

Pluteus chrysaegis



Pluteus chrysaegis © Patrick Leonard

Cap: convex with a very irregular ridged and raised central umbo; 50 – 70 mm diameter; glabrous but matt; bright greenish yellow (1A6) to pale yellow (1A4); venose, overlain with irregular vein-like ridges that are brown becoming black and paler towards the rim, almost black in the ridged centre; margin shortly striate.

Stipe: cylindrical to slightly clavate downwards; 40 – 60 × 7 – 9 mm; glabrous; pale yellow at the apex and the base and almost white in the centre.

Gills: free; crowded; white; lamellulae in 2 series.

Flesh: thin, white, unchanging.

Smell: none.

Spore print: a rich pink.

Spores: globose to barely subglobose; 5.07 – 5.56 × 4.67 – 5.46 µm, average 5.35 ± 0.17 × 5.04 ± 0.23, Q = 1 – 1.17, average Q = 1.06 ± 0.05; thin-walled.

Basidia: clavate; 18 – 23 × 6 – 8 µm.

Cheilocystidia: broadly lageniform; 75 – 95 × 20 – 25 µm; thin-walled and not ornamented, but quite variable in size and shape.

Pleurocystidia: not observed.

Pileipellis: a hymeniderm of short erect hyphae 5 – 8 µm wide.

Habitat: growing on a mossy log near a creek in a wet sclerophyll forest that verges on rainforest with figs and palms present.

Notes: there are three yellow *Pluteus* species known in Australia: *P. pauperculus* is not veined and grows on *Nothofagus*, *P. hubregtseorum* f. *hubregtseorum* has a floccose stipe and *P. fenzi* has an annulus. This collection appears to be a new species recognized by the yellow cap with blackish brown veins and a glabrous yellow and white stipe.

Collections examined: PL190324, Annie Hehir Reserve, Judith Hewett, 16 Mar 2024.