

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, anastomizing, pale tawny; lamellulae present in one or two series.

Taste: not recorded.

Spore print: cream to dark cream.

Spores: ellipsoid; 6.2 – 8.2 × 4.6 – 6.6 μm , average 7.3 ± 0.5 × 5.2 ± 0.5 μm , Q = 1.05 – 1.61, average Q = 1.4 ± 0.13; inamyloid; moderately thick walled; unornamented.

Basidia: narrowly clavate; 45 – 55 × 4 – 5.5 μm , mostly four spored.

Pleurocystidia: clavate to cylindrical; thin walled; 25 – 65 × 4 – 8 μm ; 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.

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