

Amanita vaginata



Amanita vaginata © Frances Guard

Cap: applanate; 50–75 mm diameter; drab grey, margin sulcate, surface smooth, tacky; velar remains usually absent but if present, then present as a fibrillose and very pale buff-grey patch at centre.

Stipe: central, terete, tapering upwards, broadening slightly at base; 90–120 × 5–9 mm; dry, minutely flocculent, pale buff-grey, with thin, membranaceous flaring volva, extending from very small basal bulb.

Gills: narrow, close, white, margin minutely fimbriate (×10), face smooth, no lamellulae.

Flesh: firm white, 5 mm thick at centre.

Spore print: white.

Spores: subglobose to globose; approximately 10–12.5 × 9.5–12 µm; inamyloid.

Basidia: clavate; 45–55 × 15–20 µm; 4-spored with short stigmata.

Cheilocystidia: broadly clavate to ovoid.

Pileipellis: a cutis of filamentous, interwoven hyphae that appear to be gelatinised in the upper layer.

Substrate: growing in sand or soil.

Habitat: *Eucalyptus racemosa*, *Corymbia* (bloodwood), *Elaeocarpus reticularis*, and *Austromyrtus dulcis*.

Notes: This is a fairly common species that has a global distribution and is widely known by its French name ‘grisette’. It is in the subgenus *Amanitopsis* and can only be identified with certainty by microscopic examination. Wood regarded it as an endemic species. Although collected and eaten in Europe, it is not advisable to do so in Australia owing to the difficulty of identifying it with certainty.

Collections examined: KS2557, Fraser Island, 3 Apr 2011; PL139313, Mount Mee National Park, Pat Leonard, 28 Mar 2013.