

Clavulicium (=Marasmius) extendens (“White death” Hood & Ramsden 1999)



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Cap: 1.5–2.5 mm diam., tiny flat plaques or discs, discrete or partially fused, with margin lifting; off-white to buff.

Stipe: absent.

Gills: absent; hymenium smooth and compact.

Flesh: very thin.

Spores: smooth; ellipsoid, 8–11 × 4.5–6.5 µm.

Basidia: 2-spored.

Cheilocystidia: said to be uncommon; narrow, fusiform, strangulate towards apex.

Pleurocystidia: not noted.

Pileipellis: not noted.

Habitat: rainforest understorey from FNQ to Cooloola.

Notes: This species fits the description of ‘white death’ by I. Hood in “An introduction to fungi on wood in Qld”, 2003. DNA places it in *Marasmius* as sister to *Marasmius inflatus* (=*Amyloflagellula inflata*) from Gabon, Africa. It is most commonly seen as sheets and strands of vegetative material binding living stems and leaves together. The rare, tiny fruit bodies are aerial on leaves and stems. This group of *Marasmius* have *Amyloflagellula*-type cells and are in subsect. *Attrorubentes*, but not yet placed in a series. (Micro-description has been taken from Hood and Ramsden, *Australian Systematic Botany*, 12: 1999.) The species has not formally been transferred to *Marasmius*.

Collection examined: Daintree, Feb 2021, M.D. Barrett, MDBF2021082. This species needs to be re-collected with fruitbodies.