

Cyathus stercoreus



Cyathus stercoreus © ANBG

Fruiting body: long narrow inverted cone, but with great variation in shape, 5 – 15 mm high × 4 - 8 mm wide at mouth, golden or russet brown, but blackening with age. Externally shaggy, sometimes with a tufted untidy appearance, may be smooth in old weathered specimens. Internally very smooth, lead grey or bluish-black.

Epiphram: conspicuous shaggy red brown cap over the fruiting body.

Peridioles: medium, 1 – 2 mm, lacks a tunica, in section shows a layered cortex, ±20, bluish-black.

Spores: subglobose; 20 – 30 × 18 – 25 µm

Substrate: dung, heavily manured soils..

Habitat: in pastures and parks and gardens.

Notes: recognised by its shaggy external appearance and its substrate on dung. This is the commonest bird's nest fungus in Queensland. It has a worldwide distribution.

Collections examined: AQ 0797815, Ormiston, Fran Guard, 1 Aug 13.