

## *Marasmius* “robust brown”



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**Cap:** 10-20 mm diameter, bluntly conical to convex, dry, sulcate with small umbo, dark blood red (41), purplish chestnut (21), dark brick (20), umber (18); umbo darker in most fruitbodies.

**Stipe:** tough, wiry, 50-60 x 0.8-1.5mm, glossy black at base, dark red mid section, to pinkish-fawn at apex; small off-white, basal mycelial disc

**Lamellae:** cream, free to adnexed, moderately crowded, 21-30 gills, with occasional lamellulae; margin faintly coloured pink.

**Flesh:** minimal

**Spores:** inamyloid, narrowly clavate and slightly curved, average 17.5 x 4.5µm,  $Q_{av}=3.87$ , range (15.5)-16.5-18.5 x 4-4.5µm,  $Q_{min}=3.58$ ,  $Q_{max}=4.30$

**Basidia:** (rare) 4 spored

**Pleurocystidia:** ?present and clavate (difficult to differentiate from basidioles)

**Cheilocystidia:** common clavate, and uncommon Siccus type broom cells with mostly thick walled setulae

**Pileipellis:** palisade of Siccus type broom cells, with mostly thick-walled setulae

**Substrate:** usually twigs up to 25mm, often solitary, but sometimes gregarious with fruitbodies of different ages

**Habitat:** rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest

**Collections examined:** F2016022, Fran Guard, Dilkusha Nature Refuge, Maleny, 22/3/16

**Notes:** This species is moderately common in SEQ and yet appears to be undescribed to date. It comes in several colour forms from brown to blood red, purple to dusky pink. Its crowded gills and robust stature make it relatively easy to identify in the field.