

## *Microporus affinis*



*Microporus affinis* © Ken Cowell

**Fruit body:** a thin 1 to 3mm (to 6mm<sup>1</sup>), leathery bracket; normally 35 – 40 mm radius, but up to 80 – 100 mm on occasion.

**Upper surface:** dry with a velvety texture due to an irregular covering of fine hairs; multiple, approximately parallel, bands of purple, brown, cream, grey, or black, of varying widths with the outer margin white.

**Lower surface:** white to fawn and finely pored.

**Stipe:** attached to substrate (dead wood) at the edge by a short narrow flattened horizontal stipe; 6 – 30 × 4 mm; attachment to substrate forms a small disc; brown and grey, disc often black.

**Pores:** under surface of fine pores; 7 to 9 per mm (6 to 12), thick walled, squarish to oval shaped; white or very pale pink.

**Flesh:** tough, leathery, white.

**Smell:** None.

**Spores:** Not observed. The literature suggests they are colourless and do not stain in iodine solution<sup>2</sup>.

**Habitat:** Growing in a group on fallen wood in a rainforest at Finch Hatton (base of Eungella Range). Literature suggests the species is tropical to subtropical<sup>2</sup>.

**Notes:** *Trametes menziesii* is superficially similar but *M. affinis* has 7 – 9 per mm, compared with *T. menziesii*, 5 – 6 per mm. It is distinguished from *M. xanthopus* by its lateral stipe attachment which never has a yellow disc.

**Notes:** *M. affinis* is a relatively common bracket fungi in Queensland.