

Amanita subvaginata



Amanita subvaginata © Pat Leonard

Cap: applanate or shallowly convex; 40–60 mm diameter; glabrous (smooth); pale grey to grey buff (14B6); margin strongly striate.

Stipe: more or less cylindrical, slightly wider at apex and base; 80–120 × 8–12 mm; glabrous, but with slight pruina at apex; white to light cream; annulus absent; with a saccate, membranous white volva at the base that has a free margin.

Gills: free; thin, crowded; white, lamellulae absent.

Flesh: thin, white.

Spore print: white.

Spores: subglobose; $8.8\text{--}10.9 \times 7.4\text{--}10.2 \mu\text{m}$, average $9.7 \pm 0.6 \times 9 \pm 0.7 \mu\text{m}$, $Q = 1\text{--}1.19$, average $Q = 1.08 \pm 0.05$; thin-walled; inamyloid.

Basidia: clavate; $35\text{--}45 \times 10\text{--}12 \mu\text{m}$; 4-spored.

Cheilocystidia: scarce, pyriform.

Pleurocystidia: not clearly defined.

Pileipellis: a cutis of interwoven hyphae without clamp connections.

Habitat: growing in sand in Wallum (dry heathland) under *Melaleuca* and *Callitris*.

Notes: it is not possible to distinguish this species in the field although the small, striate greyish cap and very tall stem are good clues. The smaller and subglobose spores distinguish it from *A. vaginata*, which is otherwise very similar. Not at all common, it is known from four collections stretching from the coast to the Bunya Mountains. Recent (2025) observational records that did not involve examination of the spores are likely to be unreliable.

Collections examined: PL145310, Arthur Harrold Reserve, Noosa North Shore, Pat Leonard, 28 Mar 2010; PL117313, Noosa National Park (Marcus Beach section), Pat Leonard, 24 Mar 2013.