

***Marasmius haematocephalus* (Mont.) Fr. 1838 “blood red”**



© Frances Guard

Cap: 4-8mm diameter, bluntly conical to convex to campanulate, sulcate-striate, blood red (41)

Stipe: thin wiry, 30-50 x 0.5mm, black at base to purple at apex, smooth

Lamellae: distant, 12-14, with occasional lamellulae, free, pale pink with finely coloured margin (hand lens) same as cap

Flesh: thin white

Spores: inamyloid, smooth, clavate, average 20 x 4µm, $Q_{av}=4.77$, range 19-21.5 x 4-4.5µm, $Q_{min}=4.22$, $Q_{max}=5.29$

Basidia: mostly 4 spored, occasional 2 spored, 23-31 x 7-10µm

Pleurocystidia: large smooth cells, clavate, strangulate, 33-58 x 6.5-9µm

Cheilocystidia: Two types a) common smooth cells similar to pleurocystidia, clavate, strangulate, 20-51 x 6.5-11µm and b) uncommon Siccus type broom cells, cylindrical to clavate, sometimes branched, 13-18 x 6-10µm, with setulae (often thick walled, refractile) (2)-3-6 x 1µm.

Pileipellis: hymeniderm of Siccus type broom cells, cylindrical to clavate, with or without branching, thin walled, 6.5-17 x 4.5-12.5µm, setulae usually thick-walled, 3-5.5 x 1-1.5µm

Substrate: leaf litter

Habitat: regenerating subtropical rainforest

Collections examined: F2019017, collector FE Guard, Dilkusha Nature Refuge, 22/4/19

Notes: This specimen fits with the description of *M. haematocephalus* f. *haematocephalus*. (*Wannathes et al*: Monograph of *Marasmius* from Northern Thailand, 2009.) It is one of possibly several colour variants of this species.