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Cryptogam of the Month April 2012



Chaetophyllopsis whiteleggei

Chaetophyllopsis whiteleggei an attractive liverwort that is quite common but easily overlooked on sandy heath lands and southern sclerophyll forests. Usually located hiding under low shrubs or tangled within the bases of some grass or sedge species. The plant greenish stems appear to be silky due to the white hair-like teeth on the thallus edges. The thallus structures align along the stem to form a square shape. Fruit capsules are uncommon.

This species is wide spread with scattered occurrences in the southern part of WA and other Southern Australian states.

This species is one of the few Australian liverwort species that has a common name: Furry Worms.

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