

# Fairy Ring Mushroom

## Characteristics:

forms fairy rings;  
minute; almost free  
gills; nutty smell; 3-7  
cm cartilaginous  
stem\*; white spores



*Marasmius oreades*

**Season:** abundant from June to Oct.

**Where:** decomposer on lawns;  
production of cyanide inhibits growth  
of grass and competitive fungi in the  
vicinity

**Look alikes:** toxic *Clitocybe  
dealbata* var. *sudorifiqua* with  
crowded gills and fragile stem;

**Preparation:** rinse to remove sand  
particles and pat dry with paper  
towels.

\* Pinch the stem and twist the cap; the stem  
won't break and should spring back into  
place