

*Marasmius crinis-equi* (Muell. ex Kalchbr.) 1880



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**Cap:** very small 2–5 mm diameter, off-white, pale ochre to orange-brown, dimpled with dark central spot.

**Stipe:** central, black, hair-like, 5–10 (–25) × 0.2 mm, arising mostly from rhizomorphs.

**Lamellae:** sparse, 6–8, adnate to collar.

**Flesh:** extremely thin.

**Spores:** ellipsoid to tear-shaped, average 10.5 × 4.9 μm, range 8–12 × 4–5 μm.

**Basidia:** not seen.

**Pleurocystidia:** none.

**Cheilocystidia:** clavate, subglobose to irregularly cylindrical Siccus-type broom cells, 9–22 × 6–11 μm, with setules up to 5 × 1–2 μm.

**Pileipellis:** Siccus-type broom cells with thick-walled setules, 1.5–4.5 × 1–2 μm.

**Substrate:** almost always arising from aerial rhizomorphs, which may be prolific; occasionally from leaves caught in the tangled rhizomorphs. Fruit bodies sparse.

**Habitat:** wet forest, both tropical and subtropical.

**Notes:** Specimens of tiny dimpled *Marasmius* are often confused with *M. crinis-equi*; however, true *crinis-equi* should be obvious from its copious black rhizomorphs and sparse white to ochre fruit bodies arising from the rhizomorphs. More specimens need to be examined. As of July 2021, DNA is indicating that this is a species complex. More work is required to separate the species.

**Collections examined:** AQ553420, Coll. P. Forster, Mossman, 28/11/2001 (not shown above); also macroscopic examination of specimen from Kuranda.