

## ISCHYRODON

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*Ischyrodon* Müll.Hal., *Linnaea* 39: 443 (1875); possibly from the Greek *ischyros* (strong, mighty) and *odontos* (a tooth); allusion unknown.

Type: *I. seriolus* (Müll.Hal.) Müll.Hal. [= *I. lepturus* (Taylor) Schelpe]

Diocious. Plants densely tufted and matted. Stems creeping. Rhizoids arising from primary stems and occasionally from leaf bases, brown, smooth. Leaves imbricate, erect when dry, erecto-patent to erect-spreading when wet, ovate-lanceolate to lanceolate, acuminate; costa strong at the base, tapering to just beyond mid-leaf. Laminal cells elongate-rhomboidal; alar cells subquadrate.

Perigonia, perichaetia and setae not seen. Capsules oval. Peristome single.

*Ischyrodon* is a monotypic genus.

### Reference

Catcheside, D.G. & Stone, I.G. (1980), The peristome of *Ischyrodon lepturus* (Tayl.) Schelpe, *J. Bryol.* 11: 99–104.

***Ischyrodon lepturus*** (Taylor) Schelpe, *Contr. Bolus Herb.* 2: 49 (1970)

*Hypnum lepturum* Taylor, *London J. Bot.* 5: 64 (1846); *Brachythecium lepturum* (Taylor) A.Jaeger, *Ber. Thätigk. St. Gallischen Naturwiss. Ges.* 1876–77: 337 (1878); *Fabronia leptura* (Taylor) Broth., in H.G.A.Engler & K.A.E.Prantl, *Nat Pflanzenfam.* I, 3: 905 (1907); *Juratzkaea leptura* (Taylor) W.A.Weber ex W.R.Buck, *Rev. Bryol. Lichénol.* 43: 319 (1977). T: Swan R., W.A., *J.Drummond*; n.v.

*Fabronia leptura* Dixon, *Notes Roy. Bot. Gard. Edinburgh* 20: 95 (1950), *nom. illeg.* (later homonym). T: n.v.

Illustrations: D.G.Catcheside, *Mosses of South Australia* 327, fig. 203 (1980); W.R.Buck, D.H.Vitt & W.M.Malcolm, *Key to the Genera of Australian Mosses* 90 (2002); D.Meagher & B.Fuhrer, *A Field Guide to the Mosses and Allied Plants of Southern Australia* 65 (2003).

Plants usually pale green. Stems 5–25 mm long, branching or not. Leaves gradually tapering to an acuminate apex, (1.10–) 1.23–1.64 mm long, (0.30–) 0.38–0.65 mm wide; margins entire below, entire to finely denticulate above. Mid-leaf laminal cells 64–110 × 3–6 µm, similar towards the margin and apex; alar cells 8–14 × 10–12 µm.

Sporogones rare, not seen in Australian collections examined.

Found on shaded and semi-shaded rocks and boulders in W.A., S.A. and Vic. It has also been reported from N.S.W. where it probably does occur, although I have not seen any specimens. It is also known from Chile, southern Africa and New Zealand.

W.A.: Boyagin Rock, Boyagin Nature Reserve, 20 km NW of Pingelly, *H.Streimann 54214* (CANB); Mount Chudalup Nature Reserve, 17 km SSE of Northcliffe, *H.Streimann 54303* [*Musci Australas. Exs.* 376] (CANB). S.A.: near Saltia Hill, Southern Flinders Ra., 17 km ENE of Port Augusta, *H.Streimann 54709* (CANB); mouth of De Male R., 18 km SSE of Cape Borda, Kangaroo Is., *H.Streimann 55110* [*Musci Australas. Exs.* 475] (CANB). Vic.: Hughes Ck, 13km ENE of Seymour, *H.Streimann 2338* (CANB). Tas.: West Point, Tas., *R.D.Seppelt 17517* (HO, n.v.).

Details of the sporogone were discussed in detail by Catcheside & Stone (1980). *Ischyrodon lepturus* is the largest of the Australian Fabroniaceae, and it is readily distinguished from other species in the family by the strong costa at the base of the leaf and the much longer laminal cells.

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