

Marasmius vagus F.E. Guard, M.D. Barrett & Farid 2020



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Cap: 12–20 mm diameter; apricot (47) to sienna (11), with paler margin; not sulcate, bluntly conic to broadly convex; dry velvety. Cap darker in dry conditions, fades to off-white in wet weather.

Stipe: fleshy; (20–)40–50 × 1.5–2 mm; hollow, smooth, cylindric; all white; prominent basal mat of mycelial hairs.

Lamellae: moderately close, ~30, with 2–3 tiers of lamellulae, and occasional to frequent shallow cross venations; free, whitish cream with margin +/- concolourous with cap.

Flesh: thin, white, ~1 mm thick.

Spores: inamyloid, ellipsoid to teardrop shape; average $9.5 \times 5.5 \mu\text{m}$; $Q_{\text{av}} = 1.73$, range $8.5\text{--}10 \times 5\text{--}6.5 \mu\text{m}$, $Q_{\text{min}} = 1.58$, $Q_{\text{max}} = 1.87$.

Basidia: majority 2-spored, small number 3-spored; $26.5 \times 8.5 \mu\text{m}$.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Cheilocystidia: *Siccus*-type broom cells, with short to very long divergent projections, mostly thin-walled, with body also thin-walled except for outer $\frac{1}{4}$ at base of projections; shape narrowly to broadly and irregularly cylindric, clavate; body $9\text{--}16 \times 4\text{--}8 \mu\text{m}$, digits $4\text{--}12 \times 1\text{--}2 \mu\text{m}$, with 2–4 (–8) digits. Also, occasional (2 seen) mucronate, smooth cheilocystidia, $24 \times 8 \mu\text{m}$.

Pileipellis: large, divergent and sometimes bifurcating *Siccus*-type broom cells, with thick refractive walls on projections and upper body wall; clavate, irregularly cylindric; body $13\text{--}24 \times 4\text{--}9 \mu\text{m}$, digits $3.5\text{--}11.5 \times 1\text{--}2 \mu\text{m}$, 5–9 digits, some branching.

Caulocystidia: absent.

Substrate: leaf litter. **Habit:** gregarious, +/- caespitose.

Habitat: tropical dry vine thickets across northern Australia with populations in gardens and lawns in Florida. Now found in road verges and lawns in FNQ & SEQ.

Collections examined: SMF 3041, FE Guard, Brooklyn Sanctuary, Mar. 2018; AQ553628, PIF28282, Paul Forster, Mungana, Chillagoe, 22 Feb. 2002.

Notes: This species looks very similar to *Marasmius elegans*, but always has a totally white stem and cross venations between gills, and is genetically distant. ‘*vagus*’ means wandering, for its widespread distribution.