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Fungus Factsheet 31 / 2009 Science Division



Panellus ligulatus

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Panellus ligulatus is a small but distinct fan-shaped fungus. It's found throughout southern Australia. In the southwest, it fruits in autumn and early winter in karri forest and the wetter southern regions of jarrah forest. It is most commonly found on large, moss covered logs in shady environments.

Caps are 1–2.5cm diameter, light orange in colour with a dry surface that is often covered with a sparse layer of delicate woolly fibres, which gives them a frosty appearance. However, as they mature the woolly coating may be washed away by rain. Gills are light brown to tan, of various lengths and radiate from the top of a laterally attached stem up to 2cm long. The surface of the stem also has a covering of delicate woolly fibres that becomes denser towards the base, causing the colour to gradually change from light orange near the apex to white at the base.

The scientific name describes the tongue-like appearance of the fruit body. *Pann-*: rag, *-ellus*: diminutive, small, *ligul-*: little tongue, *-atus*: resembling or similar to.