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Fuscoporia gilva

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Fuscoporia gilva is a common bracket fungus found throughout Australia. In the southwest it grows singly or in tiers at the base of dead jarrah and karri trees and stumps. Dry, cracked brackets can persist on their host for several more years and are common on well-rotted stumps in parks, along roadsides and in the bush.

Brackets are up to 15cm across, shelf- or hoof-shaped; have a hard woody texture and often concentrically zoned. The upper surface is dark brown in the centre changing to chestnut near the edge, with a pale yellow rim, and often covered with moss. The lower surface is a rusty- to chestnut-brown pore layer, often extending down the surface on which it is growing.

Fuscoporia gilva decomposes wood and brackets can live on the host tree or stump for several years, adding a new growth zone and pore layer each year. Until recently, this common fungus was called *Phellinus gilvus*, but modern taxonomic methods showed that it actually belongs to the genus *Fuscoporia*.

The scientific name, describes the colours of the fruit body: *Fusc-*, *fusco-*: dark, dusky, fuscus (dark smokey colour), *pore-*: pores, *gilv-*: pale or dull yellow.