

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.