oak heart rot fungus
*Inonotus dryophilus*

**Kingdom:** Fungi  
**Phylum:** Basidiomycota  
**Class:** Basidiomycetes  
**Order:** Hymenochaetales  
**Family:** Hymenochaetaceae

**ILLINOIS STATUS**
common, native

**FEATURES**
The fruiting body is brown to red-brown above and white below. It is triangular to hoof-shaped with the upper surface sloping down, and the lower surface sloping up. Concentric color bands are apparent on the upper surface.

**BEHAVIORS**
This species produces a fruiting body on living oak trees that degrades quickly following spore dispersal. The fungus enters the tree most often through branch stubs but can also enter through tree wounds. It can create extensive decay in mature trees.

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Aquatic Habitats
bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats
bottomland forests; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats
edge