

Ramaria citrinocuspidata A.M.Young & N.A.Fechner, Aust. Mycol. **28**: 65 (2009)

A.M.Young, Apr. 2014

Fruiting body 4.5–8.0 × 3.0–7.5 cm (height × width); *apices* bright lemon-yellow, short and blunt-rounded, never inflating or fusing, dichotomous to ±cuspitate in groups of five, dry at all stages; *branches* at first white where they leave the stipe, but then soon yellow tinted upwards, with the yellow becoming more intense on the branches just below the apices, major branches about four in number, then producing clusters of smaller branches, angular near the stipe becoming cylindrical and then ‘compressed’, smooth, dry; *axils* deep V-shaped but rounded at the base of the V, without groove running from the axil down the branch; *stipe* 3.0–5.0 × 1.0–2.0 cm, white, ±cylindrical, smooth; *aborted branches* present. *Flesh* white, solid, ± fibrous, without any colour change. *Odour* ‘mushroomy’. *Taste* not recorded. *Rhizomorphs* absent, or if present then very poorly developed, white, soft, short.

Macrochemical reactions: not recorded.

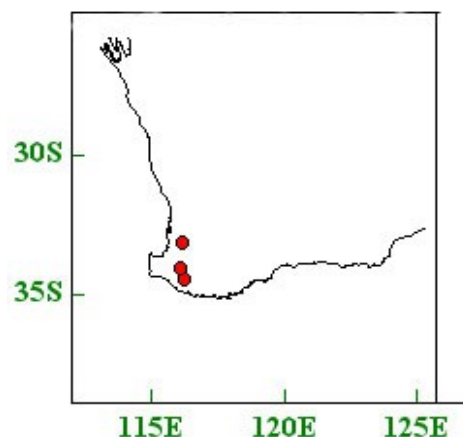
Basidiospores (6.5–)7.9–10.4(–11.0) × 4.0–6.8(–7.2) μm, mean 8.9 × 5.4 μm, Q: 1.4–2.0(–2.3), mean Q: 1.68, broadly oval to ellipsoidal, frequently uniguttulate, ornamentation of low and randomly scattered warts, profile very finely rough and uneven, hilar appendix moderately prominent; *basidia* (46–)52–79(–90) × 9.5–13 μm, mean 67.6 × 10.8 μm, 4-spored, clamps absent; *sterigmata* up to 7 μm long, conical and straight to slightly curved; *trama* composed of thin-walled, cylindrical to inflated, septate hyphae 5–15 μm diam., clamps absent; *ampulliform septa* present, 8–15 μm diam., stalactitic ornamentation sometimes present or only where the next hyphal segment is attached; *gleoplerous hyphae* frequent, often consisting of long refractive hyphae with a swollen ending suggestive of an ampulliform septum about to form.

Habit: forming compact, fasciculate masses on soil amongst deep litter in open forest and often almost buried in the litter.

Habitat: open forest (comprising at least *Eucalyptus marginata*, *Corymbia calophylla*, *Banksia grandis*, *Xanthorrhoea preissii* and *Podocarpus drouynianus*).

Known distribution: WA.

Notes: Identification of this species should be fairly simple. It's semiburied habit, the lemon-yellow very clustered apices with paler branches and the complete lack of colour changes on bruising all separate this species from the remainder of the "yellow taxa". The apices are never viscid. *Ramaria citrinocuspidata* has a resemblance to a cauliflower, but it is open coralloid and does not produce the closed surface as found in *R. capitata* var. *ochraceosalmonicolor*.



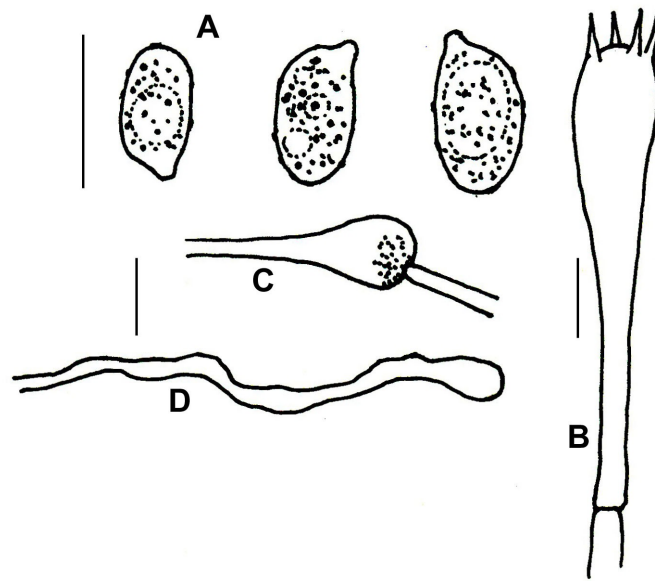
Ramaria citrinocuspidata. Known Australian distribution.



Ramaria citrinocuspidata, showing the thick, white stipe and densely clustered habit, partially buried in litter. © R.Robinson.



Ramaria citrinocuspidata, displaying the bright yellow, cuspidate apices. © R.Robinson.



Ramaria citrinocuspadata, microdata. **A**, basidiospores; **B**, basidium; **C**, ampulliform septum; **D**, gleoplerous hypha. Each scale bar = 10 μ m. © A.M.Young.

Acknowledgements

This document was produced from material contained in the 2007 Interim Submission (The Taxonomy of genus *Ramaria* in Australia: coralloid macrofungi) forwarded to ABRS at the cessation of the *Ramaria* project. ABRS is both acknowledged and thanked for their kindness in permitting me to make this information available to the Australian mycological community.

Dr Richard Robinson is also thanked for his generosity in making available the images of *R. citrinocuspadata* for this publication on the QMS website.