



BRYOPHYTES of Australia

Entosthodon subnudus var. *gracilis* (Hook.f. &

Author: Allan J. Fife & Rodney D. Seppelt

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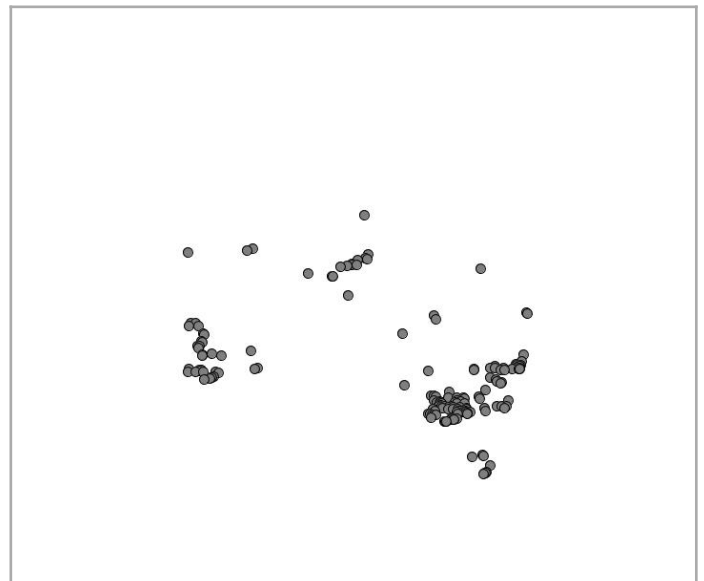
***Entosthodon subnudus* var. *gracilis* (Hook.f. & Wilson) Fife**

Allan J. Fife & Rodney D. Seppelt

Leaves oblong-obovate, (1.3–) 1.5–2.1 mm long, 0.6–0.8 mm wide, concave, tapered in upper 1/3 to an acute obtuse, or acuminate apex; costa c. 36–45 μm wide near the base, variable in length, ending below the apex, percurrent, or short- or long-excurrent; margins entire. Upper laminal cells (24–) 33–69 \times 15–18 μm ; apical cell 60–110 (–165) μm long.

Setae 9–22 mm. Capsules obovoid-cylindrical or obovoid, 1.5–1.8 (–2.0) mm long, strongly constricted below the mouth with dry; mouth equal to the diameter of the capsule; operculum plano-convex. Peristome double; exostome teeth variably developed and usually \pm irregular in outline (with sinuous margins), tapered to an acute or irregular apex; endostome rudimentary, to c. 1/3 the height of the teeth. Spores 32–39 (–45) μm diam., finely murate-lirate.

Distribution: Occurs in W.A., N.T., S.A., N.S.W., Vic. and Tas.; also in New Zealand and New Caledonia. This moss grows on fine (clay or silt) soil in relatively open vegetation; often associated with *Leptospermum*/*Kunzea* scrub, and sometimes occurring in areas with impeded drainage.



Representative Herbarium Specimens: W.A.: Caron Rock Hole, SE of Mingenew, *R.Ericson*; Araluen, Darling Ra., *D.G.Catcheside* 74.381.

N.T.: Chewing Ra., *P.K.Latz* 6633d.

S.A.: Springs Gully, Clare, *D.G.Catcheside* 78.294.

N.S.W.: Bedoura, *D.G.Catcheside* 67.60.

Vic.: Mackeys Lookout, Mt Buffalo, *D.G.Catcheside* 69.255.

Tas.: Cataract Hill, Launceston, *W.A.Weymouth* 3012.

Nomenclature And Typification: *Entosthodon subnudus* var. *gracilis* (Hook.f. & Wilson) Fife, *J. Hattori Bot. Lab.* 58: 192 (1985); *Entosthodon gracilis* Hook.f. & Wilson, in J.D.Hooker, *Fl. Nov.-Zel.* 2: 91, pl. 86, fig. 7 (1855); *Funaria gracilis* (Hook.f. & Wilson) Broth., in H.G.A.Engler & K.A.E.Prantl, *Nat. Pflanzenfam.* 1(3): 524. (1903). T: Bay of Islands, New Zealand, *J.D.Hooker s.n.* (designated "W. 348b" by Wilson); lecto: BM-Wilson, *fide* A.J.Fife & R.D.Seppelt (2001); isolecto: BM-Wilson, BM-Hooker, BM-Besch.
Funaria cuspidata Hook.f. & Wilson, in J.D.Hooker, *Fl. Nov.-Zel.* 2: 91, pl. 86, fig. 3 (1855). T: Bay of Islands, New Zealand, *J.D.Hooker s.n.* (designated "W.348" or "W.348a" by Wilson); lecto: BM-Wilson, *fide* A.J.Fife & R.D.Seppelt (2001); isolecto: BM-Wilson, H-Solander.
Funaria bullata Broth., *Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales* 41: 584 (1916). T: Heyington, Vic., *W.W.Watts* 208; holo: H-BR.
Entosthodon varius Mitt., *Trans. & Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria* 19: 67 (1882); *Funaria varia* (Mitt.) Broth., in A.Engler & K.Prantl, *Nat. Pflanzenfam.* 1(3): 523 (1903). T: *sine loc.*, Vic., *F.M.Adamson s.n.*; holo: NY-Mitten.
Entosthodon sullivanii Müll.Hal. ex Kindb., *Enum. Bryin. Exot.* 90 (1889), *nom. inval.* (in synon.)
Funaria sullivanii Watts & Whitel., *Proc. Linn. Soc. New South Wales*, Suppl. 30: 115 (1906), *nom. nud.*

Taxonomic Notes: Intermediates between the typical “*gracilis* form” and the “*cuspidata* form” are not uncommon, but are they very difficult to identify. The frequency with which such intermediate forms occur precludes their taxonomic recognition and designation. The Hooker collection from the Bay of Islands which Wilson designated (*in herb.*) 348 and from which he segregated the types of both *Entosthodon gracilis* and *Funaria cuspidata*, is a particularly good example of the variability of the var. *gracilis*. Similarly variable populations occur in Tas., in the Grampians Ranges in Vic., and in northern New Zealand.

Sainsbury’s observations concerning the degree of endostome development do not agree with our own, and material with broadly acute or obtuse leaf apices and short costae (assignable to *Funaria gracilis* by his criteria and including the type) nearly always have at least rudimentary segments.

Conservation Status

QLD - Least concern

Images



Fig. 1: '*Entosthodon subnudus* var. *gracilis*' by Fagg, M.
(© Fagg, M.)



Fig. 2: '*Entosthodon subnudus* var. *gracilis*' by Fagg, M.
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