

Russula noosaensis



Russula noosaensis © Pat Leonard

Cap: applanate to centrally depressed, 40 – 60 mm diameter, matt, greyish ruby (12C6) to rose (11A5) with a greyish bloom; striate to about 1/3 of the radius; peeling to about ½ radius.

Gills: adnate, white to very pale cream; no lamellulae.

Stipe: cylindrical, slightly widened at apex, hollow; 40 – 60 × 8 – 10 mm; glabrous; pale rose pink.

Flesh: white, unchanging.

Taste: mild.

Chemical tests: FeSO₄ on stipe: salmon; guaiac on stipe base: negative.

Spore print: white.

Spores: ellipsoid; 6.5 – 8.5 × 5 – 7.5 µm, average 7.5 × 6.5 µm, Q = 1.13 – 1.29, average Q = 1.18 ± 0.05; amyloid short ridges and blunt warts to 1 µm.

Basidia: clavate; 30 – 35 × 11 – 15 µm; 4-spored; sterigmata to 5 µm.

Cheilocystidia: rare; narrowly clavate with a rostrate apex; 55 – 80 × 10 – 15 µm.

Pleurocystidia: narrowly clavate with a rostrate apex, 50 – 60 × 10 – 12.5 µm.

Dermatocystidia: none present.

Pileipellis: an irregular trichoderm with terminal hyphae 50 – 60 × 5 µm and multiseptate.

Habitat: with *Eucalyptus microcorys*, *Eucalyptus pilularis* and possibly *Melaleuca*.

Notes: this distinctive ruby *Russula* is common in south-east Queensland and can be readily recognised by its ruby rose colours in the cap and paler stipe and its relatively small stature.

Material examined: PL 41607, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, 14 Jun 2007; PL 66607, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, 28 Jun 2007; PL 33409, Noosa National Park, Marcus Beach section, Patrick Leonard; 10 April 2009; KS2566, Kildey's Rd, Cootharaba, Cooloola, Katie Syme, 9 Apr 2011; PL4712, Maroochy Bushland Botanic Garden, Pat Leonard, 17 Jul 2012.