

Marasmius leveilleanus (Berk.) Pat. 1917



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Cap: 5 – 18 mm diameter; orange-brown, with paler outer half and darker central umbo (juv.) or flattened disc (mature); convex; conic to almost applanate with wavy margin; shallowly grooved.

Stipe: 25 – 60 × 1 mm; very tough, cartilaginous to wiry; almost black base, dark reddish-brown trunk and pale apex; somewhat flattened; insititious. Old stipes form dense fibrous mat.

Gills: close; 17 – 20; rare lamellulae and bifurcations; low cross-venations; free; cream.

Flesh: thin; cream.

Spores: nil found (should be 9 – 12 × 4.5 – 5 μm, ellipsoid, smooth: Tan *et al.* 2009).

Basidia: nil seen.

Cheilocystidia: *Siccus*-type Broom cells; main body: clavate, cylindric, irregular, sometimes bifid; 11 – 28 × 4.5 – 8 μm; digits: sparse, broad, obtuse, sometimes thick-walled, occasionally bifid; 2 – 6 × 2.5 – 3 μm; rarely non-digitate.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Pileipellis: a hymeniderm of *Siccus*-type Broom cells, (similar to cheilocystidia), and smooth, non-digitate cells.

Rhizomorphs: occasional tough, thick, grey-black cords, ~1 mm diameter, mixed with old stipes with or without blackened caps.

Habitat: wet tropical littoral rainforest with mangroves, substrate logs, trunks of dead trees.

Notes: The first collection of this species in Australia, it has been described from Sri Lanka (type), Camerons, Thailand and India, and is the only species in Sect. *Leveilleani*. Its bright colours, medium size, umbonate cap, moderately close, free gills, thick wiry stem and coarse rhizomorphs should make it easy to identify in the field. Microscopy and DNA confirm the ID.

Collections examined: F2021030, F.E. Guard & T. Lebel, Edmund Kennedy N.P., Cardwell, 7 Feb 2021.