

Stereum hirsutum



Stereum hirsutum © ?

Fruiting body: fan shaped and funnel shaped; may be sessile or have a broad or occasionally a narrow attachment to the substrate; projecting up to 30 mm from substrate with a diameter of up to 60 mm; thin, often only 1 - 2 mm thick.

Upper surface is hirsute (hairy), zoned, with alternating bands of yellowish orange and greyish white hairs; fades to pale dull greyish ochre on drying; margin lighter than inner zones, usually wavy.

Lower surface: smooth with neither pores nor gills nor teeth, shows concentric zones; bright yellow orange to orange brown when fresh, fading to grey.

Flesh: thin and of a tough but elastic consistency, like leather. Not changing colour on bruising.

Spore print: very seldom seen; white.

Spores: ellipsoid; $5.5 - 6.5 \times 2 - 3 \mu\text{m}$; faintly amyloid in Melzer's reagent, smooth, hyaline.

Basidia: slenderly clavate, four spored.

Cystidia: none seen.

Pileipellis: dimitic; the skeletal hyphae are hyaline or yellow, septate and sparsely branched; the generative hyphae are thick walled and septate; clamp connections absent.

Habitat: common in wet forests and appears to have a worldwide distribution. Often found in large numbers on medium sized logs and tree trunks, growing in tiers. It appears to be very long lasting and may well be biennial.

Notes: this appears to be a very common fungus in the rainforests of South-East Queensland and is readily recognised by its bright brownish orange colours and hirsute surface when examined with a hand lens.

Collections examined: