

Marasmius crinis-equi ('Bunya flower')



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Cap: Smoke grey (34), paler margin; 3–8 mm dia.; dry, broadly convex, with central umbilication without papilla; reticulate appearance over inner 1/3, giving the look of second layer; margin broadly and deeply sulcate-striate.

Stipe: wiry, tough; 20–30 × 0.5 mm; black with slightly broader, pale brown upper end; insititious into either rhizomorph or twig.

Gills: cream (2B); very distant 7–8 with no lamellulae, collariate. Edge concolorous with rest of gill.

Flesh: extremely thin.

Taste: N/A

Spores: slightly curved, pip-shaped; 8.8 × 3.8 µm (3 measured).

Basidia: clavate, 30 µm long, with 4 spores.

Pleurocystidia: clavate to strangulate, 23–25 × 7–8 µm.

Pileipellis: thick-walled *Siccus*-type broom cells of irregular shape, 10–15 × 5–6 µm with projections 5–10 × 1–1.5 µm.

Cheilocystidia: Thick-walled broom cells 20 × 5 µm, with projections 5 × 1.4 µm.

Trama: clamp connections seen; branching hyphae; non-dextrinoid.

Stipitipellis: narrow, parallel hyphae; no caulocystidia; non-dextrinoid.

Substrate: Arising from rhizomorphs or directly from twigs.

Habit: group of 10–15 tangling several twigs, growing approx. ½–1 m above ground.

Habitat: rainforest.

Collections examined: Paradise Falls Track, Bunya Mts, 17 Mar 2012, Specimen (PF 46), Collector F.E. Guard F2012041.

Notes: DNA reveals this to be *M. crinis-equi*; the unusual flower-like appearance may be due to rose comb deformity.

Colours: from Flora of British Fungi.