

Marasmius elegans (Cleland) Grgur.



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Cap: 12–20 mm diameter, broadly convex to applanate, sienna (11) to rust (13), dry smooth.

Stipe: 20–40 × 2–3 mm, cylindrical, hollow, rusty tawny (14) base, cream at apex. Lower half stipe coloured. Large, white star-shaped mycelial mat at base (not seen in this image).

Lamellae: cream, crowded, with 2–3 tiers lamellulae, narrow, non-marginate, free.

Flesh: thin white.

Spores: inamyloid, smooth, ellipsoid, average $9.5 \times 5 \mu\text{m}$, $Q_{\text{av}}=1.86$, range $8.5\text{--}10.5 \times 4\text{--}6 \mu\text{m}$, $Q_{\text{min}} = 1.54$, $Q_{\text{max}} = 2.27$.

Basidia: 2- and 4-spored, $27 \times 8 \mu\text{m}$.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Cheilocystidia: Siccus-type broom cells, clavate to cylindrical, occasionally branched once, body $14\text{--}20 \times 6\text{--}9 \mu\text{m}$, setulae $3\text{--}7$ (–10) $\times 1\text{--}1.5$ (–2) μm , thick-walled and refractile, occasionally thick walls extend down sides of body approx. one-third.

Pileipellis: Hymeniderm of Siccus-type broom cells, cylindrical, clavate to inverted cone shape, body $14\text{--}20 \times 6.5\text{--}10.5 \mu\text{m}$, setulae $1.5\text{--}5.5 \times 1\text{--}1.5$, thick walled, refractile.

Stipe: parallel hyphae $4.5\text{--}7 \mu\text{m}$ diameter, no caulocystidia, dextrinoid and clamp connections present.

Substrate: leaf litter.

Habitat: rainforest and wet sclerophyll forest.

Collections examined: QMS025LG, 9/3/19, collector Frances Guard, location Linda Garrett NP.

Notes: This is a typical *M. elegans* of SEQ. Morphology differs from southern more robust forms (and Grgurinovic p.250 – no cystidia, and different pileipellis broom cells.) It is macroscopically similar to *M. vagus* from FNQ, which has an entirely white stipe and cross venations. (DNA shows they are quite separate.)