

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, $7–8.5 \times 3–4 \mu\text{m}$, average $7.5 \times 3.5 \mu\text{m}$, $Q_{av} = 2.21$.

Basidia: 4-spored, narrow, clavate.

Pleurocystidia: absent.

Cheilocystidia: *Siccus*-type cells, ovoid, cylindric, main body $7–17.5 \times 5–9 \mu\text{m}$, terminal setules crowded, $3–7 \times 1–1.5 \mu\text{m}$.

Pileipellis: Palisade of *Siccus*-type cells cylindric to clavate, main body $10–20 \times 7–10 \mu\text{m}$, terminal setules $3–9 \times 1–1.5 \mu\text{m}$.

Caulocystidia: three types: a) common, simple, smooth, short, obtuse-ended cells, $8–14 \times 4 \mu\text{m}$; b) occasional *Siccus*-type with sparse, thick-walled, long setules; and c) sparse, simple, smooth cells with short, knobby branches, $35 \times 4.5 \mu\text{m}$.

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.