

## Plant of the Month — June 2016

## Amanita fibrillopes O.K.Mill.



Amanita fibrillopes (Bush Elf Amanita) is one of the most easily recognised local mushrooms. When it first emerges from leaf litter the cap is pink and densely covered with white pyramidal warts, but as it ages the cap becomes buff and the warts collapse and turn brown. Another distinguishing feature is the position of the ring, which is tucked up right under the gills. This species occurs widely in the south-west of WA including the Perth Metropolitan area, jarrah forest and south coast region.

Amanita fibrillopes is mycorrhizal, growing in association with local eucalypts and sometimes with the Rock Sheoak Allocasuarina huegeliana. The vegetative stage of the fungus is perennial, growing on plant roots and assisting the plant with the uptake of nutrients from the soil. Mushrooms are produced when weather conditions are suitable.

Amanita is the subject of ongoing research by Western Australian Herbarium Research Associate Dr Elaine Davison and colleagues at Curtin University; the new species A. wadulawitu was recently published in our journal Nuvtsia.

Photo: E. Davison

## Find out more about Amanita fibrillopes O.K.Mill.

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