

oak heart rot fungus *Inonotus dryophilus*

Kingdom: Fungi

Division: 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.

HABITATS

Aquatic Habitats

bottomland forests

Woodland Habitats

bottomland forests; upland deciduous forests

Prairie and Edge Habitats

edge

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