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## *Gymnopilus allantopus*

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*Gymnopilus allantopus* is a very common species throughout southern and eastern Australia. In the southwest it is found in jarrah forest and woodlands, fruiting on logs and small diameter woody debris in the late autumn. It's especially common on dead, standing or fallen, bull banksia (*Banksia grandis*) trees and jarrah logs and stumps.

Caps are generally 1.5–4.5cm diameter, dome-shaped at first and covered with white silky fibrils; they then expand to become orange-brown with a yellowish margin. Distinctive lemon-yellow gills are initially covered by a web-like protective veil which breaks away as the cap expands. When old the gills become spotted with rusty stains. Stem are 2-6cm tall, slim, brown, but have a dry white silky covering when fresh, and are often swollen near the base.

Fruit bodies generally emerge from decaying wood through cracks in the bark or along the edge of where bark patches have broken off. If loose bark is pulled away you often see white root-like or thin web-like structures formed by the mycelium of the fungus. There are often tiny undeveloped fruit bodies attached to the ends of these structures (*inset above*).

The scientific name refers to the appearance of the cap and shape of the stem. *Gym-*: naked, *pile-*: cap, but can also mean hair, *allanto-*: sausage shaped, *pus-*: foot or base.