



Australasian Lichenology

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The Australasian *Pseudocyphellaria rubella* is widespread in New Zealand, and is known also from New South Wales, southern Victoria, and Tasmania in southeast Australia. Its most distinctive trait is a silky pubescent upper surface dotted with granular yellow soralia. Its thallus chemistry is a rich mixture of pulvinic acid, pulvinic dilactone, calycin, and 20 lupane triterpenoids.

5 mm 

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Ascomycota — *Syllabus of Plant Families*

Ascomycota, Part 1/2, *Syllabus of Plant Families*. Wolfgang Frey (editor). 2016. 322 pp., 16 colour plates, 8 figures, hardcover, 25 x 17 cm. 119 euros. www.borntraeger-cramer.com/9783443010898.

Ascomycota Part 1/2 *Syllabus of Plant Families* treats the worldwide morphological and molecular diversity of the fungal phylum Ascomycota, including lichenized forms, distributed from arctic tundra to tropical rainforests and semi-deserts, and freshwater and marine ecosystems. The volume is an updated synthesis of classical anatomical-morphological characters with modern molecular data, incorporating numerous new discoveries made during the past decade. It provides detailed descriptions of all families and genera of the Ascomycota.

Images — *Lichenes Australasici Exsiccati*

Images from *Lichenes Australasici Exsiccati* and of other characteristic Australasian lichens. Felix Schumm & John A. Elix. 2014. Norderstedt. Books on Demand GmbH, in two volumes. 1327 pages, with numerous colour figures, references and an index to species, hardcover, 21 x 15 cm. 135 euros per volume, Kindle US\$119.50 per volume.

The book includes photographs of typical Australasian lichen specimens issued and distributed as *Exsiccati* by J.A. Elix from 1982 to 1994 as well as additional species from Schumm's private herbarium. About 280 species are illustrated, almost half of them Parmeliaceae, and among them 44 species of *Xanthoparmelia*.

The aim was to make the lichens known to a wider audience than could be reached by the specimens alone. The images include not only high-quality photographs of the specimens, but also selected stained and unstained ascumata sections, spores and HPTLC plates. Each species has a brief description taken from the published volumes of the *Flora of Australia* plus specimen numbers, label details and explanations of the spots on the HPTLC plates. Because it illustrates less than 10% of the Australian lichen flora, the book is not intended for primary identification, but rather as a pictorial aid to supplement the lichen volumes of the *Flora of Australia*. In his 2015 review of the book (*Lichenologist* **47**, 349), D.J. Hill wrote "For anyone working on the Australian lichen flora and for anyone interested in lichen diversity, this book has much to offer", adding that "details of Felix Schumm's other books and...images can be found on his website www.fschumm.de".