

Auricularia aff fibrillifera



Auricularia aff fibrillifera © Fran Guard

Macro characters: fruit bodies tough, gelatinous; yellow to reddish brown; sessile to substipitate; up to 120 mm diameter by 1 – 2 mm thick; pileus minutely tomentose with hyaline hairs; hymenium smooth; growing in gregarious or caespitose groups, occasionally solitary.

Microscopic characters: pileus made up of densely compacted, gelatinised hyphae with cuticular hairs, $85 - 100 \times 5 - 6 \mu\text{m}$, with rounded tips; basidia $50 - 60 \times 5 - 6 \mu\text{m}$, cylindrical, with transverse septa; spores allantoid, $13 - 15 \times 5 - 6 \mu\text{m}$.

Notes: This fungus has been widely recorded as *A. auricula-judae*, but recent research has demonstrated that it is not closely related to that species. It is recognised by its reddish-brown colour and faintly translucent cap, a smooth and similarly coloured lower surface. It is close to *A. fibrillifera* described from Papua New Guinea. This species is edible. Previously recorded as *A. auricula-judae*.