

Marasmius brunneolorobustus (sp nov 2022)



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Cap: 10 – 20 (– 25) 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 × 0.8 – 1.5 mm; 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 $17.5 \times 4.5 \mu\text{m}$, $Q_{\text{av}} = 3.87$, range (15.5 –) $16.5 - 18.5 \times 4 - 4.5 \mu\text{m}$; $Q_{\text{min}} = 3.58$, $Q_{\text{max}} = 4.30$.

Basidia: (rare) 4-spored.

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 25 mm, 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 Mar 2016.

Notes: This species is moderately common in SEQ and northern NSW. 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.