

TOUWIA

Josephine Milne¹ & Niels Klazenga²

Touwia Ochyra, *J. Bryol.* 14: 103 (1986); named in honour of the Dutch bryologist Andries Touw (b. 1935).

Type: *T. laticostata* Ochyra

Plants forming thread-like interwoven mats. Primary stems creeping; secondary stems irregularly branched; central strand absent. Leaves erecto-patent to patent, ovate-lanceolate to narrowly triangular; margin entire below, serrulate at the apex; costa single, broad, subpercurrent. Laminal cells thick-walled, predominantly rhomboid.

Perigonia in axils of secondary stems. Perichaetia and sporogones unknown.

This monotypic genus is endemic to north-eastern Queensland.

Reference

Ochyra, R. (1986), *Touwia laticostata*, a remarkable new genus and species of moss from Queensland, Australia, *J. Bryol.* 14: 103–108.

Touwia laticostata Ochyra, *J. Bryol.* 14: 103 (1986)

T: Mt Bellenden Ker, Qld, *M.M.J. van Balgooy 1531*; holo: L; iso: MEL.

Illustrations: R.Ochyra, *op. cit.* 105, fig. 1; 106, fig. 2.

Plants small, to c. 5 cm long, wiry, glossy, olive-green to dark green. Secondary stems prostrate to ascending, terete-foliolate, attenuate. Leaves crowded and overlapping at the base of the stem, distant in the upper stem and branches, mostly eroded or absent, 0.38–0.72 mm long, 0.10–0.15 mm wide, gradually narrowing above the broad base, acute; costa occupying c. one-third of the leaf width. Upper laminal cells oval to rhomboid, 15–23 × 5–10 µm; mid-laminal cells more elongate; basal cells elongate-rhomboid to elongate-rectangular; alar cells not differentiated.

Perigonia c. 1 mm long.

Occurs in rainforest in north-eastern Queensland, at an altitude of c. 300 m; grows on partly submerged rocks in a stream bed.

Qld: Goldsborough Track, Bellenden Ker, *W.Schofield (I.G.Stone 24585)* (MEL); Goldsborough Track, Bellenden Ker, *I.G.Stone 24577, 24772–4* (MEL); Goldsborough Track, Babinda Creek Track, *I.G.Stone 24776* (MEL); Babinda, Boulders to Mulgrave River, Goldfields Track, c. 5.5 km from stream, *I.G.Stone 25653, 25654* (MEL).

Lanceolate leaves, each with a broad costa, distinguish *T. laticostata* from other aquatic Neckeraceae.

¹ Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Vic. 3141.

² Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Vic. 3141.