

Nigrofomes melanoporus



Nigrofomes melanoporus © Katie Syme

Cap: more or less sessile with a resupinate attachment; to 300 mm diameter; glabrous, shiny when wet; uneven, in concentric rings and rugulose; dark brownish vinaceous to almost black; margin very thin, 1 – 3 mm, paler vinaceous buff.

Stipe: absent; lower part of fruit body is resupinate on substrate.

Pores: very hard, dense; 6 – 9 per mm; purplish buff to purplish date.

Flesh: hard, woody; dark umber brown, purplish brown (not black as suggested in Ryvardeen); less hard and more flexible, leathery towards outer margin; dimitic with skeletal hyphae visible.

Taste: not recorded.

Spores: white or off white; broadly ellipsoid; $4 - 5 \times 3 \mu\text{m}$; thin walled.

Basidia: not observed.

Pleurocystidia: narrowly clavate, thin walled; hyaline to pale brown.

Pileipellis: tissue very hard and difficult to examine, appears to consist of long resupinate skeletal hyphae with thick brown walls.

Habitat: growing in clusters of fallen debris from *Syncarpia hillii* in rainforest.

Notes: according to Ryvardeen this polypore is relatively easy to recognise because of the woody hard blackish to vinaceous brown fruitbodies and the very small pores. The Queensland collections do not however have a black context. The Australian collections are mainly in Queensland, reflecting the pan tropical distribution of this species.

Collections examined: Pile Valley, Fraser Island, Gretchen Evans, 6 April 2011.