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Fungus Factsheet 54 / 2011 Science Division



Resupinatus cinerascens

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Resupinatus cinerascens is a common fungus in jarrah forest and woodlands in mid- to late-autumn. It fruits on dead wood and is most commonly found on *Banksia grandis* (bull banksia) wood that has begun to decompose and on the loose bark of small dead jarrah branches.

Caps are 1–2cm in diameter, dark grey in colour grading to light grey around the margin which has a fine woolly texture. The inner flesh of the cap has a grey gelatinous texture. This fungus doesn't have a stem and caps are attached directly to the underside of the dead wood (*inset above*). Its gills are widely spaced and have a radial pattern that resembles the spokes of a wheel. They vary in length and are often finely branched or viened towards their inner ends.

When present, *Resupinatus cinerascens* generally fruits in large numbers; often all the way from the base of a dead branch to the fine twigs on the end. It favours fallen branches that are suspended above the ground, and because it usually fruits on the underside you may need to turn dead wood over in order to find it.

The scientific name refers to the form and colour of fruit bodies. *Resupinate*: is the technical term referring to the habit of lying flat on the substrate; or not possessing a stalk, -us: the common masculine gender ending, *cinere*: ash-coloured or smokey, -ascens: becoming, or somewhat.