

Fungal Planet 1163 – 19 December 2020

Mycena pulchra P. Leonard, *sp. nov.*

Etymology. *pulchra* means pretty and refers to the fungus in its setting on a paperbark tree.

Classification — *Mycenaceae*, *Agaricales*, *Agaricomycetes*.

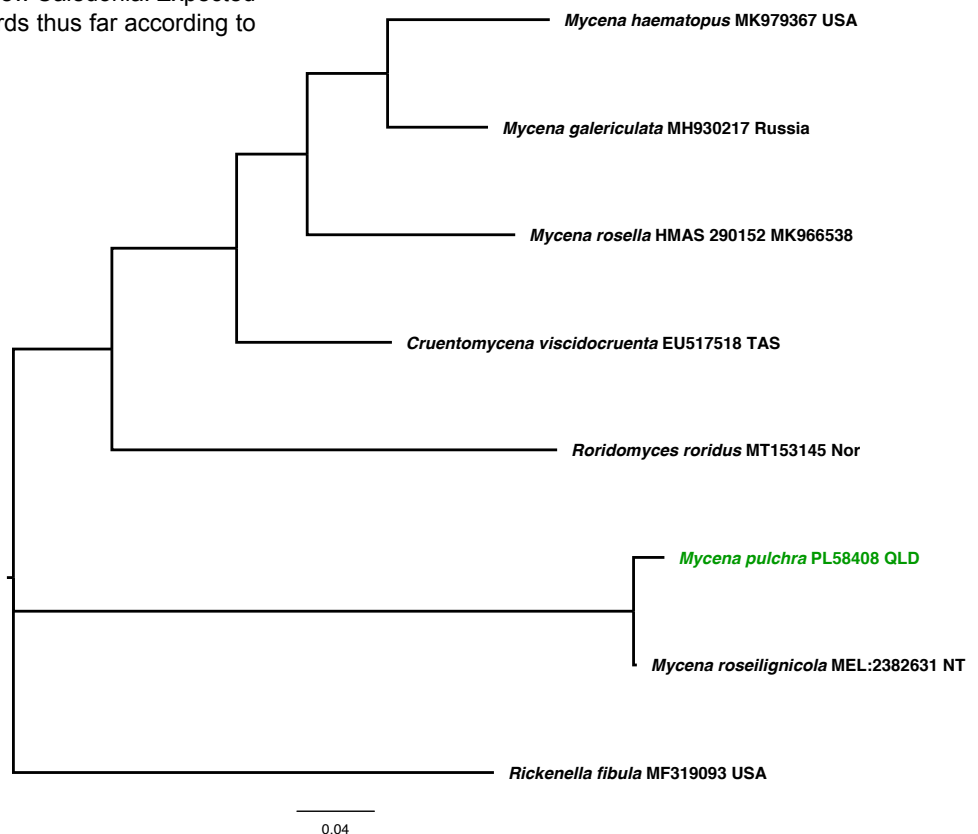
Pileus convex with a central umbilicus, 15–40 mm diam, bright reddish pink (9A6, 11A8; Kornerup & Wanscher 1978), flamingo pink, fading to pale pink with age; margin ± smooth. *Lamellae* adnate or with a subdecurrent tooth, white, lamellulae arranged in two series alternating with lamellae, 16–18 lamellae reach the stipe. *Stipe* cylindrical to somewhat flattened, tough, centrally attached, curved, 15–30 × 1.5–4 mm; bright reddish pink, but paler than cap and white towards base; fruiting singly or in small caespitose groups. *Flesh* white, thin. *Spore print* white. *Spores* ellipsoid, 10.4–14.6 × 5.7–8.8 μm (av. 13 ± 1.23 × 6.7 ± 0.84, Q = 1.5–2.5, Qav = 1.96 ± 0.3), spore contents weakly amyloid with Melzer's reagent. *Basidia* strongly clavate, 45–60 × 10–12 μm, 4-spored. *Pleurocystidia* clavate, 44–50 × 7.5–11 μm, amyloid granular contents. *Cheilocystidia* numerous, forming an almost sterile edge to the gill, 40–100 × 8–20 μm; ventricose or narrowly utriform. *Pileipellis* an irregular cutis, hyphae 7–12 μm, clamps absent.

Habitat & Distribution — Growing in borer holes on the living trunks of the swamp paperbark, *Melaleuca quinquinervia*. Sporocarps found from just above flood level to about 2 m above ground level. Also seen on wounds where the tree has been damaged by storms or pruning. Appears to follow the distribution of *Melaleuca quinquinervia* with confirmed records from Eastern Australia and Western New Caledonia. Expected in New Guinea but there are no records thus far according to Maas Geesteranus & Horak (1995).

Typus. AUSTRALIA, Queensland, Tewantin, Heritage Park, 13 Apr. 2008, J. Heavey (holotype PL58408, Brisbane, ITS sequence GenBank MT988148, MycoBank MB837369).

Notes — This flamingo pink fungus is associated with wounds and borer holes in live paperbark trees. It grows on the tree trunk beneath the layers of bark and requires a wound or an insect hole in order to emerge and fruit.

There are 16 collections under the name *Mycena roseilignicola* on I-Naturalist. Two are recorded on *Melaleuca* and appear to conform with *M. pulchra*. Six others are on dead wood and exhibit the striate cap that Corner (1994) describes. The eight other specimens either lack sufficient information to form a judgement or exhibit attachment via a distinct mycelial pad which is not a feature of *M. pulchra* nor mentioned by Corner (1994) for *M. roseilignicola*.



Colour illustrations. Paperbark forest in south-east Queensland. Lower right fruiting body emerging from borer hole (holotype); lower centre fruiting body in tree wound; lower left pileipellis. All photos © Patrick Leonard. Scale bars = 20 μm.