

Marasmius clocca sp. nov.



© Frances Guard

Cap: 4–9 mm, sienna (11), margin paler, conic to broadly conic, sulcate, dry surface.

Stipe: thin, wiry, $35\text{--}50 \times 0.1\text{--}0.2$ mm; brown base, reddish-brown mid-section, to buff apex; glossy surface, small yellowish-buff basal mycelial pad.

Gills: distant, 12–16, with occasional lamellulae; white with margin concolorous with cap, free.

Flesh: thin, white.

Spores: white spore print; spores inamyloid, smooth, clavate, slightly curved in profile; average 15.5×4 μm , range $14.5\text{--}17.5 \times 3.5\text{--}4$ μm ; $Q_{\text{av}} = 4.11$; $Q_{\text{min}} = 3.74$; $Q_{\text{max}} = 4.47$.

Basidia: 4-spored.

Cheilocystidia: *Siccus*-type broom cells, cylindric to clavate; body $11\text{--}18 \times 5.5\text{--}7$ μm ; setules $3\text{--}4.5 \times 1.5$ μm , mostly thin-walled.

Pleurocystidia: nil.

Pileipellis: hymeniderm of *Siccus*-type broom cells, clavate to broadly clavate and occasionally divided; body $8\text{--}11 \times 5\text{--}9$ μm ; setules $2.5\text{--}5 \times 1\text{--}1.5$ μm , mostly thick-walled.

Caulocystidia: nil.

Habit: gregarious, groups of 6–10 over 3 sq. m.

Habitat: regenerating subtropical rainforest.

Substrate: leaf litter or *Casuarina* needles.

Collections examined: F2015028, Dilkusha NR, F.E. Guard, 27 Jan 2015; F2019035, Dilkusha NR, F.E. Guard, 1 May 2019; and others.

Notes: This little *Marasmius* is very common in disturbed habitat, road verges and regenerating subtropical rainforest from FNQ to central NSW. It occurs with other species and may be confused with *M. lebeliae* Guard, which has a more cinnamon cap and sparser gills (7–11), with non-coloured edge, and much longer spores (av. 32 μm). Its sister species (with DNA confirmation) is *M. bambusiniformis*, which is widespread in SE Asia and the Pacific, it though does not appear to occur in Australia. *M. clocca* should be recognisable in the field.