SCHOENOBRYUM

Johannes Enroth¹

Schoenobryum Dozy & Molk., Musc. Frond. Ined. Archip. Ind. 183 183 (1848); from the Greek schoinos (a rush or rush-like plant) and bryon (a moss), in reference to the habit which is rather reminiscent of certain rushes.

T: S. julaceum Dozy & Molk.

This well-circumscribed pantropical genus includes about 10 species, but the genus is in need of taxonomic revision. One species is known from Australia.

References

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Manuel, M.G. (1981), Studies in Cryphaeaceae V. A revision of the family in Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean, *J. Hattori Bot. Lab.* 49: 115–140.

Schoenobryum concavifolium (Griff.) Gangulee, Mosses E. India 5: 1209 (1976)

Orthotrichum concavifolium Griff., Calcutta J. Nat. Hist. 2: 284 (1842); Cryphaea concavifolia (Griff.) Mitt., J. Linn. Soc. Bot., Suppl. 1: 125 (1859); Acrocryphaea concavifolia (Griff.) Bosch & Sande Lac., Bryol. Javan. 2: 106 (1864). T: Khasia Hills, Assam, India, 1835/36, W. Griffith; n.v.

Illustrations: H.C.Gangulee, op. cit. 1210, fig. 586; J.Enroth, op. cit. 185, fig. 4; M.G.Manuel, Moss Flora of Mexico 2: 695, fig. 517 (1994).

Plants epiphytic, forming loose tufts, julaceous when dry, dull, green to yellow or brownish; older parts usually sordid brown. Stems rigid, to c. 20-30 mm long, unbranched below, irregularly branched in distal half; branches mostly erect to erect-patent. Rhizoids irregularly and rather sparsely branched, brownish orange, smooth. Stem leaves appressed when dry, spreading when wet, c. 1.2 mm long, 0.6-0.7 mm wide (branch leaves smaller), concave, ovate; base decurrent; apex narrowly acute to acuminate; costa strong, single but frequently spurred or shortly forked, vanishing at two-thirds of the leaf length; margins recurved from the base to at least half the leaf length, crenulate to serrulate in the apex, entire elsewhere. Laminal cells smooth or with sligthly projecting corners, thick-walled; upper laminal cells oval, c. 12×6 µm; inner laminal (especially juxtacostal) cells becoming much longer towards the leaf base; cells shorted towards the margins, near the base transverse and irregularly angular with sinuous walls; alar cells indistinct.

Perichaetia terminal, distinctly bulging; inner perichaetial leaves c. 2.5 mm long, oblong-spathulate, with a long-excurrent costa. Seta c. 0.5 mm long. Capsules immersed, c. 1.5 mm long, ovoid, erect; exothecial cells irregular, thin-walled; stomata absent. Annulus deciduous. Operculum c. 0.5 mm high, conical. Calyptra c. 0.5 mm high, scabrous by prorate cells. Peristome single; exostome teeth yellowish to orange-brown, c. 230 μ m long, lanceolate, spiculose throughout. Spores globose, c. 25 μ m diam., papillose.

Apparently introduced and probably uncommon in eastern Qld. Occurs from India through SE Asia and Indonesia to the Philippines and New Guinea; also in Central America, the West Indies and northern South America. An obligate epiphyte, this moss prefers man-made habitats, such as gardens and road-sides.

Cite as: J.Enroth, Australian Mosses Online. 59. Cryphaeaceae: Schoenobryum. http://www.anbg.gov.au/abrs/Mosses_Online/Cryphaeaceae_Schoenobryum.pdf (2012)

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Qld: Hurdle Gully, 14 km WSW of Monto, H.Streimann~9894 (CANB); Hugh Nelson Ra., 15 km SE of Atherton, H.Streimann~29364 (CANB).