

Matchmaker: Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest

Below are written descriptions and images of fruiting bodies, mushrooms, of the fungal species in this ectomycorrhizal association. The information is from the web version of the Matchmaker: Mushrooms of the Pacific Northwest (MMPNW) created by the Canadian Forest Service and based on the Windows MMPNW version 1.3 by Ian and Eli Gibson.

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LATIN NAME(S) *Marasmiellus candidus* (Bolt.) Singer Pap. Michigan Acad. Sci. 32: 129. 1946 (1948); *Marasmiellus albuscorticis* (Secr.) Singer nom. inval.; *Marasmius candidus* (Bolt.) Fr.; *Marasmius magnisporus* Murrill

ENGLISH NAME(S) white *Marasmius*

NOTES features include small size, white grooved cap with tendency to develop pinkish tinges when old, distant interveined gills, tough downy stem that is white at top and dark at base, and growth on sticks and branches; microscopically differs from many *Marasmiellus* species in lacking a true Rameales structure, instead having irregularly cylindric pileocystidia interspersed among interwoven, typically smooth hyphae; *Marasmius candidus* var. *setulosus* Josseland & Smith described in southern Appalachians represents a distinct species with setuliform pileocystidia and other distinguishing features; *Marasmiellus candidus* found at least BC, WA, OR, also CA, IN, MO, NC, NY, OH, PA, (Redhead(6)), TN (Desjardin(5)), common

CAP 0.6-2.5cm, convex to flat or with slightly depressed center; shining white or translucent white, but often stained deep pinkish or reddish in old age; dry, often striate or grooved at maturity, (Arora), 0.8-4.0(5.5)cm, convex or flat-convex when young, flat or flat-depressed with uplifted margin when old; white overall when young, becoming buff, pale yellowish white, orange-white or grayish orange when old, often discoloring pinkish overall; bald or minutely pruinose, canescent (hoary) when old, dull, typically opaque, disc smooth or rugulose (finely wrinkled), margin even or crenate (scalloped) when young, becoming rugulose, striate, or sulcate when old, (Desjardin)

FLESH very thin, pliant, soft, (Arora); thin; buff, (Desjardin)



Taylor F Lockwood



Sharon Godkin

GILLS few and decurrent; white like the cap but often pinkish- or reddish-stained in old age, (Arora); adnate or subdecurrent, distant, moderately broad, rarely forked, typically interveined, 1-3 tiers of subgills; white at first, yellowish white or pale orange-white when old, often staining pale brownish or grayish red in spots or discoloring pinkish overall, (Desjardin)

STEM 0.5-3cm x 0.1-0.2cm, equal or slightly tapered at either end, often rather short, central or off-center but not lateral, tough, smooth, often curved, white or with gray to pinkish-gray base, darkening gradually to brownish-black from the base upward as it ages, (Arora), 0.7-2.0cm, x 0.15-0.4cm, central or off-center, round in cross-section or compressed at top, narrowing downward to a slightly bulbous base, curved, subsinistitious (somewhat insinistitious); top white, base white when young, yellowish brown, grayish brown, dark yellowish brown or black when old; top bald or pruinose, base pubescent (finely downy) or fibrillose

ODOR mild (Arora), mildly fungal (Desjardin)

TASTE mildly fungal (Desjardin)

EDIBILITY inconsequential (Arora)

HABITAT in groups or rows on dead sticks, branches, berry canes etc., (Arora); densely gregarious on bark or decorticated wood of Picea (spruce), Tsuga (hemlock), Alnus (alder), rarely Sequoia, Umbellularia, Rubus (berry canes), or Polystichum (sword fern)

SPORE DEPOSIT white (Arora)

MICROSCOPIC spores 10-15 x 3.5-6 microns, spindle-shaped to elongated tear-shaped, smooth, inamyloid, (Arora); spores 11.4-15(16.2) x 3.6-5.4 microns, elongate-lacrymoid or subfusiform; basidia 4-spored, 24-42 x 6-9.6 microns, clavate or sphaeropedunculate; cheilocystidia scattered, 30-66 x 3.6-6 microns, cylindrical or irregular in outline, obtuse, base slightly inflated, colorless, inamyloid, thin-walled, pleurocystidia absent or rare near the gill edge, similar to the cheilocystidia; cap cuticle of repent, interwoven, smooth or weakly diverticulate hyphae and scattered pileocystidia, 30-120 x 3-8 microns, irregularly cylindrical or strangulate, obtuse, colorless or pale yellow, inamyloid, thin-walled; caulocystidia abundant, 30-135 x 3-6 microns, similar to the pileocystidia

NAME ORIGIN means 'shining white'

SOURCES Desjardin(1), Arora*, Lincoff(2)*, Redhead(6), Barron*

FAMILY Marasmiaceae of Order Agaricales