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# Fungus of the Month - November 2007



## *Phellinus gilvus*

*Phellinus gilvus* is a common bracket fungus that grows singly or in tiers at the base of dead jarrah and karri trees and stumps. The bracket has a hard woody texture and is often concentrically zoned. The upper surface is dark brown in the centre changing to chestnut near the edge, with a pale yellow rim and is often covered with moss. The lower surface is a rusty- to chestnut-brown pore layer, and often extends down the surface on which it is fruiting. The fungus decomposes its host wood and brackets can live for several years, adding a new growth zone and pore layer each year. Once dead, dry and 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.

The Latin name, describes its texture and colour: *phell*-: cork, *-inus*: resembling, *gilv*-: pale or dull yellow