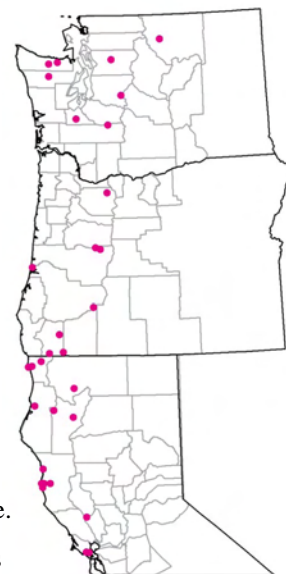


## *Collybia racemosa* (Pers.: Fr.) Quélet

**ROD name** *Collybia racemosa*

**Family** Tricholomataceae      **Morphological Habit** mushroom

**Description:** CAP 2-8 (-10) mm in diam., plano-convex with a distinct broad papilla or umbo, margin decurved, sometimes splitting, and slightly crenate at maturity, subhygrophanous, innately silky, even or finely rugulose, pale gray to gray-brown overall or brown. **GILLS** adnate to adnexed, close to crowded, narrow, gray-brown, edges even. **STEM** 20-60 x 0.2-1.0 mm, central, terete, flaccid, sometimes prostrate, finely longitudinally striate at the apex, pruinose, dull, dry, gray-brown to dark brown; with numerous side branches (racemose) up to 5 mm long projecting at right angles and topped by a small, globose head of conidia. **ODOR AND TASTE** not distinct. **PILEIPELLIS** of non-gelatinous, radially arranged hyphae 2-4  $\mu\text{m}$  in diam., weakly incrustated with gray pigments. **BASIDIA** 16-22 x 3.5-4.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , narrowly clavate, 4 spored. **CYSTIDIA** absent. **CLAMP CONNECTIONS** present. **SPORES** ovoid to subellipsoid, 4-6 (-6.5) x 2-3  $\mu\text{m}$ , smooth, hyaline, inamyloid, acyanophilic, thin walled. **CONIDIA** 7-13 x 3.0-5.5  $\mu\text{m}$ , elongate-ellipsoid to cylindrical or subtriangular, often curved and with a rounded projection at the base, hyaline.



**Distinguishing Features:** *Collybia racemosa* is the only known mushroom that forms conidia on side branches of the stem. Such structures are so distinctive on this small gray mycenoid agaric that the species is easily recognized in the field and not likely to be confused with any other taxa.

**Distribution:** Widespread in the Northern Hemisphere but always locally rare. **CALIFORNIA**, Del Norte Co., Six Rivers National Forest (SRNF), Patrick Creek; Crescent City; Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park; **Humboldt Co.**, Redwood National Park, Lady Bird Johnson Grove; **Marin Co.**, Mount Tamalpais Watershed, Lake Lagunitas; Corte Madera, Deer Run Rd.; **Mendocino Co.**, Northern California Coast Preserve, 14.5 km west of Brandscombe; Jackson State Forest, near Dunlap campground; Van Damme State Park, Pygmy Forest; Northern California Coast Preserve; **Napa Co.**, Clearly reserve; **Siskiyou Co.**, Klamath National Forest, Duck Lake trailhead; **Trinity Co.**, SRNF, Gray Falls campground; Shasta-Trinity National Forest, near Weaverville; **OREGON**, **Clackamas Co.**, Mount Hood National Forest, Zigzag; **Douglas Co.**, Lake Tahkenitch; **Jackson Co.**, Rogue River National Forest, Sturgis Fork; **Josephine Co.**, Taklima; Grants Pass; **Lane Co.**, Willamette National Forest (WNF), Blue River; WNF, McKenzie Bridge; **WASHINGTON**, **Clallam Co.**, Olympic National Park (ONP), Heart of the Hills campground; ONP, Olympic Hot Springs; **Jefferson Co.**, ONP, Hoh River trail, Hoh rain forest; **King Co.**, Annette Lake trailhead, Snog Pass; **Okanogan Co.**, Okanogan National Forest, Wolf Creek, Eliulia Valley; **Pierce Co.**, Mount Rainier National Park, Lower Tehoma Creek; **Snohomish Co.**, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest, Verlot campground; **Thurston Co.**, Tenino Mounds.

**Substrate and Habitat:** Gregarious, on rotting or mummified remnants of agarics or seldom in nutrient-rich leaf mulch, in forests.

**Season:** Autumn.

**References:** Noordeloos, M.E. 1995. *Collybia*. In: Bas, C.; Kuyper, Th.W.; Noordeloos, M.E.; Vellinga, E.C., eds. Flora Agaricina Neerlandica. Rotterdam, The Netherlands: A.A. Balkema: 106-123. Vol. 3.



Photo courtesy of George L. Barron