

Cortinarius subcalyptosporus

Cap: convex; 80 – 100 mm diameter; velutinate, matt; dark violet (16F7) with a slightly paler deep violet (15E7) margin.

Stipe: clavate, tapering from apex but whole lower half almost twice as wide as apex; 80 – 100 × 8 – 16 mm; scaly with dark violet scales on a very slightly paler ground giving a snakeskin appearance, almost black at base.

Gills: adnexed; moderately crowded; dark violet becoming almost black stained rust by spores.

Flesh: pale violet.

Smell: raphanoid.

Chemical reactions: KOH on cap: rusty brown.

Spore print: rusty brown.

Spores: citriform, ellipsoid; 10.8 – 14.2 × 7.7 – 10 µm, average 12.7 ± 0.9 × 8.7 ± 0.65 µm, Q = 1.2 – 1.65, average Q = 1.46 ± 0.13;

weakly verrucose; thick walled.

Basidia: clavate; 40 – 50 × 8 – 12 µm; four spored, with dark contents in KOH.

Cheilocystidia: langeniform; 50 – 65 × 15 – 20 µm.

Pleurocystidia: similar to cheilos.

Dermatocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: a trichoderm; hyphae with brown contents in KOH; clamps present.

Habitat: wet sclerophyll forest,

Notes: a very striking fungus with a velutinate dark violet cap which is very well camouflaged. Known from the *Nothofagus* forests of New Zealand and from Mt Kinabalu on the Island of Borneo, this is the first Australian record. Spores are marginally larger than Moser's description but it is otherwise a good match.

Collections examined: LG55, Linda Garrett Reserve, Mapleton, Queensland, Susie Webster, 13 Jun 2015.



Cortinarius subcalyptosporus © John van de Greyn