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Nothojafnea cryptotricha

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Nothojafnea cryptotricha is found in wetter regions of eucalypt forests in both the south east and south west of Australia. In the south west it can be found fruiting on soil, generally amongst moss, in both karri and the southern jarrah forest regions.

The cup-shaped fruit bodies are up to 12 mm in diameter, light orange or yellow brown with either a dense or sparse covering of short white hairs on the outer surface and margin. The inner surface is smooth. The fruit bodies have a firm to gelatinous fleshy texture and are attached to their substrate by a small rudimentary stipe at the base of the cup.

Only one other species of *Nothojafnea* has been recorded, *Nothojafnea thaxteri*. It occurs in the Patagonia region of Argentina, but has also been recorded in Tasmania. It is very similar to *Nothojafnea cryptotricha* and further genetic study is needed to determine whether they are in fact separate species or are the same.

The scientific name refers to its similarity with the genus *Jafnea*, which honours the Swedish fungi and lichen taxonomist J.A.F. Nannfeldt (1904-85), and to distinguishing characters of the fruit body. *Notho*:- false or close to resembling, *jafn*:- the initials of J.A.F. Nannfeldt, *-ea*: pertaining to, *crypt*:- hidden or secret, *trich*:- hair(s).