

Fissidens perangustus Broth., *Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales* 41: 577 (1916)

Type: The Eyrie, Manly, Sydney, N.S.W., *W.W.Watts 6790A*; lecto: H-BR, *vide* J.E.Beever & I.G.Stone, *New Zealand J. Bot.* 37: 649 (1999); isolecto: MEL, NSW, WELT; *loc. id.*, *W.W.Watts 6792*; syn: H-BR, NSW.

Illustrations: J.E.Beever & I.G.Stone, *op. cit.* 650, fig. 4a–n; J.Beever, B.Malcolm & N.Malcolm, *The Moss Genus Fissidens in New Zealand: an illustrated key* 54 (2002).

Sterile plants yellow-green, densely gregarious, occasionally forming dense procumbent mats, slender, often branched; **female branches** with 3–6 pairs of leaves, lateral, often subterminal and radiculose at the base; regrowth from older plants common. **Stems** 5–20 mm long, with distinct axillary nodules; in section with a very narrow and indistinct central strand; rhizoids basal on the stems. **Leaves** in 4–many pairs, uniform, patent, lanceolate, 0.5–0.6 mm long, 0.10–0.15 mm wide; **apex** acute; **laminae** unistratose; **limbidium** distinct on all laminae, 2–4 cells wide, 1–3 cells thick, the cells narrow, thick-walled and prosenchymatous, failing towards the leaf apex, often adhering to the costa proximally on the dorsal lamina; **vaginant laminae** c. 2/3 leaf length, closed or joining very close to the margin; **dorsal lamina** tapered to the base, border adhering to the costa proximally; **laminal cells** quadrate to irregularly hexagonal, smooth, not bulging, thin-walled, 8–15 × 7–9 µm; **costa** of *bryoides*-type, subpercurrent.

Autoicous. Perigonia terminal on axillary shoots or gemmiform at the base of female shoots. **Perichaetia** terminal; **perichaetial leaves** larger than stem leaves, to 1 mm long; vaginant laminae occasionally open. **Setae** orange-brown, 4–7 mm long. **Capsules** inclined or ±erect, slightly asymmetrical, 0.5–0.7 mm long and wide; **exothecial cells** quadrate to short-rectangular, weakly collenchymatous. **Operculum** conical-rostellate, c. 2/3 length of the theca. **Peristome** of *bryoides*-type; teeth 45–70 µm wide at the base. **Calyptra** cucullate, smooth, to 0.4 mm long. **Spores** 20–25 µm diam.

[Images](#)

Occurs in eastern Qld and N.S.W.

Also in northern New Zealand.

Selected specimens examined: Qld: Yandina, *I.G.Stone 17329 p.p.* (MEL); Carnarvon Gorge Natl Park, *H.Streimann 52212* (CANB); Mickey Ck, Carnarvon Gorge Natl Park, *I.G.Stone 20333* (MEL).

Fissidens perangustus is similar to *F. curvatus* (*q.v.*), but it can be distinguished by the limbidium failing below the leaf apex, a subpercurrent costa, lateral female branches, comparatively large spores, and the conical-rostrate operculum with a short beak. Beever & Stone (1999a) suggested that *F. perangustus* can also occur in more moist sites than *F. curvatus*.

[Bibliography](#)