

## *Armillaria pallidula*



*Armillaria pallidula* © Pat Leonard

**Cap:** convex to campanulate; 45–90 mm diameter; dry and covered with minute fulvous or tawny scales which disappear with age; margin inrolled at first.

**Stipe:** cylindrical to clavate, base sub-bulbous; 50–65 × 20–25 mm; pale buff with a white fibrillose covering, with a distinct ring at first, which disappears to leave a ring zone.

**Gills:** sub-decurrent to decurrent; crowded, anastomosing, pale tawny; lamellulae present in one or two series.

**Taste:** not recorded.

**Spore print:** cream to dark cream.

**Spores:** ellipsoid;  $6.2\text{--}8.2 \times 4.6\text{--}6.6 \mu\text{m}$ , average  $7.3 \pm 0.5 \times 5.2 \pm 0.5 \mu\text{m}$ ,  $Q = 1.05\text{--}1.61$ , average  $Q = 1.4 \pm 0.13$ ; inamyloid; moderately thick-walled; unornamented.

**Basidia:** narrowly clavate;  $45\text{--}55 \times 4\text{--}5.5 \mu\text{m}$ , mostly 4-spored.

**Pleurocystidia:** clavate to cylindrical; thin-walled;  $25\text{--}65 \times 4\text{--}8 \mu\text{m}$ ; forming a sterile edge to the gill.

**Pileipellis:** a cutis of repent, radially arranged thin-walled hyphae with honey-coloured contents.

**Habitat:** growing in dry sandy native forests and dry sclerophyll forest, but also found invading exotic plantations of pine. So far only reported from Queensland.

**Collections examined:** PL7312, Fort Bushcare Reserve, Oxley, Pat Leonard, 10 Mar 2012; PL40722, Mooloolah River National Park, Warwick Nash, 2 Jul 2022.

**Notes:** this species is differentiated by its relatively pale colours, the campanulate shape of the young cap and its lack of yellow pigmentation.