



# BRYOPHYTES of Australia

## *Leptostomum macrocarpon* (Hedw.) Bach.Pyl.

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Cite this profile as: Helen P. Ramsay (2019) *Leptostomum macrocarpon*. In: Flora of Australia. Australian Biological Resources Study, Department of the Environment and Energy, Canberra.  
<https://profiles.ala.org.au/opus/boa/profile/Leptostomum%20macrocarpon> [Date Accessed: 25 March 2019]

Generated on Mon Mar 25, 2019

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**Profile Updated: Mon Mar 25, 2019 9:39 AM +11:00**

**Version: 1**

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## ***Leptostomum macrocarpon* (Hedw.) Bach.Pyl.**

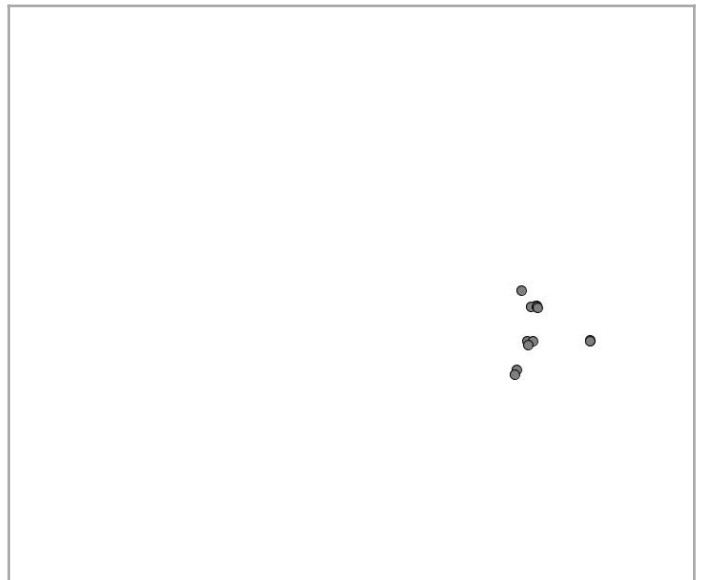
- Bachelot de la Pylaie, A.J.M. in Desvaux, N.A. (ed.) (1814), *Journal de Botanique, Appliquee l'Agriculture, a la Pharmacie, a la Medicine et aux Arts* 3 : 15

Helen P. Ramsay

Plants forming large green or yellow-green corky tufts 8–20 mm tall. Stems simple or branched, closely matted; more densely foliate in upper parts. Leaves erect, loosely or closely imbricate and  $\pm$ twisted when dry, somewhat spirally wound around the stem, suberect when moist, ovate-oblong or obovate-oblong, 2.25–3.00 mm long; apex obtuse; margin entire, broadly to narrowly revolute; costa stout, in upper vegetative and perichaetial leaves excurrent in a long twisted-flexuose ciliate-branched hyaline hairpoint. Laminal cells subquadrate or broadly hexagonal, 20–30  $\mu$ m long, smooth, thin-walled; cell contents conspicuously stellate-shrunken when dry; basal cells short-oblong.

Setae 10–15 (–45) mm long, pale yellow or orange, slender, flexuose. Capsules erect, ovate-oblong, 3.0–4.5 mm long; urn scarcely narrowed at base. Peristome reduced; exostome teeth scattered projections; endostome segments rudimentary, reduced to a low hyaline irregularly papillose roughened membrane. Spores 16–20  $\mu$ m, finely papillose.

*Distribution:* Found on Lord Howe Island, Norfolk Island, New Zealand and in Polynesia as far east as the Society Islands. In Australia, a tropical to subtropical species in southeastern Queensland and New South Wales as far south as Kiama and Fitzroy Falls. The distributions of *Leptostomum erectum* and *L. macrocarpon* overlap.



*Diagnostic Features:* This is a striking moss with the plants matted to form large corky clumps on tree trunks, and covered with numerous long-exserted capsules. *Leptostomum macrocarpon* is readily distinguished from other species by the broader leaves with long, twisted-flexuose, ciliate-branched hairpoints on the upper vegetative and perichaetial leaves. The leaves are imbricate-curved and somewhat twisted around the stem when dry with the margins strongly and broadly revolute. The very thin-walled laminal cells with contents that are conspicuously shrunken, central and somewhat stellate in appearance in the dried condition are also distinctive, as is the comparatively broad, short capsule with a narrow mouth.

*Biostatus:* Native.

*Representative Herbarium Specimens:* Qld: Mt Merino, Macpherson Range, *H. Streimann* 350 (CANB, MEL). N.S.W.: Mt Warning, *H. Streimann* 283 (CANB, MEL); Lilyvale, Sept. 1891, *coll. unknown* (NSW).

*Nomenclature And Typification:* *Leptostomum macrocarpon* (Hedw.) Bach.Pyl., *J. Bot. (Desvaux)*, sér. 2, 3: 15 (1814); *Bryum macrocarpon* Hedw., *Sp. Musc. Frond.* 178 (1801). Type: 'Otaheiti' [Tahiti, Society Is.]; lecto: BM, *n.v.*, designated by J.Hyvönen, *Ann. Bot. Fenn.* 24: 64 (1987).

*Illustrations:* J. Hyvönen, *Ann. Bot. Fenn.* 24: 65, fig. 1a–c (1987); J. Beaver, K.W. Allison & J. Child, *Mosses of New Zealand*, 2nd edn 99, fig. 43f–h (1992); H. Streimann & N. Klazenga, *Cat. Austral. Mosses* [front cover] (2002).

*Source:* H.P. Ramsay (2012), *Australian Mosses Online* 46. *Leptostomataceae*. Australian Biological Resources Study, Canberra. Version 16 June 2012.

**First Published as:** H.P.Ramsay (2006), *Leptostomataceae, Flora of Australia Australia*, Volume 51. Australian Biological Resources Study, Canberra & CSIRO Publishing, Melbourne.

## Conservation Status

QLD - Least concern

## Nomenclature

Ramsay, H.P. in McCarthy, P.M. (ed.) (2006), *Leptostomaceae. Flora of Australia* 51 : 353, Fig. 51A-G, Plate 46, Map 209  
nomenclatural synonym: *Bryum macrocarpon* Hedw.: 353

## Images

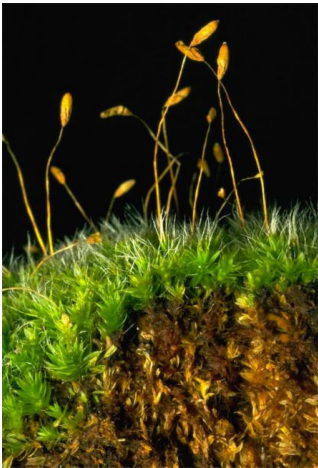


Fig. 1: '*Leptostomum macrocarpon*' by Lepp, H. (© Lepp, H.)



## Acknowledgements

Editor(s)

A.E. Orchard (March 2019)

