

Fissidens pallidinervis Mitt., *J. Linn. Soc. Bot.* 12: 592 (1869)

Type: "Tarapoto, ad rivulum Marono-yacu (2000 ped.), Andes Peruvianae" [Peru], *R.Spruce* 536; holo: BM; iso: BM, H-BR, NY.

Illustrations: H.A.Crum & L.E.Anderson, *Mosses of Eastern North America* 1: 98, fig. 39A–E (1981), as *F. garberi*; W.R.Buck, *Mem. New York Bot. Gard.* 76: 18, fig. 14A–C (2003); R.A.Pursell, *Fl. Neotrop. Monogr.* 101: 145, fig.73G–P (2007).

Plants usually sordid green, to 9 mm long and 1.5 mm wide with leaves. **Stems** simple or branched; in section with or without a central strand, the outer 1 or 2 layers of cells thick-walled, pigmented; axillary hyaline nodules present; rhizoids basal and axillary, light brown to reddish. **Leaves** in up to 30 or more pairs, crispate, \pm inrolled from the tips when dry, loosely imbricate, oblong to lanceolate, to 1.2 mm long and 0.4 mm wide; **apex** broadly acute to obtuse to rounded; **margins** finely serrulate, limbate and \pm entire on proximal 1/3–1/2 of perichaetial leaves and 1 or 2 pairs of subperichaetial leaves, **limbidium** sometimes partly intramarginal, often indistinct on small plants, unistratose; **vaginant laminae** of stem leaves to 1/2–2/3 leaf length; apex acute, \pm equal, the minor lamina ending near the margin; **dorsal lamina** rounded or truncate at the insertion, not decurrent; **laminal cells** obscure, unistratose, firm-walled, multipapillose, rounded-hexagonal, 4.5–8.0 μ m wide, in section \pm twice as deep as wide; **costa** of *bryoides*-type, ending 3–16 cells below the apex, rarely percurrent, often spurred distally.

Monoicous (rhizautoicous, cladautoicous, rarely gonautoicous). **Perigonia** terminal on stems nearly as long as perichaetial stems, or gemmiferous, axillary. **Perichaetia** terminal on stems and branches; sporophytes 1 or 2 per perichaetium. **Setae** yellow, darkening with age, smooth, to 2 mm long. **Capsule** erect, symmetrical, to 0.8 mm long; **exothecial cells** quadrate to oblong, lateral walls thinner than longitudinal walls, collenchymatous. **Operculum** conical, short-rostrate, c. 0.4 mm long. **Peristome** of *scariosus*-type. **Calyptra** cucullate, \pm prorate, c. 0.4 mm long. **Spores** smooth, 7–11 μ m diam.

[Images](#)

Known in Australia from a single, rather scrappy collection from north-eastern Qld by D.H.Norris, identified initially by R.A.Pursell, and from which a number of duplicates were made.

Widespread in Central America, the northern half of South America and the Philippines (as *F. rizalensis* Bartram); grows on tree bark, rotting wood, rock (including limestone), soil, termite nests.

Specimens examined: Qld: Cape Hillsborough Natl Park, NW of Mackay, 15 Apr. 1974, *D.H.Norris* 39051 (MO 6492018), 39054 (MO 6492019), 39055 (MO 6492020).

This description is based largely on Pursell (2007). The Australian plants are up to 5 mm long and only perichaetia have been seen. The limbidium in the few plants examined is mostly absent or, if present, is incomplete and only on the vaginant laminae.

[Bibliography](#)