

*Auricularia mesenterica*



*Auricularia mesenterica* © Fran Guard

**Macrocharacters:** fruit bodies rubbery gelatinous; pale grey to olive brown; resupinate and commonly lobed; up to 60 mm diameter by 15 - 20 mm thick; pileus conspicuously zoned, pilose with fine hyaline hairs; margin undulating often pale from spores; hymenium purplish brown, conspicuously veined, wrinkled; growing in gregarious, tiered or caespitose groups, occasionally solitary.

**Microscopic characters:** pileus made up of densely compacted gelatinised hyphae with cuticular hairs  $60 - 175 \times 5 - 6 \mu\text{m}$ , with rounded tips; basidia  $45 - 70 \times 3 - 4 \mu\text{m}$ , cylindrical, with 3 transverse septa; spores allantoid,  $15 - 18 \times 6 - 7 \mu\text{m}$ .

**Collections examined:** PL1510. Jolly's Lookout, D'Aguilar National Park, David Fisher, 29 May 2010.

**Notes:** Known as the 'Tripe fungus' it is recognised by its zoned pileus, wrinkled to veined hymenium and large spores.