1.96  $\pm$  0.3; spore contents slightly amyloid with Melzer's reagent.

**Basidia:** strongly clavate; 45 – 60  $\times$  10 – 12  $\mu\text{m}$ ; four spored.

**Pleurocystidia:** clavate; 44 – 50  $\times$  7.5 – 11  $\mu\text{m}$ ; amyloid granular contents.

**Cheilocystidia:** numerous, forming an almost sterile edge to the gill; 40 – 100  $\times$  8 – 20  $\mu\text{m}$ ; ventricose or narrowly utriform.

**Pileipellis:** an irregular cutis; hyphae 7 – 12  $\mu\text{m}$ ; clamps absent.

**Habitat:** growing in borer holes on the living trunks of the swamp paperbark, *Melaleuca quinquenervia*. Fruiting bodies found from just above flood level to about 2 meters above ground level.

**Notes:** the very distinctive colouration and relatively large size for a *Mycena* make this species easy to see. It has been reported on *Melaleuca* in Western Australia.

**Collections examined:** PL58408, Heritage Park, Tewantin, 13 April 2008; SN1414, Squirrel Glider Reserve, Alexandra Hills, Susan Nelles, 7 Apr 2014.