

Austroboletus mutabilis



Austroboletus mutabilis © Roy Halling

Cap: convex to plano convex; 30–60 mm diameter; viscid when fresh; dark red to brownish red at first, fading to brownish orange and then orange-yellow; margin not appendiculate but veil remnants may adhere to it.

Stipe: irregular, tapering to base or apex; 60–120 × 5–10 mm; reticulate, with ridges covered in viscid, honey-coloured glutinous veil remnants, white overall.

Pores: adnate to adnexed; white at first, becoming pinkish brown; staining dark pink to light brown when bruised.

Flesh: soft, white, unchanging.

Taste: slightly acidic.

Spore print: greyish red to reddish brown.

Spores: amygdaliform to subfusoid; 11.9–14.7 × 4.9–7 µm, average 12.9 × 5.8 µm, average Q = 2.23; spore wall pitted.

Basidia: clavate, 4-spored.

Pleurocystidia: fusoid to lageniform.

Pileipellis: an ixotrichoderm, gelatinous and somewhat tangled.

Substrate: in sandy granitic soils.

Habitat: in sclerophyll forest with *Allocasuarina littoralis* and *Eucalyptus intermedia*.

Notes: the viscid red cap, reticulate stipe and cap colour change towards orange and yellow are the distinguishing features of this species that allow it to be identified in the field.

Collections examined: PL1180317, Authur Harrold Reserve, Pat Leonard, 23 Mar 2017.