

Auricularia tenuis



Auricularia tenuis © 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 $85\text{--}100 \times 5\text{--}6 \mu\text{m}$, with rounded tips; basidia $50\text{--}60 \times 5\text{--}6 \mu\text{m}$, cylindrical, with transverse septa; spores allantoid, $13\text{--}15 \times 5\text{--}6 \mu\text{m}$.

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*.