



Favolaschia calocera

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Favolaschia calocera is a recent introduction into Western Australia. It occurs naturally in Madagascar and parts of southern Asia, but in the 1950s found its way to New Zealand and more recently to Kenya, Italy, Norfolk Island, Réunion Island and eastern Australia—including Victoria and southern Queensland. In all these locations it has spread rapidly and is now regarded as a weed species. It was first recorded in the south-west of WA in 2010 and has now been reported from several locations fruiting on dead waterbush (*Bossiaea aquifolium*) twigs and marri logs.

Favolaschia calocera tends to fruit in colonies on dead wood. Fruit bodies are 3–10mm diameter, orange to pale orange, fan-shaped and broadly convex to plane with a pimpled or domed pattern on the upper surface (*inset above*). The underside is poroid. The pore openings are polygonal to elliptical with a finely hairy inner surface. There are generally 1–2 pores per mm but they are smaller and shallower near the margin. The stem is rudimentary, about 5mm long, with sparse short white hairs and laterally attached.

It is important to track distributions of introduced species and sightings of *Favolaschia calocera* can be submitted at the *Fungimap* website at <http://fungimap.org.au/>.

The scientific name refers to its characteristic features and to *Laschia*, a genus named after Wilhelm Gottfried Lasch (German mycologist active in the early 1800s) into which many similar species were initially assigned. *Fav-*: from *faveolatus* meaning finely honeycombed, *laschia*: after W.G. Lasch, *calli-*, *calo-*: beautiful, *cera*: waxy, wax-gold.