

Marasmius ballator sp. nov.



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Cap: 7–15 (–35) mm diameter, parabolic to almost applanate, central disc umbonate, thick, off-white, pileus deeply sulcate-striate, greyish-white (78) with sulci livid vinaceous (77).

Stipe: 40–60 × 0.5–2 mm, reddish-brown base, grading to apricot (47) then buff (52) upper half and white apex; cartilaginous; hairy base and thin, cream mycelial mat.

Lamellae: distant, 8–12, 0–1 tier shallow lamellulae, free to adnexed, cream, no coloured margin.

Flesh: thin, white, almost translucent.

Spores: Smooth, inamyloid, clavate, 19.1–22.4 × 4.3–5.1 µm, average 20.5 × 4.7 µm.

Basidia: 4-spored, narrow, clavate, 28–37 × 8.5–10 µm.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Cheilocystidia: *Globulares*-type cells, oblong, clavate, thin-walled, 13–22 × 6.5–10 µm.

Pileipellis: palisade of *Globulares*-type cells, 16–27 × 8–13 µm, sub-globose to broadly clavate, thin-walled.

Substrate: leaf litter.

Habitat: gregarious in subtropical rainforest.

Collections examined: NSW, Dorrig National Park, The Glades, 20 Mar 2025, K. Millichamp, F2025008 (BRI AQ1054442); same location, 20 Mar 2025, C. Marciniak, CM0050, DAR87346.

Notes: This is a distinctive new species in the series *Purpureostriati*. So far it has only been found in NSW, but the habitat is similar to SEQ rainforest, so it is one to look out for.