

Marasmius lebeliae (Guard) sp.nov. 2019



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Cap: 5-10 mm diameter, cinnamon (10) to fulvous (12), usually paler outer half and darker central disc, sulcate-striate, broadly conical with blunt apex to campanulate

Stipe: 35-55-(80) x 0.2-0.5mm, wiry, smooth, black base, brown mid section, to yellowish-buff apex; small basal mycelial pad (hand lens)

Lamellae: distant 7-11, free, white and rarely has coloured margin.

Flesh: minimal

Spores: inamyloid, smooth, clavate, average 32.5 x 5.5µm, $Q_{av}=5.84$, range 31-34 x 4.5-5.5 –(6) µm, $Q_{min}=5.45$, $Q_{max}=6.32$.

Basidia: 4 spored, occasionally very large

Pleurocystidia: narrow moniliform, narrow to broadly clavate with swollen mucronate apices 11-25 x 3-6µm

Cheilocystidia: present in 2 forms (a) constricted cylindric cells 29-33 x 5-9µm, (b) Siccus type broom cells, with cylindric bodies 16-27 x 3.5-5.5µm and digitate projections 3.5-5.5 x 0.7-0.9µm

Pileipellis: Siccus type broom cells, cylindric to broadly clavate, occasionally branched, with thick-walled digitate projections.

Substrate: leaf litter, especially Casuarina needles

Habitat: regenerating subtropical rainforest

Collections examined: F2018011, F2018012, F2018013, Coll. FE Guard, Location Dilkusha Nature Refuge, Maleny, 3/2/18; also, F2018018 on 5/2/18, F2019002 on 9/2/19, F2019033, F2018034 on 1/5/19 coll. FE Guard, Dilkusha NR.

Notes: This new species has been found on Dikusha near Maleny several times and is recognisable by its sparse gills (7-11), cinnamon cap and very long clavate spores. It is probably much more widespread, but needs to be searched for.