

Marasmius purpureospadiceus F.E. Guard, T. Lebel & Dearnaley 2025



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Cap: 10–20 mm diam., juvenile purplish chestnut (21) with paler margins, mature purplish date (22) central disc, then fawn (29) grading to clay pink (30) outer half with darker sulci, parabolic to campanulate, sulcate-striate.

Stipe: 45–60 × 1 mm, tough, hairlike, blackish base, purplish chestnut upper trunk and pink apex; smooth with small buff mycelial pad at base and cream mycelial mat on substrate.

Lamellae: sub-distant, 16–18, few lamellulae, free, pale clay pink (30), ± darker margin.

Flesh: thin, white.

Spores: Smooth, narrow, clavate, inamyloid, 16.5–19.5 × 3.5–4.5 µm, average 18 × 4 µm, $Q_{av} = 4.42$.

Basidia: 2-spored, only one seen.

Pleurocystidia: smooth, thin-walled, irregular, occasionally capitate, 30–42 × 6–8 µm.

Cheilocystidia: *Siccus*-type cells forming a sterile edge, variable in shape, main body 8–22 × 5–8 µm, setules 2.5–5 × 0.5–1.5 µm and rarely smooth cells, similar to pleurocystidia.

Pileipellis: hymeniderm of *Siccus*-type cells, clavate to sub-globose, main body 5–16 × 5–8 µm, setules thick-walled, 2–6 × 0.5–1 µm.

Substrate: leaf litter.

Habitat: regenerating and mature subtropical rainforest.

Collections examined: SEQ, Maleny, Dilkusha NR, 10 Jan. 2021, *F.E. Guard*, F2021001 (BRI AQ1021678); NSW, Border Ranges NP, 18 Feb. 2022, *F.E. Guard*, F2022005 (BRI AQ1034087).

Notes: *Marasmius purpureospadiceus* is an uncommon member of the ‘haematocephalus’ complex. It is more robust than most of the complex in Australia, and with the purplish-brown caps should be identifiable in the field. It resembles darker forms of *M. brunneolorobustus* but has fewer gills (16–18 cf. 20–30).