

Geoglossum umbratile



Geoglossum umbratile © Pat Leonard

Fruiting body: spatulate with more or less clavate, laterally compressed with a rounded apex and grooved in the upper half; 50 – 80 × 8 – 15 mm; velutinate; black.

Stipe: somewhat woody at base, attached to soil and debris; glabrous or with velvinate scales.

Asci: clavate, narrow at the base; 7 septate; 180 – 200 × 20 – 25 µm; containing 8 spores.

Spores: cylindric with rounded ends, black.

Paraphyses: not or slightly agglutinated above; hyaline, septate with septa closer together at apex; usually curved at apex.

Substrate: wet muddy ground, seasonally flooded.

Habitat: edge of wallum woodland with some nothophyll vine forest.

Notes: very large black earth tongue growing in big troops with 7 septate asci are likely to be this species. Good key to the genus in Sponner.

Collections examined: PL31412, Lake Weyba, Noosa National Park, Jerry Cooper, 22 Apr 2012.