

Lempholemma intricatum found in Iceland and Sweden

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Lempholemma intricatum is reported new to Iceland and is recorded from a second locality in Sweden.

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Judging by the few Fennoscandian collections in Swedish and Norwegian herbaria, *Lempholemma intricatum* is a rare species. Jørgensen (2007) reported it from four counties in Norway and one province in Finland. From Sweden it was first reported by Svensson et al. (2009) in an excursion-report from Skäckersfjällen in the province of Jämtland. Recently it was found new to Iceland and at a second locality in Sweden. Apparently it is easily overlooked.

The new localities

In Iceland *Lempholemma intricatum* was found on the eastern coast north of Stöðvarfjörður at the deserted farm Bæjarstaðir, in the lowland about 400 m from the open coast. It was growing on the east exposed vertical wall of a basaltic rock-ledge bordering the hay-field around the farm. The drier parts of the wall were colonized by *Ochrolechia parella* and *Diploschistes gypsaceus*. The location of *Lempholemma intricatum* was beneath a depression that favoured periodical water seepage down the wall face. The thalli formed flat, round cushions about 1.5 to 2.5 cm in diameter. The larger ones were partly dead and

broken away in the centre, near the margin forming filamentous branches, rounded or slightly ellipsoid in section. The filaments were about 0.13–0.17 mm broad in dry condition, swelling up to 0.2–0.25 mm when wet (Fig. 1). No ascocarps were seen.

In Sweden it was found in Lule Lappmark, just E of Suorva, in the lower SW-slopes of Mt. Juolmme, not far from Stora Sjöfallet National Park. It grew on a vertical rock-wall above extensive scree slopes, most closely associated with *Koerberiella wimmeriana* and *Staurothele fuscocuprea* and with unusually well developed specimens of *Lobothallia melanaspis* in the vicinity, indicating high humidity. The abundant *Lempholemma* specimens formed small cushions, rarely exceeding 0.5 cm in diameter and with a nearly peltate inner part, surrounded by irregularly projecting cylindrical or slightly flattened narrow lobes. Apothecia, with spores measuring c. $13 \times 11 \mu\text{m}$, were present in several specimens. In comparison, specimens from Norway (in UPS), like those from Iceland, were more distinctly filamentous, while a collection from Petsamo (collected by Räsänen and determined to *L. fennicum* by Degelius) contained specimens well agreeing with those from Sweden.

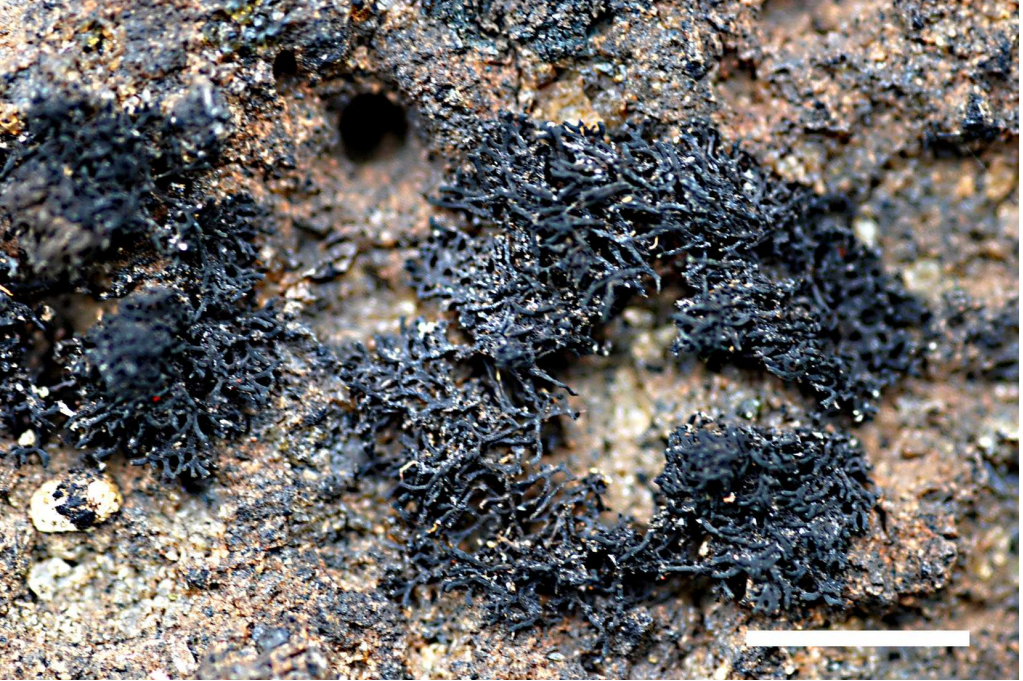


Figure 1. Two cushions of *Lempholemma intricatum* in Bæjarstaðir, Iceland. Bar 1 cm.

Hopefully this report will stimulate other lichenologists to try to find *Lempholemma intricatum*, both in the field and among their old, unidentified collections.

Specimens examined. **Iceland.** *Suður-Múlasýsla:* Stöðvarfjörður, Bæjarstaðir, 64°50'02.2"N, 13°48'54.8"W, alt. 15–20 m, 8 July 2012, Kristinsson LA-31736 (AMNH). **Sweden.** *Lule lappmark:* Gällivare par., SW-slopes of Mt Juolmme, E of Suorva, 67°31'27.2"N, 18°13'45.6"E, alt. 540 m, 27 Aug. 2010, Nordin 7099 (UPS).

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