

*Marasmius dilkusha* sp. nov.



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**Cap:** 8–15 mm diam., collybioid, broadly parabolic to applanate with low central umbo; pale sienna (11) with darker centre, fading with age; surface smooth, hygrophanous.

**Stipe:** 40–50 × 1–2 mm, rusty tawny (14) base, fulvous (12) upper trunk and off-white apex, cartilaginous, finely pruinose (hand lens), hairy base and thin, yellowish-buff mycelial mat.

**Lamellae:** sub-distant, 16–18, free to adnexed, cream, non-marginate, 3–4 tiers lamellulae.

**Flesh:** thin, cream.

**Spores:** smooth, ellipsoid, inamyloid, 7–8.5 × 3–4 µm, average 7.5 × 3.5 µm,  $Q_{av} = 2.21$ .

**Basidia:** 4-spored, narrow, clavate.

**Pleurocystidia:** absent.

**Cheilocystidia:** *Siccus*-type cells, ovoid, cylindric, main body 7–17.5 × 5–9 µm, terminal setules crowded, 3–7 × 1–1.5 µm.

**Pileipellis:** Palisade of *Siccus*-type cells cylindric to clavate, main body 10–20 × 7–10 µm, terminal setules 3–9 × 1–1.5 µm.

**Caulocystidia:** three types: a) common, simple, smooth, short, obtuse-ended cells, 8–14 × 4 µm; b) occasional *Siccus*-type with sparse, thick-walled, long setules; and c) sparse, simple, smooth cells with short, knobby branches, 35 × 4.5 µm.

**Substrate:** well-rotted bark or wood.

**Habitat:** piccabeen palm forest and riparian flood zone.

**Collections examined:** QLD, Maleny, Dilkusha NR, 26 Jan 2020, *F.E. Guard*, F2020014 (BRI AQ1017482); NSW, Wyong, 11 Feb 2025, *M. Drake*, iNat261303016, envt.

**Notes:** This small *Marasmius* looks like a pale version of *M. elegans*, but its mycelial mat is distinctive and caulocystidia different, though DNA places them in the same series, *Luteoli*. It has only been found in SEQ and central NSW. More collections are needed.