

Marasmius hypophaeus



Marasmius hypophaeus © Frances Guard

Cap: obtusely conical, becoming plano-convex with age; 4-8mm diameter; saffron orange to apricot, usually darker at the centre, surface dry, dull, with plicate margin.

Stipe: tough thin wiry; 20 - 40 × 0.2mm; apex pale cream becoming orange to brown to dark brown/black at base, glabrous, insertion usually with small whitish subiculum.

Gills: free to adnexed, subdistant, (12 – 14), with occasional lamellulae only, moderately broad 1-2mm, cream coloured with a narrow pale orange margin.

Flesh: very thin, white

Spores: Spore print white, spores narrowly clavate, (14.3-)15.3 – 17.3 (-17.7)µm × (3.7-) 3.9 – 4.4 (-4.6)µm, Q =3.3 -4.3, slightly curved, hyaline, thin walled, inamyloid.

Basidia: not seen, gill edge appears sterile

Cheilocystidia: very common, broom cells of Siccus type, cylindrical or subclavate, main body 11-14 × 5-6µm, thin-walled with apical setules, crowded 4-6 × 1-1.5µm, irregular, orange and thick-walled.

Pleurocystidia: Of two types a) very common, large, cylindrical to clavate, with attenuated apex and occasionally strangulate up to 25 X 7µm, inamyloid and thin-walled; and b) rare Siccus type broom cells, 11-11.6 X 7µm thin-walled body, with apical setules 3-5 X 1µm, irregular and thin to thick-walled.

Pileipellis: Hymeniderm of Siccus type broom cells, cylindrical 17-18 X 7µm thin walled body, with crowded apical setules 4-5 X 0.8-2µm irregular and thick-walled, also broadly clavate broom cells, main body 11 X 6.5µm with very crowded thick-walled setules of 3-5 X 1-1.5µm.

Caulocystidia: At upper end of one stipe examined, rare caulocystidia of Siccus type broom cells found, thin walled cylindrical to clavate, 20-22 X 4.5-8µm body with thin to thick-walled setules 3-5 X 1µm. The remainder of the stipe consisted of thick walled parallel hyphae.

Substrate: Casuarina needles, rainforest leaves and small twigs.

Habitat: Subtropical rainforest and moist garden areas

Notes: This *Marasmius* is one of the most common in the Maleny area, and it appears regularly after summer rains, often in groups of scores.

Collections examined: Collected by F Guard (Spec.F2012035 ->BRI). Det. F Guard from “A Preliminary Monograph of *Marasmius* of Java and Bali” by Desjardin et al 2000. The Maleny specimen differs from the ones described in this monograph in having some (rare) caulocystidia, and the non-setulate pleurocystidia being shorter. In all other features, it fits well with *Marasmius hypophaeus*.