

A LITTLE BOOK OF CORALS

Pat and Ed Grey



Hai Wu

Ramaria xanthosperma var. *australiana*

Revision 6 (2021)

Clavulinopsis amoena



Ed Grey

**Ed Grey died 4 January 2021, aged 90.
He will be greatly missed.**

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Ramaria anziana



Ed Grey

Ramaria samuelsii



Paul George

Introduction

This booklet describes and illustrates some of the Coral Fungi recorded for Victoria often found on FNCV Fungi Forays or by other forayers in south-east Australia. Each description page consists of a photo and brief notes, all of which must be taken into account to aid identification. The corals are listed alphabetically by genus and species and a common name has been included. Photographs of mycelial forms, a table of spore size and shape and ‘Notes on the Yellow *Ramaria* Group’ have been added at the back of the book. A field description sheet is available as a separate PDF.

Coral Fungi are so-called because the fruit-bodies resemble marine corals. Some have intricate branching, while others are bushier with ‘florets’ like a cauliflower or broccolini. They also include those species that have simple club-shaped or spine-shaped fruit-bodies. Coral fungi are noted for their exquisite colouring – every shade of white, cream, grey, blue, purple, orange and red - found across the range of species.

In this revision one species has been added: *Ramaria xanthosperma* var. *australian* which belongs to the group that AM Young classifies as “a difficult cluster of yellow species” (see Notes on the Yellow *Ramaria* Group p 65)

The fertile surface bearing the spores of coral fungi is the external surface of the upper branches. Most species have a white spore print while *Ramaria* species have a yellow to yellow-brown spore print, which is sometimes seen when the mature spores dust the coral branches.

Most Corals grow on the ground, but there are some exceptions. Eight grow on wood - the two *Artomyces* species, *Deflexula fascicularis*, *Hericium coralloides*, *Mucronella pendula*, *Multiclavula mucida*, *Pterula gracilis* and *Ramaria ochracea*. *Ramaria filicicola* grows on woody litter and Tree-fern stems. *Macrotrophula juncea* grows on wet litter, leaves and twigs. Usually *Ramariopsis crocea* and *R. kunzei* grow on the ground in moss and litter, but are also occasionally found on Tree-fern stems.

In the description page, a photo illustrates each species and photographers are acknowledged just below the image. The notes start with a general description of the mature fruit-body – **size**, **shape** and **colour** (which may differ in young specimens). Size relates to the whole fruit-body but the height is described as **very tall/very large** over 150 mm, **tall/large** - 90 to 150 mm, **medium** - 50 to 90 mm, **small** - 20 to 50 mm, and **tiny** – under 20 mm. A more detailed identification follows and includes growth habit and habitat. Other images of the described species have also been included.

A QUICK FIELD INDICATION

ON_GROUND

CAULIFLOWER -SHAPED

CAULIFLOWER-SHAPED, LARGE (90 to 150 mm tall)

Pale yellow – orange yellow, viscid

Ramaria capitata var. *capitata*

p 40

Salmon pink, non-viscid

Ramaria capitata var. *ochraceosalmonicolor*

p 41

CAULIFLOWER-SHAPED, MEDIUM (50 to 90 mm tall)

Red

Ramaria stuntzii var. *gelatinosa*

p 49

CORAL-SHAPED

CORAL-SHAPED, VERY LARGE (over 150 mm tall)

Pale straw with a hint of pink

Aphelaria complanata

p 8

Wine-red

Ramaria australiana var. *australiana*

p 38

CORAL-SHAPED, LARGE (90 to 150 mm tall)

Buff, tips red to pale pink-reddish

Ramaria botrytoides

p 39

Buff to pale tan

Ramaria pyrispora

p 47

Buff with blue tips

Ramaria zippelii

p 53

Fawn with some dark tips

Clavulina vinaceocervina

p 21

Lavender

Ramaria fennica var. *fumigata*

p 42

Orange to salmon-pink

Ramaria anziana

p 37

Pale to dark ash grey

Clavulina cinerea

p 16

Pink, tips yellow

Ramaria samuelsii

p 48

Purple to vinaceous purple

Ramaria versatilis var. *latispora*

p 50

Straw yellow to pale ochre

Ramaria watlingii

p 51

Violet to purple

Clavaria zollingeri

p 14

ON_GROUND cont.

CORAL-SHAPED, LARGE (90 to 150 mm tall) cont.

Yellow with red-staining stem

Ramaria xanthosperma var. *australiana* p 52

Yellow with wine-red bruising

Ramaria lorithamnus p 45

CORAL-SHAPED, MEDIUM (50-90 mm tall)

Mustard-yellow

Ramaria flaccida p 44

Pale yellow to buff

Tremellodendropsis pusio p 61

White

Ramariopsis kunzei p 56

White with spiky tips

Clavulina coralloides p 17

CORAL-SHAPED, SMALL (20 to 50 mm tall)

Brown to red-brown

Ramariopsis ramarioides p 58

Green-yellow

Ramaria abietina p 36

Rich mauve

Ramariopsis pulchella p 57

Yellow

Ramariopsis crocea p 55

CLUB-SHAPED

CLUB-SHAPED, TALL (90 to 150 mm tall)

Red

Clavulinopsis sulcata p 26

White, in exotic vegetation

Clavulina rugosa p 18

White, in native vegetation

Clavaria fragilis group p 12

Yellow

Clavulinopsis amoena p 22

Clavulinopsis fusiformis p 25

ON GROUND cont.

CLUB-SHAPED, MEDIUM (50 to 90 mm tall)

Buff

Clavaria tenuipes p 13

Dark ash grey to grey-brown,

Clavulina tasmanica p 20

Orange-yellow

Clavulinopsis depokensis p 24

Pink and red

Clavulinopsis corallinorosea p 23

Yellow

Ramariopsis simplex p 59

White, in native vegetation

Clavulina subrugosa p 19

CLUB-SHAPED, SMALL (20 to 50 mm tall)

White, in native vegetation

Clavicornia taxophila p 15

CLUB-SHAPED, TINY (1 to 20 mm tall)

Orange, tiny

Multiclavula vernalis p 33

ON LITTER

CLUB-SHAPED, MEDIUM (50 to 90 mm tall)

Whitish

Macrotrophula juncea p 30

ON WOODY LITTER

CORAL-SHAPED, LARGE (90 to 150 mm tall)

Buff with white tips

Ramaria filicicola p 43

ON *DICKSONIA ANTARCTICA* SMOOTH TREE-FERN

CORAL-SHAPED, LARGE (90 to 150 mm tall)

Buff with white tips

Ramaria filicicola p 43

CORAL-SHAPED, MEDIUM (50 to 90 mm tall)

White

Ramariopsis kunzei p 56

CORAL-SHAPED, SMALL (20 to 50 mm)

Yellow, delicate

Ramariopsis crocea p 55

ON *DICKSONIA ANTARCTICA* SMOOTH TREE-FERN cont.

SPINE-SHAPED

Whitish

Pterula gracilis

p 34

ON DEAD WOOD

CORAL-SHAPED

CORAL-SHAPED, LARGE (90 to 120 mm tall)

Whitish to fawn

Artomyces austropiperatus

p 10

CORAL-SHAPED, MEDIUM (50 to 90 mm tall)

Pale ochre

Ramaria ochracea

p 46

Whitish to fawn

Artomyces colensoi group

p 11

CLUB-SHAPED, TINY (1 to 20 mm tall)

White

Multiclavula mucida

p 32

SPINE-SHAPED

SPINE-SHAPED, LARGE (90-120 mm long)

Straw

Hericium coralloides

p 29

SPINE-SHAPED, SMALL (20 to 50 mm tall)

Translucent white

Mucronella pendula

p 31

SPINE-SHAPED, TINY (1 to 20 mm tall)

White

Pterula gracilis

p 34

Whitish to dirty cream

Deflexula fascicularis

p 28



Pat Grey

John Eichler

Aphelaria complanata Straw-head Aphelaria

Fruit-body: a very large, compact spherical mass, multi-branched; branches are upright, somewhat flattened and thin, and are coloured pale straw with a hint of pink

- **Size** to 200 mm tall or higher x 160 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 3mm thick, tapering upwards becoming fine (to less than 1mm thick), long, somewhat flattened, pale straw with a hint of pink.
- **Branch tips** rounded, pale, off-white.
- **Spore print** white.
- **Odour** often strong and unpleasant.

Habit: solitary.

Habitat: on the ground.

Artomyces austropiperatus



Reiner Richter

Artomyces colensoi



De'ana Williams



De'ana Williams

Artomyces austropiperatus Peppery Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches have crown-like tips, whitish, pink-beige or fawn. The larger of two very similar corals growing on wood.

- **Size** to 120 mm tall x 80 mm wide.
- **Branches** upright, to 6 mm thick, each with 4-6 branches developing at the point of division, forming up to 6 ranks, whitish, pink-beige or fawn.
- **Branch tips** crown-like (coronate), whitish to fawn.
- **Stem** to 20 mm tall x 4 mm thick, concolourous with branches.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – immediate or delayed, strong, persistent peppery taste. Often multiple fruit-bodies grow close together. Compare size difference with the similar-looking *A. colensoi* (p 11)

Habit: gregarious and grouped close together.

Habitat: on fallen wood in wet native forests.



Torbjorn von Strokirch



Reiner Richter

Artomyces colensoi group Delicate Peppery Coral

Fruit-body: medium, multi-branched; branches have crown-like tips, whitish to fawn. The smaller of two very similar corals growing on wood.

- **Size** to 60 mm tall x 15 mm wide.
- **Branches** upright, very fine, less than 1mm thick, with 2-4 branches developing at the point of division, forming up to 6 ranks whitish to fawn.
- **Branch tips** crown-like (coronate), whitish to fawn.
- **Stem** to 10 mm tall x 1.5 mm thick.
- **Spore print** white.

Note - delayed peppery taste. Often multiple fruit-bodies grow close together. This group includes *A. candelabrus*, which is only differentiated on minor microscopical features. Compare size difference with the similar-looking *A. austropiperatus* (p 10)

Habit: gregarious and grouped close together.

Habitat: on fallen wood in wet native forests.



De'ana Williams

Richard Hartland

***Clavaria fragilis* group**

Brittle Club

Fruit-body: tall, simple club; usually grows in dense clusters, often caespitose (with all the clubs joined together at the base), white, very brittle.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 4 mm thick.
- **Club** simple, white, smooth.
- **Club tip** rounded, not acute or crested, white, becoming pointed and yellow to brown with age.
- **Stem** merges smoothly into the club, white.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – the group consists of a number of similar white clubs including *C. acuta* and *C. alboglobospora* that can only be securely separated on microscopic grounds.

Habit: dense clusters, caespitose.

Habitat: on the ground in eucalypt forests.



John Eichler



De'ana Williams

Clavaria tenuipes Buff Club

Fruit-body: medium, simple or once-branched club; the club is pale yellow to buff with a distinctly darker stem.

- **Size** to 85 mm tall x 5 mm thick.
- **Club** simple or once branched, longitudinally grooved, pale yellow to buff, smooth.
- **Club tip** rounded to flattened, pale yellow to buff.
- **Stem** distinct, tapering downwards, yellow-brown, darker than club.
- **Spore print** white.

Habit: gregarious in groups.

Habitat: on the ground in litter or bare soil, in native forests.



Richard Hartland

Pat Grey

Clavaria zollingeri Violet Coral

Fruit-Body: large, multi-branched; branches have rounded tips and grow from a short stem; fruit-body is violet to pinkish ageing dull grey-brown.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 70 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 6 mm thick, usually dichotomous (divided into two), violet, pinkish, ageing to dull grey-brown, fragile, brittle, dry, smooth.
- **Branch tips** rounded with 2-4 blunt protrusions, purple to brownish, often white with spores.
- **Stem** very short, pale grey-purple, arises from a white mycelial mat, occasionally with white mycelium over the base.
- **Spore print** white.
 - **Note** – the slightly smaller fruit-body and different shaped branch tips of *Clavaria zollingeri* differentiate it from the similarly-coloured *Ramaria fennica* var. *fumigata* (p 42) and *Ramaria versatilis* var. *latispora* (p 50)

Habit: usually solitary.

Habitat: on the ground in litter under Tree-ferns and eucalypts in wet forests.



Charlie Price

Clavicornia taxophila Fluted Trumpet

Fruit-body: small, delicate, simple trumpet-like club; trumpet is snow-white and longitudinally striate, flaring out at apex to look frilly.

- **Size** to 30 mm tall x 6 mm thick at apex, narrowing to 2 mm thick at base.
- **Club** simple, trumpet-shaped, narrowing at base, longitudinally striate, white, ageing slightly yellow.
- **Club tips** slightly cup-shaped, thin, with a crown-like to frilly rim.
- **Stem** translucent, arises from a white hairy mycelial mat.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – grows in moist soil after heavy rain.

Habit: groups, sometimes a single fruit-body, occasionally in 2's.

Habitat: on the ground amongst litter in dry eucalypt forests after heavy rain.



Ed Grey



Richard Hartland

Clavulina cinerea Ash-grey Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched or unbranched; branches are pale to dark ash-grey to purple, and often dulled with a powdery bloom.

- **Size** to 120 mm tall x 60 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 10 mm thick, ash-grey, or with a hint of purple if infected, smooth to wrinkled, or longitudinally grooved.
- **Branch tips** fat and blunt or slightly crested, can be a darker grey or brown.
- **Stem** present as a short, fleshy sterile base, white to ochre.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – Immature specimens are white and smaller. Fruit-bodies may be infected with the pyrenomycete *Helminthosphaeria clavariarum* which causes a colour change from ash-grey to purple tinged. A hand lens should show the embedded perithecia as black dots.

Habit: solitary or gregarious, forming densely branched tufts.

Habitat: on the ground in eucalypt and exotic trees.



Paul George

Pat Grey

Clavulina coralloides (*Clavulina cristata*) Spiky Coral

Fruit-body: large, sparingly branched; branches are white with spiky tips, ageing ochre to brownish.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 100 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 4 mm thick, sparingly or repeatedly divided (up to 4 times), white with occasional pink tinges, flattened.
- **Branch tips** usually crested with several sharp points (cristate), white often ageing darker.
- **Stem** to 30 mm tall x 5 mm thick, white.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – In most cases not all the branch tips are crested, but there are always some, which will identify the species. Specimens are routinely infected with the pyrenomycete *Helminthosphaeria clavariarum* which causes a colour change from white to grey to black. A hand lens should show the embedded perithecia as black dots.

Habit: solitary or gregarious.

Habitat: on the ground in native forests, woodlands, heaths and exotic trees.



Ed Grey

Clavulina rugosa Wrinkled Coral

Fruit-body: tall, unbranched to sparsely branched; club is often contorted; white. Always grows with exotic (i.e. non-native) vegetation.

- **Size** to 120 mm tall x 15 mm thick.
- **Club** contorted and twisted or simple, sometimes flattened, white, smooth to wrinkled.
- **Club tip** blunt or crested.
- **Stem** not clearly defined.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – *Clavulina rugosa* only grows with exotic, non-native plants, unlike the similar-looking *Clavulina subrugosa* (p 19) that is only found amongst Eucalypt or native vegetation. Specimens are routinely infected with the pyrenomycete *Helminthosphaeria clavariarum* which causes a colour change from white to grey to black. A hand lens should show the embedded perithecia as black dots.

Habit: solitary or gregarious.

Habitat: on the ground, always with exotic trees (conifers and hardwoods).



Reiner Richter

Clavulina subrugosa White Club

Fruit-body: medium, usually a simple club but can be branched; club is sometimes wrinkled; off-white. Always grows in eucalypt forests.

- **Size** to 85 mm tall x 8 mm thick.
- **Club** simple or sparsely branched, off-white to yellowish, smooth.
- **Club tip** rounded, not acute or crested.
- **Stem** to 4 mm thick, white becoming darker.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – *Clavulina subrugosa* is never amongst exotic vegetation like *C. rugosa* (p 18), nor does it grow in caespitose groups like the *Clavaria fragilis* group (p 12).

Habit: solitary or clustered.

Habitat: on the ground, always in eucalypt forests.



Charlie Price



Richard Hartland

Clavulina tasmanica Lumpy Coral

Fruit-body: small to medium, sparsely branched; branches are irregular and lumpy, deep ash-grey with a whitish to tan, bloom, widening at top, and often splits into pale tan tips.

- **Size** to 25 (70) mm tall to 5 (7) mm wide.
- **Branches** irregular, can be simple to sparsely branched (in pairs or occasionally in three's), greyish-brown with whitish to tan bloom, lumpy.
- **Branch tips** split at the apex into 2-6 finger-like forms, pale tan.
- **Stem** short, to 4 mm thick, pale, arises from an off-white basal mycelial pad.
- **Spore print** white.

Habit: gregarious to caespitose in groups of up to 4 individuals.

Habitat: mossy soil in wet eucalypt forests.



Bruce Fuhrer



Pat Grey

Clavulina vinaceocervina Dark-tipped Coral

Fruit-body: large, contorted or irregularly branched; branches are pink to fawn, and there are always some with dark tips.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 60 mm wide.
- **Branches** variable, often flattened, twisted or short, stout or thin, pink to fawn, wrinkled and knobby.
- **Branch tips** blunt or acute and thorn-like, dark (vinaceous).
- **Stem** to 10 mm tall x 3 mm thick, whitish, arises from a small white mycelial mat ca. 8 mm diameter.
- **Spore print** white.

Note - there are always some dark tips to identify the species; the fruit-body bruises brown.

Habit: solitary or clustered.

Habitat: on the ground amongst shrubs in eucalypt forests and rainforests.



De'ana Williams

Reiner Richter

***Clavulinopsis amoena* (*Clavaria amoena*)** **Yellow Club**

Fruit-body: tall, simple club; club is cylindrical, occasionally flattened, and bright yellow to orange.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 5 mm thick.
- **Club** simple, cylindrical but sometimes flattened and grooved, sometimes forked, bright yellow to orange.
- **Club tip** tapering, narrowly to broadly rounded.
- **Stem** to 17 mm long x 3 mm thick, translucent pale yellow, may or may not arise from a small whitish mycelial patch.
- **Spore print** white.

Note –*Clavulinopsis amoena* although sometimes flattened, is not twisted like the club of *C. depokensis* (p 24), and, unlike *C. fusiformis* (p 25), does not emerge in tight or caespitose clusters. If smaller than 70 mm tall x 4 mm wide, check *Ramariopsis simplex* (p 59).

Habit: solitary or gregarious in groups.

Habitat: on the ground amongst moss and rotting woody litter of native forests and woodlands.



Richard Hartland



Carol Page

Clavulinopsis corallinorosacea
(*Clavaria corallinorosacea*)
Rosy Coral Club

Fruit-body: medium, simple club; club is pale pink to reddish with a distinct red stem.

- **Size** to 80 mm tall x 3 mm thick.
- **Club** simple, smooth, cylindrical, with a pale pink fertile surface caused by the white powdery bloom of spores.
- **Club tip** blunt.
- **Stem** to 2 mm thick, red in contrast to the pale pink fertile top.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – old fruit-bodies lose the pale bloom and become completely red, and look similar to the all-red *C. sulcata* (p 26).

Habit: gregarious in small groups.

Habitat: on the ground amongst moss and litter of native forests.



De'ana Williams



John Eichler

***Clavulinopsis depokensis* (*Clavaria depokensis*) Bright Orange-yellow Club**

Fruit-body: medium, simple club; club is bright orange to yellow, flattened and twisted, and the tips often age brown.

- **Size** to 80 mm tall x 7 mm thick (usually much narrower).
- **Club** simple, cylindrical or flattened, sometimes divided, commonly twisted, bright orange to yellow, waxy or smooth.
- **Club tip** tapered or rounded, yellow, often ageing brown.
- **Stem** narrower than club, very short to 5 mm long, occasionally two may unite to form a single stem, lemon-yellow; arises from a small white mycelial pad.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – the *Clavulinopsis depokensis* club is twisted, with pointed, often brownish branch tips unlike the all-yellow *C. amoena* (p 22).

Habit: clustered in groups.

Habitat: on the ground in deep moist litter of eucalypt forests.



Alan Cressler

Web: en. Wikipedia.org

***Clavulinopsis fusiformis* (*Clavaria fusiformis*) Golden Spindles**

Fruit-body: tall, simple club; club is bright yellow with sharp, brown tips. They emerge in tight clusters from an underground fused base.

- **Size** to 150 mm tall x 10 mm thick.
- **Club** simple, often flattened, sometimes with longitudinal grooves, bright yellow to orange-yellow, fading with age, dry.
- **Club tip** sharply pointed, with brownish tints.
- **Stem** not defined, clusters of clubs arise from a white underground fused base.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – *Clavulinopsis fusiformis* clubs emerge in tight or caespitose clusters, unlike *C. amoena* (p 22) and *C. depokensis* (p 24) whose clubs emerge singly or gregariously.

Habit: clustered on an underground fused base.

Habitat: on the ground in native forests.



Ed Grey



Reiner Richter

***Clavulinopsis sulcata* (*Clavaria miniata*)** **Flame Fungus**

Fruit-body: tall, simple club, occasionally some branching; club is red to orange with a red to orange stem.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 5 mm thick.
- **Club** variously shaped – flattish, slender, contorted, colour varies from red, orange-pink to reddish orange, smooth.
- **Club tip** rounded or tapered, occasionally divided, red or yellowish.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 5 mm thick, no distinct colour difference between the stem and club.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – *Clavulinopsis sulcata* is always completely reddish, unlike *C. corallinorosea* (p 23) which has a pink club and red stem.

Habit: clustered in groups.

Habitat: on the ground amongst moss and litter of native forests.

Clavulinopsis sulcata



Claire Ferguson



Torbjorn von Strokirch

Deflexula fascicularis (*Pterula fascicularis*) Clustered Icicle

Fruit-body: small, spines single or clustered, pendulous; spines are whitish to dirty cream, sometimes with lilac tints. Grows on wood.

- **Size** to 15 mm long x 2 mm thick.
- **Spine** simple, sometimes branched, thin, finger-like, whitish to dirty cream, sometimes with lilac tints, smooth.
- **Spine tip** tapers to a point.
- **Stem** not clearly defined.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – *D. fascicularis* grows in a similar fashion (i.e. solitary or gregarious) to *Mucronella pendula* (p 31), but lacks a distinctive stem.

Habit: single or in clusters.

Habitat: on dead or living wood, often of a rough-barked species in native forests.



Gary Watson

Geoff Lay

Hericium coralloides (*H. clathroides*) Coral Tooth

Fruit-body: very large, multi-branched; a stem supports a mass of coral-like branches from which pendulous fragile spines are evenly distributed; white to creamy-yellow. Grows on dead wood.

- **Size** to 500 mm diameter x 250 mm depth.
- **Branches** wavy to drooping, white ageing creamy-yellow, felty to smooth, brittle, subdivide from the stem into thinner branches.
- **Spine** to 15 mm long x 1 mm diameter, slender, simple, pendulous, attached to side or underside of a branch, white to creamy-yellow, smooth, fragile, tapers to a pointed tip.
- **Stem** to 40 mm wide, lateral, white to cream, tough, smooth, rooted in substrate.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – a variant of this coral is more compact with shorter spines (see above image by Geoff Lay).

Habit: single or in groups.

Habitat: on dead wood of native or introduced trees in wet areas.



Paul George

Macrotyphula juncea Fairy Club

Fruit-body: medium, simple club; club is very thin, cylindrical, white to tan with a distinct brown stem arising directly from the substrate.

- **Size** to 80 mm tall x 2 mm thick.
- **Club** simple, cylindrical, thin, white to tan, smooth.
- **Club tip** blunt.
- **Stem** to 25 mm tall x 2 mm thick, brown, arising from a white mycelial disc or white rhizomorphs that are interwoven amongs the substrate.
- **Spore print** white.

Habit: scattered or in clusters.

Habitat: on wet leaves and litter in native forests.



Reiner Richter

Mucronella pendula Icicle

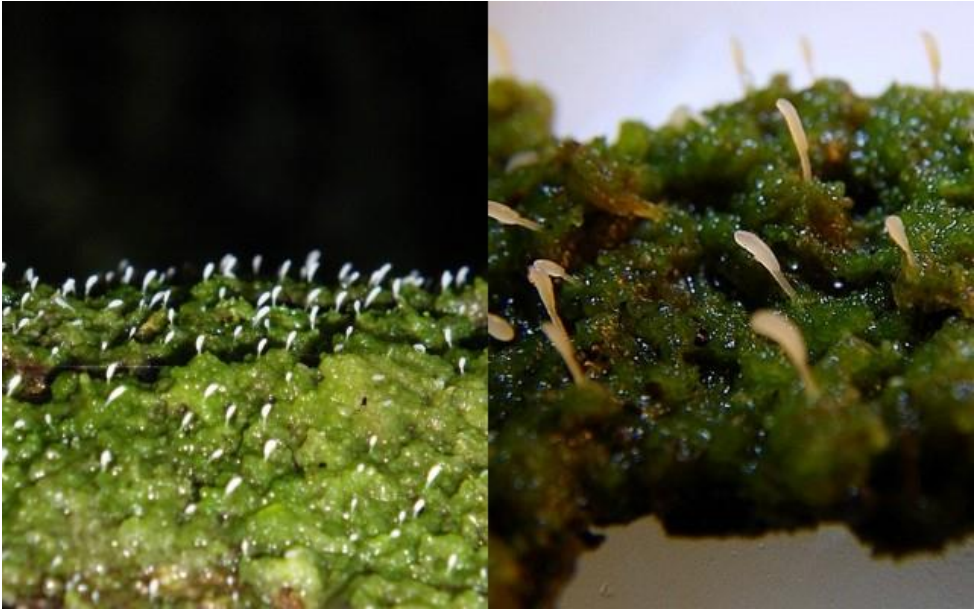
Fruit-body: small, single, pendulous spine; spine is translucent white with a distinct stem. Grows on fallen wood.

- **Size** to 25 mm long x 10 mm thick at base tapering to a point.
- **Spine** simple, spear-head shape, translucent white, smooth.
- **Spine tip** pointed.
- **Stem** to 10 mm long x 3 mm thick, narrow, cylindrical, white, gelatinous; stem remains after the club has liquefied and disappeared.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – *M. pendula* drips a watery substances from the spine tip.

Habit: single or in groups.

Habitat: on wet rotting wood, particularly hollow ends or lower surfaces of fallen trunks in sheltered positions in native forests.



John Eichler

Multiclavula mucida White-club Scum-lover

Fruit-body: tiny, simple club; club is slender and white. This is a lichenised fungus growing with a *Coccomyxa* alga on wood.

- **Size** to 13 mm tall x 2 mm thick.
- **Club** simple or once-branched, often flattened, white to cream, smooth.
- **Club tip** rounded, may brown when dehydrated.
- **Stem** difficult to distinguish from club, but is narrower and more translucent, and arises from a minute white mycelial pad.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – The white clubs growing in algal scum on wood differentiates *Multiclavula mucida* from *M. vernalis* (p 33) which has orange clubs and grows in algal scum on soil.

Habit: scattered or in groups.

Habitat: in algal scum (*Coccomyxa* sp.) on wet, debarked, rotting wood.



Web: Lichens of Belgium, Luxembourg and northern France.

Multiclavula vernalis Orange-club Scum-lover

Fruit-body: tiny, simple club usually unbranched; club is slender, pale orange with a distinctly paler stem. There is often a small white spot at the apex, like a cap. This is a lichenised fungus growing with a *Coccomyxa* alga on wet soil.

- **Size** to 14 mm tall x 2.5 mm thick.
- **Club** simple, pale orange, smooth, easily distinguished from stem.
- **Club tip** bluntly rounded.
- **Stem** to 7 mm long x 1.5 mm thick, pale yellowish, arises from a minute whitish mycelial pad on alga-covered soil.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – The orange clubs growing in algal scum on soil differentiates *Multiclavula vernalis* from *M. mucida* (p 32) which has white clubs and grows in algal scum on wood.

- **Habit:** groups.
- **Habitat:** in algal scum (*Coccomyxa* sp.) on wet, sandy or silty soil.



Reiner Richter

Pterula gracilis (*Typhula gracilis*) White Spikes

Fruit-body: small, simple spine; the translucent white spine is cylindrical and tapers to a point. Grows on dead wood and dead Tree-fern rachises.

- **Size** to 5 mm long x less than 1 mm thick.
- **Spine** simple, cylindrical, tapers to an acute point, translucent white, shiny, smooth.
- **Spine tip** acutely pointed.
- **Stem** absent.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – the spine base bristles with short hairs two-three microns in diameter.

Habit: single or in groups.

Habitat: on dead wood and often on dead rachises of Tree-ferns.

Macrotyphula juncea



Max Campbell



Ed Grey



Marc Campobasso

***Ramaria abietina* (*Phaeoclavulina abietina*)** **Green-staining Coral**

Fruit-body: small, multi-branched; branches are yellowish, staining green all over and grow in deep litter.

- **Size** to 35 mm tall x 25 mm wide.
- **Branches** upright, slender, yellowish becoming green, axils (branch divisions) narrowly round.
- **Branch tips** bluntly pointed, yellowish becoming green.
- **Stem** to 15 mm long x 2 mm thick, yellowish-green, white at base, arises from a white mycelial mat, white rhizomorphs present.
- **Spore print** yellow.

Note - because of its small-size and yellow-green colour, this coral could easily be overlooked or mistaken for a moss.

Habit: clusters, often in fairy rings.

Habitat: on the ground in deep litter.



Matthias Theiss

Ramaria anziana Orange and Salmon-pink Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are numerous, upright, orange or salmon-pink with yellow tips and arise from a single or compound stem.

- **Size** to 110 mm tall x 85 mm wide.
- **Branches** upright, slender, cylindrical, orange to salmon-pink, smooth or (rarely) finely grooved, axils (branch divisions) round to narrowly round.
- **Branch tips** slenderly pointed (awl-shaped) or with blunt protrusions, yellow.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 10 mm thick, often compound where several small stems fuse (to 30 mm x 20 mm). The stem is pale at base becoming orange or salmon-pink towards the branches, smooth to pruinose (finely powdery); aborted (undeveloped) branches present.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – the orange fruit-body, lack of fruity odour and the occasional compound stem differentiates *R. anziana* from the similar-looking *R. samuelsii* (p 48).

Habit: gregarious.

Habitat: on the ground in litter of eucalypt forests.



David Catcheside

Ramaria australiana var. *australiana* Wine-red Coral

Fruit-body: very large, multi-branched; at first the branches are compact, then more open (coralloid), and coloured vinaceous (wine red), ageing to brown. Stem whitish, possibly with yellow stains.

- **Size** to 160 mm tall x 160 mm wide.
- **Branches** long, vinaceous, main axils (branch divisions) variable from round to V-shaped.
- **Branch tips** rounded with 2-4 blunt protrusions, vinaceous becoming brown.
- **Stem** stout, to 50 mm long x 25 mm thick, cylindrical and deeply rooting, white becoming pallid pink, with possible yellow stains where bruised, smooth; aborted (undeveloped) branches present.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Habit: solitary or in 2's.

Habitat: in soil and amongst litter of wet eucalypt forests.



Richard Hartland



John Eichler

Ramaria botrytoides **Pink-tipped Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are white, cream to pale pink becoming yellow-brown with spore stains; branch tips pale pink to reddish. The stem is white.

- **Size** to 120 mm tall x 110 mm wide.
- **Branches** becoming long, white to cream to pale pink becoming yellow-brown with spore stains, main axils (branch divisions) round.
- **Branch tips** with blunt protrusions, pale pink to reddish.
- **Stem** to 40 mm long x 15 mm thick, white; aborted branches present.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note - immature specimens are more compact and have cream to pinkish short branches with reddish tips. Dr A Young has determined that *R. botrytis* does not occur in Australia and that all collections labelled *R. botrytis* are *R. botrytoides*.

Habit: solitary or in small groups.

Habitat: on the ground amongst litter in wet eucalypt forests.



Paul George

Ramaria capitata* var. *capitata **Pale Cauliflower Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are terraced to cauliflower-shaped, pale yellow to orange-yellow. The branch tips are viscid and yellow. The stem is off-white.

- **Size** to 150 mm tall x 150 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 10 mm thick, pale yellow, finely grooved longitudinally, axils (branch divisions) usually acute.
- **Branch tips** swollen and almost fused together when they form a completely closed surface, yellow, viscid.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 10 mm thick, solid, rounded, hairy, off-white.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – The fruit-body of *R. capitata* var. *capitata* bruises brown. This variety has viscid branch tips and soil particles often adhere to them, unlike the branch tips of *R. capitata* var. *ochraceosalmonicolor* (p 41) which are dry (non-viscid).

Habit: solitary to gregarious.

Habitat: on the ground in leaf litter of native forests.



Paul George



Richard Hartland

Ramaria capitata* var. *ochraceosalmonicolor **Salmon-pink Cauliflower Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched, cauliflower-shaped; branches are salmon-pink. The branch tips tend to fuse together and are dry (not viscid). The stem is off-white.

- **Size** to 150 mm tall x 150 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 10 mm thick, salmon-pink to apricot-pink, axils (branch divisions), usually acute.
- **Branch tips** fuse together forming a completely closed surface, yellowish-orange, dry (non viscid).
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 10 mm thick, rounded, off-white, hairy.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – The fruit-body of *R. capitata* var. *ochraceosalmonicolor* bruises brown. This variety has dry branch tips and soil particles do not adhere to them as it does on the viscid branch tips of *R. capitata* var. *capitata* (p 40).

Habit: solitary to gregarious.

Habitat: on the ground in leaf litter of native forests.



De'ana Williams



John Eichler

Ramaria fennica* var. *fumigata **Lavender Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches have tapering tips and vary in colour from lavender to violet-purple-brown, ageing to clay-pink.

- **Size** to 140 mm tall x 80 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 4 mm thick, cylindrical, lavender to purple; yellow brown spores show as brownish patches, axils (branch divisions) round.
- **Branch tips** tapered, two to four blunt protrusions, lavender to purple-brown.
- **Stem** to 40 mm long x 25 mm thick, white at base, becoming lavender near first branching.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – *R. fennica* var. *fumigata* with multiple thin branches is a similar size and colour to *R. versatilis* var. *latispora* (p 50), which has fewer and thicker branches. In comparison with the similarly-coloured *Clavaria zollingeri* (p 14), *R. fennica* var. *fumigata* has a larger fruit-body and different shaped branch tips.

Habit: solitary or in groups.

Habitat: on the ground in eucalypt forests.



Pat Grey



Richard Hartland

***Ramaria filicicola* (*R. gracilis*)**

Pale Buff Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are upright and buff with white tapered tips. It grows in woody litter.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 60 mm wide.
- **Branches** are very upright, buff, axils (branch divisions) usually rounded.
- **Branch tips** tapered with 2-5 sharp points or blunt protrusions, dull white.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 5 mm thick, pale buff, mostly smooth, arises from a white mycelial mat with abundant white root-like rhizomorphs, both of which are attached to woody litter.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – has a slightly aniseed smell. Dr A Young has determined that *R. gracilis* does not occur in Australia and that all Australian collections labelled *R. gracilis* are, in fact, *R. filicicola*.

Habit: solitary or in groups, often forming a ring.

Habitat: in woody litter on the ground with native or exotic trees and on Tree-fern stems.



De'ana Williams

Carol Page

***Ramaria flaccida* (*Phaeoclavulina flaccida*)** **Mustard-yellow Coral**

Fruit-body: medium, multi-branched; branches are upright and mustard-yellow with finely pointed tips.

- **Size** to 60 mm tall x 40 mm wide.
- **Branches** upright, mustard-yellow, arising close to ground level, axils (branch divisions) narrowly rounded.
- **Branch tips** finely pointed, slightly paler than branches.
- **Stem**, where present, to 20 mm long x 4 mm thick, often well below ground level, arises from a mass of cream rhizomorphs and occasionally a cream mycelial mat.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Habit: in groups, sometimes forming rings.

Habitat: on the ground in eucalypt forest and Tea-tree thickets.



Ed Grey

Ramaria lorithamnus **Yellow Tufted Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; yellow branches grow from a small whitish stem, and the fruit-body stains red-brown. It also tends to grow in clusters.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 40 mm wide (tufts to 80 mm wide).
- **Branches** mostly upright, cylindrical, yellow, ageing buff, smooth, axils (branch divisions) rounded.
- **Branch tips** dichotomous (divided into two) with rather blunt prongs, pale yellow.
- **Stem** to 25 mm long x 4 mm thick, whitish, smooth.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note - bruising of the fruit-body leaves a wine-red or brown stain on the surface.

Habit: in clusters and groups.

Habitat: on the ground in eucalypt forests.



Paul George

Richard Hartland

Ramaria ochracea (Phaeoclavulina ochracea) **Delicate Coral**

Fruit-body: medium, multi-branched; branches are fine, cream to pale ochre with pointed tips. Grows on wood and Tree-fern stems.

- **Size** to 55 mm tall x 35 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 1.5 mm thick, upright, fine, cream to pale ochre, axils (branch divisions) round.
- **Branch tips** pointed, usually dichotomous (divided into two) whitish, ageing pale tan.
- **Stem** to 30 mm long x 6 mm thick, thin, arises from a whitish mycelial ball or tuft.
- **Spore print** pale yellow-brown.

Habit: solitary or in small groups.

Habitat: on dead wood and Tree-fern stems.



Pat Grey

Ramaria pyrispora Flaring Branched Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched, coralloid; branches are pale tan to buff, tips off-white with pointed or blunt protrusions.

- **Size** to 110 mm tall x 80 mm wide.
- **Branches** flare as they ascend, somewhat flattened, pale tan to buff, axils (branch divisions) narrowly round.
- **Branch tips** have pointed or blunt protrusions, pale almost white.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 10 mm thick, tapering down to an acute somewhat hairy base, white, soil and litter attached, sparse white mycelium was observed but not white rhizomorphs; aborted (undeveloped) branches present.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – Does not colour when bruised. *Ramaria pyrispora* can be differentiated from the similar-looking *R. filicicola* (p 43) by the absence of a mycelial mat attached to woody litter. There are two other similar yellowish *Ramaria* species – *R. subtilis* var. *microspora* and *R. xanthosperma* var. *australiana* (p 52).

Habit: groups, often forming a ring.

Habitat: in ground amongst the litter in wet eucalypt forests.



Matthias Theiss

Ramaria samuelsii Upright Pink Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; compact fruit-body, branches are very upright, pink with yellow tips, and a distinct stout stem.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 60 mm wide.
- **Branches** very upright, cylindrical, longitudinally grooved, pink, axils (branch divisions) roundish.
- **Branch tips** consist of 4 blunt, rounded protrusions, bright yellow fading to pale yellow; bruises a pale wine-colour.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 10 mm thick, stout, white becoming pink towards branches, bruises a weak brown; aborted (undeveloped) branches present.
- **Odour** weakly fragrant.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note - the pink branches, fruity odour, and very upright structure of *Ramaria samuelsii* differentiates it from the similar-looking *R. anziana* (p 37).

Habit: gregarious.

Habitat: on the ground amongst humus, and leaf litter of eucalypt woodland and forest.



Richard Hartland

Ramaria stuntzii* var. *gelatinosa **Red-tipped Cauliflower Coral**

Fruit-body: medium, cauliflower-shaped; branches are pink to bright pink, and branch tips dry and bright red. The stem is hairy and the white flesh distinctly gelatinous.

- **Size** to 70 mm tall x 60 mm wide.
- **Branches** cylindrical, pink to bright pink, axils (branch divisions) narrowly rounded.
- **Branch tips** crowded, rounded, ending in several blunt protrusions, bright red, dry.
- **Stem** 20 mm long x 15 mm thick, stout, white becoming pinkish near branching, covered with white matted hairs; white aborted (undeveloped) branches present.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – the white flesh is distinctly gelatinous.

Habit: usually in a fairy ring but occasionally solitary.

Habitat: on the ground in leaf litter of dry eucalypt forests.



Richard Hartland

Ed Grey

Ramaria versatilis* var. *latispora **Purple Vinaceous Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are purple to vinaceous purple with blunt purple tips.

- **Size** to 120 mm tall x 80 mm wide.
- **Branches** 2-5 major branches, stout to 15 mm thick, purple to vinaceous purple to cinnamon (spore cover), axils (branch divisions) rounded.
- **Branch tips** short blunt processes, purple.
- **Stem**, where present, to 30 mm long x 20 mm thick, off-white.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note - flesh at base of stem stains yellowish. The 2-5 thick main branches of *Ramaria versatilis* var. *latispora* differentiate it from the similarly sized and coloured *R. fennica* var. *fumigata* (p 42) which has multiple, thinner branches.

Habit: solitary.

Habitat: on the ground amongst litter of eucalypt forests.



Pat Harrisson

Ramaria watlingii **Pale Yellow Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are dark straw-yellow to pale ochraceous, dichotomous branch tips are often at right-angles to one another.

- **Size** to 120 mm tall x 120 mm wide.
- **Branches** numerous, cylindrical to flattened, dark straw-yellow to pale ochraceous, axils (branch divisions) broadly-rounded.
- **Branch tips** bluntly rounded, dichotomous (divided into two) often at right angles, or an obtuse angle, yellow to very pale ochraceous.
- **Stem** to 30 mm long x 15 mm thick, white to yellowish; aborted (undeveloped) branches present.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note - no colour change with bruising. *R. watlingii* is distinguished from other similar yellow species by the paired branch tips dividing at right angles to one another.

Habit: gregarious.

Habitat: amongst litter on disturbed ground by the roadside in dry eucalypt forest (Victoria) or cool temperate rainforest with Eucalypts (Tasmania).



Hai Wu



(colour has faded with age)

Ramaria xanthosperma* var. *australiana **Sulphur-tipped Coral**

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; branches are cream-coloured to ivory; branch tips are often palmate, sulphur-yellow; stem stains reddish when bruised.

- **Size** to 100 mm tall x 600 mm wide.
- **Branches** cylindrical, axils (branch divisions) narrowly rounded, cream-coloured to ivory.
- **Branch tips** finely divided, becoming palmate or mitten-shaped with age, sulphur-yellow.
- **Stem** to 20 mm long x 10 mm thick, white to off-white, pruinose when protected, stains reddish when bruised.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Note – the unique combination of sulphur-yellow branch tips, white to ivory branches and reddish staining on the stem differentiates it from other Australian yellowish *Ramaria* in the group (*R. pyrispora* p 47, *R. subtilis* var. *microspora* (yet to be seen again, since it was first collected).

Habit: solitary.

Habitat: on ground in native sclerophyl forest and woodlands.



Clive Shirley

***Ramaria zippelii* (*Phaeoclavulina zippelii*)**
Blue-tipped Coral

Fruit-body: large, multi-branched; upright branches are buff and the tips occasionally blue tinted. All supported on a tall brownish stem.

- **Size** to 110 mm tall x 60 mm wide.
- **Branches** cylindrical, buff, smooth, axils (branch divisions) round and deeply u-shaped.
- **Branch tips** tapering, rounded, olivaceous buff tinted with a distinct greyish-blue colour extending 5 mm down from tip.
- **Stem** to 45 mm high x 12 mm thick, cylindrical, robust, dark brown (umber), smooth to minutely felty; rhizomorphs absent.
- **Spore print** yellow-brown.

Habit: grouped in tufts, also forms rings.

Habitat: in ground

Ramaria filicicola (*R. gracilis*)



Carol Page



Reiner Richter

Carol Page

Ramariopsis crocea Delicate Yellow Coral

Fruit Body: small, multi-branched; branches are fine, often antler-like and bright yellow to orange.

- **Size** to 50 mm tall x 20 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 1.5 mm thick, dichotomous (divided into two) becoming ‘antler-like’, yellow to orange, axils (branch divisions) round.
- **Branch tips** rounded, yellow.
- **Stem** to 30 mm x 2 mm thick, golden yellow to orange like the branches, base fluffy with white mycelium.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – the jelly *Calocera viscosa* Yellow Staghorn looks similar, but grows on wood, has a waxy texture and is viscid when fresh.

Habit: solitary or clustered.

Habitat: usually on the ground in moss and litter of native forests but also on Tree-fern stems.



John Eichler



Richard Hartland

Ramariopsis kunzei White Coral

Fruit Body: medium, multi-branched; branches are white, thin, brittle, becoming pink-tinged with age, branch tips are blunt and two-pronged; stem white.

- **Size** to 80 mm tall x 70 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 2 mm thick, dichotomous (divided into two), slightly flattened, white, smooth, brittle and fragile, axils (branch divisions) round.
- **Branch tips** two blunt protrusions – round to pointed, white, ageing yellowish.
- **Stem**, where present, to 10 mm long x 3 mm thick, white, scurfy with flakes and scales; arises from white basal mycelium and some white rhizomorphs.
- **Spore print** white.

Habit: solitary, in groups or small clusters.

Habitat: on the ground in litter of wet native forests and on *Dicksonia antarctica* Smooth Tree-fern stems.



Richard Hartland



Reiner Richter

Ramariopsis pulchella Small Mauve Coral

Fruit Body: small, multi-branched; branches are thin supported on a thin stem. The whole fruit-body is mauve-purple to deep lavender.

- **Size** to 20 mm tall x 15 mm wide.
- **Branches** to 1 mm thick, dichotomous (divided into two), rich mauve-violet, smooth, axils (branch divisions) deeply rounded.
- **Branch tips** two blunt protrusions, deep mauve.
- **Stem** short, to 15 mm thick, tapering slightly downwards, pale mauve to white at base, bruises brown; arises from a very small, pale mauve mycelial pad.
- **Spore print** white.

Habit: solitary or in small groups.

Habitat: on the ground in litter of wet native forests.



Clive Shirley

Ramariopsis ramarioides
Small Red-brown Coral

Fruit-body: small, multi-branched like a tree; branches are stout, brown to rich red-brown, and divide into two.

- **Size** to 50 mm tall x 60 mm thick.
- **Branches** divide repeatedly (to 4 times), upright, dichotomous (divided into two) throughout, flesh-brown to red-brown, axils (branch divisions) round.
- **Branch tips** short, to 5 mm long, awl-shaped (slenderly pointed), concolourous with branches or redder.
- **Stem** to 20 mm tall x 4 mm thick, distinct, tapering downwards, at top concolourous with branches becoming pallid, pinkish tan ageing to chamois at base.
- **Spore print** white.

Habit: single or in small groups

Habitat: on ground in native forests.



Reiner Richter

Ramariopsis simplex Thin Yellow Club

Fruit-body: medium, simple club; club is yellow with an elongated and thin structure which is distinct from the stem.

- **Size** to 70 mm tall x 4 mm thick.
- **Club** often laterally compressed, bright yellow-gold to light orange-yellow, distinct from stem.
- **Club tip** rounded, may be slightly paler than the club.
- **Stem** yellow to ochraceous-yellow; base has a thin covering of appressed white mycelium.
- **Spore print** white.

Note – its size, club shape and stem base distinguishes it from *Clavulinopsis amoena* (white mycelial pad) (p 22), *C. depokensis* (very flattened curved branches, tips sharply pointed, brown, white mycelial pad) (p 24) and *C. fusiformis* (clubs emerge in tight clusters) (p 25).

Habit: gregarius to subcaespitose in small groups (up to 4 individuals).

Habitat: on ground in native forests.

Clavulinopsis depokensis



Torbjorn von Strokirch

Clavulinopsis fusiformis



Alan Cressler



John Eichler



Richard Hartland

Tremellodendropsis pusio Needle-branched Coral

Fruit Body: medium, multi-branched; branches are long, extremely slender, white, pinkish or pale buff with pointed tips, supported on a long, whitish stem.

- **Size** to 70 mm tall x 50 mm wide.
- **Branches** extremely slender, less than 1 mm thick, dichotomous (divided into two), upright, whitish, flesh-pink to pale buff, axils (branch divisions) acute.
- **Branch tips** pointed, whitish to pale buff.
- **Stem** to 11 mm long x 1 mm thick, tough, whitish to pale buff; base arises from a small, white mycelial patch.
- **Spore print** white.

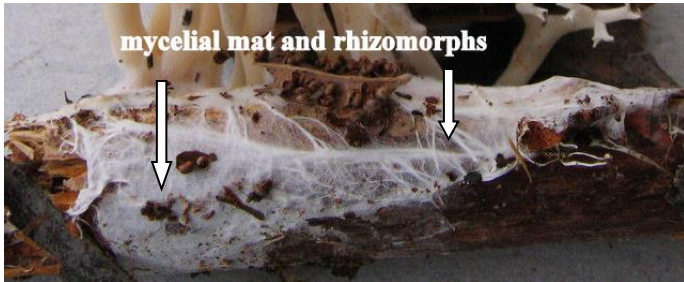
Note – stem and lower branches stain brownish.

Habit: groups.

Habitat: on the ground in native forests.

CORAL FUNGI MYCELIAL FORMS

In the book we note several types of mycelium attached to the stem bases of Coral fungi. The illustrations show some of these forms.





Tremellodendropsis pusio



Richard Hartland

Notes on the Yellow *Ramaria* Group

We note in *Ramaria pyrispora* that there are two other similar yellowish *Ramaria* species – *R. subtilis* var. *microspora* and *R. xanthosperma* var. *australiana*. AM Young notes that the specimens found were sent to the Edinburgh herbarium and no material was deposited in Melbourne. There are also no colour images. Below are some of the characters noted AM Young 2014, QMS web site

	<i>Ramaria xanthosperma</i> var. <i>australiana</i>	<i>Ramaria subtilis</i> var. <i>microspora</i>
<i>Fruit-body</i>	100 x 600 mm	100 x 500 mm, fasciculate tufts (ca 80 mm diam),
<i>Major branches</i>	cream- to ivory-coloured	wholly yellow (chrome yellow <i>sensu</i> Watling)
<i>Branch tips (apices)</i>	sulphur-yellow, expanding into palmate or mitten-shaped forms	pure yellow (canary yellow <i>sensu</i> watling), tapered but rounded
<i>Stipe (stem)</i>	20 x 10 mm, small, sharply tapered to a rounded base, white to off-white -. stains plum-coloured or carmine.	30 x 20 mm, stout, white (Petersen & Watling note brunnescence - browning - when handled or in age),
<i>Flesh</i>	white, suffused red from surface stains	white
<i>Habitat</i>	wet sclerophyll forest. (but Hai Wu saw it in dry eucalypt woodland)	forest
<i>Known distribution</i>	ACT (Blue Range Block, nr Cotter Dam); Vic (Gembrook, Olinda).	ACT (Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve, April) Vic (Gembrook, May).
<i>Notes</i>	easily recognised by bright sulphur-yellow branch tips white to cream-coloured branches and plum to reddish stains on stipe.	wholly yellow apices and branches, but stem is white - thus separates the speces from both <i>Ramaria lorithamnus</i> and other yellowish taxa

R. pyrispora has flared pale tan to buff branches, with whitish pointed to rounded tips; stipe thick, tapering down to an acute somewhat hairy base, white. Not such a definite yellow colour as the above species.

Also note the following yellowish *Ramaria* spp.:

R. capitata var. *capitata* has swollen. almost fused together branch tips.

R. watlingii has dichotomous (divide into two) branch tips that are at right angles to one another.

SCIENTIFIC NAMES AND DERIVATIONS OF CORAL FUNGI

NAME	MEANING
<i>Aphelaria</i> <i>complanata</i>	Away from the sun flattened
<i>Artomyces</i> <i>austropiperatus</i> <i>candelabrus</i> <i>colensoi</i>	Close to fungus southern peppery candelabra after William Colenso
<i>Clavaria</i> <i>acuta</i> <i>alboglobospora</i> <i>fragilis</i> <i>miniata</i> <i>tenuipes</i> <i>zollingeri</i>	Pertaining to club acute, sharp pointed white round spores fragile painted with red lead thin stalked named after Heinrich Zollinger
<i>Clavicornia</i> <i>taxophila</i>	Crown-tipped Club likes a Yew (tree)
<i>Clavulina</i> <i>cinerea</i> <i>coralloides</i> <i>cristata</i> <i>rugosa</i> <i>subrugosa</i> <i>tasmanica</i> <i>vinaceocervina</i>	Almost Clavaria ashen, ash-coloured similar to coral having a crest rugose (wrinkled) almost rugose (wrinkled) of/from Tasmania wine-red to deer-brown
<i>Clavulinopsis</i> <i>amoena</i> <i>corallinorosacea</i> <i>depokensis</i> <i>fuiiformis</i> <i>sulcata</i>	Resembling a Clavulina pleasant, cheerful rosy coral from Depok (Indonesian city) spindle-shaped longitudinally grooved
<i>Deflexula</i> <i>fascicularis</i>	Curving downwards like a small bundle
<i>Hericium</i> <i>coralloides</i> <i>clathroides</i>	Pertaining to hedgehog similar to coral like iron grating or lattice
<i>Macrotyphula</i> <i>juncea</i>	Large small cloud like a rush
<i>Mucronella</i> <i>pendula</i>	Small with a sharp tip hanging down

NAME***Multiclavula****mucida**vernalis****Phaeoclavulina******Pterula****gracilis****Ramaria****abietina**anziana**australiana* var. *australiana**botrytoides**botrytis**capitata* var. *capitata**capitata* var. *ochraceo-*
*salmonicolor**fennica* var. *fumigata**filicicola**flaccida**gracilis**lorithamnus**ochracea**pyrispora**samuelsii**stuntzii* var. *gelatinosa**subtilis* var. *mircrospora**versatilis* var. *latispora**watlingii**xanthosperma* var. *australiana**zippelii****Ramariopsis****crocea**kunzei**pulchella**ramarioides**simplex****Tremellodendropsis****pusio****Typhula*****MEANING**

Many diminutive clubs

slimy

pertaining to spring

A dark Clavulina**Little wing**

slender

Pertaining to branches

fir tree (associated with)

?pertaining to elderly female

Australian

like a bunch of grapes

Pertaining to a bunch of grapes

related to head

related to head, yellow-
salmon colour

of Finland; smoke-colour (grey with brown)

like a fern stalk

flaccid (limp)

gracile (slender, thin)

victor's wreath

yellow

pear-shaped spores

Samuels - mycologist

after Daniel Elliot Stuntz, mycologist;
gelatinous

delicate var. small spored

versatile; large spored

after Roy Watling, mycologist

yellow-spored var. australian

pointed or narrow end

Similar to Ramaria

yellow like saffron (crocus)

Kunz - mycologist

very beautiful

like a *Ramaria*

simple

Resembling a trembling tree

stalked

Small cloud

SPORE SIZE AND SHAPE				
Species	Size	Shape	Ornamentation	Loc/Ref
<i>Aphelaria complanata</i>	4.5-6.5x 4-5.5 µm	globose, sub-globose to broadly ellipsoid	smooth	<i>Cleland 1931 (1976 reprint)</i>
<i>Artomyces austropiperatus</i>	5-5.5x 4-5 µm	broadly ellipsoidal	finely roughened	Cambarville 2015
<i>Artomyces colensoi</i>	4.5x3 µm	ellipsoidal	finely roughened	Toorong Falls 2014
<i>Clavaria fragilis</i> group	4.5-7x 2.5-4 µm	ellipsoidal	smooth	<i>California Fungi</i>
<i>Clavaria tenuipes</i>	10-12x 6-6.5 µm	elongate, ellipsoid	smooth	<i>Mushroom Observer 2013</i>
<i>Clavaria zollingeri</i>	5.5-6.5x 4.5-5 µm	spherical to broadly ovate	smooth with short hilar appendage	Ned's Gully 2016 sample
<i>Clavicornona taxophila</i>	3-4x 2-3 µm	subglobose to broadly ellipsoidal	smooth	<i>Phillips (2006)</i>
<i>Clavulina cinerea</i>	6-9.5x 5.5-9 µm	globose to subglobose	smooth	2015 Bunyip, Wanderslore, Jumping Creek samples
<i>Clavulina coralloides</i>	7-11x 6.5-10 µm	subglobose	smooth with apiculus	Dom Dom Saddle 2016
<i>Clavulina rugosa</i>	7-14x 7.5-12 µm	subglobose to broadly elliptical	smooth with apiculus	Dom Dom Saddle 2016
<i>Clavulina subrugosa</i>	7-9x 6-7 µm	broadly ovate to broadly ellipsoidal	smooth with small apiculus	Kurths Kiln
<i>Clavulina tasmanica</i>	8.5-12.5x 7-10.5 µm	subglobose to very broadly ellipsoidal	smooth	Petersen (1986)
<i>Clavulina vinaceocervina</i>	8-8.5(-9) x 7-8(9.5) µm	subglobose to very broadly ovoid	smooth	<i>Cleland 1916</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis amoena</i>	6-7x 4-4.5 µm	Ellipsoid to ovate	smooth	<i>Petersen 1988</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis corallino-rosacea</i>	6-7x 3.5-5 µm	ellipsoidal	smooth with small hilar appendage	<i>Petersen 1988</i>

SPORE SIZE AND SHAPE				
Species	Size	Shape	Ornamentation	Loc/Ref
<i>Clavulina depokensis</i>	5.5-6.5x 4-5 µm	ellipsoid to ovate	smooth	<i>Petersen (1979)</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis fusiformis</i>	5-9x 4.5-9 µm	subglobose, globose to broadly ovate	smooth with prominent apiculus	<i>Petersen (1968)</i>
<i>Clavulinopsis sulcata</i>	8-8.5x 3.5-4 µm	subglobose, globose to broadly ovate	smooth	Ned's Gully 2014 sample
<i>Deflexula fascicularis</i>	9-10.5x9- 10 µm	globose	smooth	<i>Australian Subtropical Fungi</i>
<i>Hericium coralloides</i>	6-7x4.5-5.5 µm	elliptical to subglobose	smooth to finely punctate	<i>Australian Subtropical Fungi</i>
<i>Macrotrophula juncea</i>	7-10x 3.5-5 µm	ellipsoid	smooth	<i>Mushroom Expert 2017</i>
<i>Mucronella pendula</i>	6-9x 4.5- 6.7 µm	broadly ellipsoid	smooth	<i>Mycobank</i>
<i>Multiclavula mucida</i>	4.5-7.5x 2-3 µm	cylindrical to sub-reniform	smooth	<i>Petersen 1986</i>
<i>Multiclavula vernalis</i>	6-8.5x 3-3.5 µm	cylindrical to sub-reniform	smooth	<i>Petersen & Kantvilas 1986</i>
<i>Pterula gracilis</i>	9-11x 4.5-6 µm	oblong	smooth	<i>Mycobank</i>
<i>Ramaria abietina</i>	6-8.5x 2.5-5 µm	pip-shaped to narrowly ellipsoidal	finely roughtened with prominent curved hilar appendage	Coburg 2015; <i>Young 2014</i>
<i>Ramaria anziana</i>	7-10.5x 3.5-5(6) µm	long oval or ellipsoid	finely roughened (warts and ridges)	Blackwood 2016; <i>qldfungi.org. au</i>

SPORE SIZE AND SHAPE				
Species	Size	Shape	Ornamentation	Loc/Ref
<i>Ramaria australiana</i> var. <i>australiana</i>	10.5-14.5x 3.5-5.5 µm	elongate, ellipsoid	finely roughened	<i>Young 2014</i>
<i>Ramaria botrytoides</i>	9.5-12x 3.5-5 µm	ellipsoid to cylindrical	finely roughened with prominent curved hilar appendage	Gembrook 2014, Black- wood 2015, Bunyip 2015
<i>Ramaria capitata</i> var. <i>capitata</i>	10.5-15x 5-6 µm	broadly ellipsoidal to cylindrical	finely roughened (wartly)	Gembrook 2014 sample
<i>Ramaria capitata</i> var. <i>ochraceo-salmonicolor</i>	8-13x 3.5-6 µm	broadly ellipsoidal to cylindrical	finely roughened (wartly)	<i>Cleland 1931</i> (1976 reprint), <i>qldfungi.org.au</i>
<i>Ramaria fennica</i> var. <i>fumigata</i>	8-12(-13.5)x 4.5-6(-7) µm	elongate ellipsoid	finely roughened (wartly) with prominent curved hilar appendage	Blackwood 2017; <i>qldfungi.org.au</i>
<i>Ramaria filicicola</i>	(-5)6-7x 3-4.5 µm	ellipsoidal	finely roughened (warts and ridges) with prominent curved hilar appendage	Jumping Creek 2015 <i>Young 2014</i>
<i>Ramaria flaccida</i>	6-9x 3-5.5 µm	elongate- ellipsoidal to tear-drop shaped	finely roughened (spiny)	Bunyip 2016; <i>Mycobank</i> <i>web site</i>
<i>Ramaria lorithamnus</i>	6-7(-8.5)x 3.5-6 µm	nearly oval to ellipsoidal	finely roughened (wartly)	Macedon 2015 sampl; <i>qldfungi.org.au</i>
<i>Ramaria ochracea</i>	5.5-7x 2.5-4 µm	ellipsoidal to tear-drop shaped	finely roughened (spiny)	Badger Weir 2015 sample; <i>Young 2014</i>

SPORE SIZE AND SHAPE				
Species	Size	Shape	Ornamentation	Loc/Ref
<i>Ramaria pyriformis</i>	8.5-10.5x 4.5-6 µm	ellipsoid to elongate ellipsoid	finely roughened (wartly)	E Grey, J Hubregtse - Lorne 2017; <i>qldfungi.org. au</i>
<i>Ramaria samuelsii</i>	8.5-12.5x 4.5-6 µm	broadly ellipsoid to elongate ellipsoid	finely roughened (wartly and ridged) with prominent curved hilar appendage	<i>qldfungi.org. au</i>
<i>Ramaria stuntzii</i> var. <i>gelatinosa</i>	7.6-10.6x 3.4-5.3 µm	narrowly ellipsoid	randomly scattered low warts	<i>qldfungi.org. au</i>
<i>Ramaria versatilis</i> var. <i>latispora</i>	9.5-12(-13)x 4-6 µm	ellipsoidal	conspicuously roughened	<i>Mycobank web site; Young 2005</i>
<i>Ramaria watlingii</i>	8-12x 4.5-6 µm	ellipsoid to narrowly ellipsoid to sub- cylindrical	finely roughened (wartly and ridged)	<i>qldfungi.org. au</i>
<i>Ramaria zippelii</i>	11-13.5x 6-7 µm	ellipsoid to lacrymiform (tear-shape)	finely roughened	<i>qldfungi.org. au</i>
<i>Ramaria xanthosperma</i> var. <i>australis</i>	11-13.5x 4.5-6 µm	cylindrical	finely roughened (flattened warts or ridges)	Young 2014
<i>Ramariopsis crocea</i>	2.5-3.5x 2.5-3 µm	sub-globose	finely roughened	Ned's Gully 2015
<i>Ramariopsis kunzei</i>	5.5-6x 3.5 µm	ellipsoidal	finely roughened (spiny)	Mount Worth 2015
<i>Ramariopsis pulchella</i>	3.5-4x 3 µm	broadly ellipsoidal	finely roughened (spiny)	<i>Petersen 1988</i>
<i>Ramariopsis ramarioides</i>	3.5-4.5x3- 3.5 µm	ovate to ellipsoid	finely roughened (spiny)	<i>Petersen 1988</i>
<i>Ramariopsis simplex</i>	6-7x5-6.5 µm	globose to subglobose	smooth	<i>Petersen 1988</i>
<i>Tremellodendropsis pusio</i>	9.5-16x 4.5-7 µm	oblong-ellipsoid	smooth	<i>Crawford 1954</i>

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Ramaria ochracea



Torbjorn von Strokirch

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Ramaria lorithamnus



Reiner Richter

Ramaria flaccida



De'ana Williams

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Ramariopsis pulchella



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Clavaria zollingeri



Carol Page

Clavaria tenuipes



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Ramaria australiana* var. *australiana



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Ramaria botrytoides



Torbjorn von Strokirch

Deflexula fascicularis



Reiner Richter