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Cryptogam of the Month – September 2012



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Jackelixia ligulata

Jackelixia ligulata is a brightly coloured foliose lichen that has been recently renamed. This species was previously known as *Xanthoria ligulata*.

A common species that is found growing on various rock types usually in coastal areas. The yellow to orange coloured thallus is distinctive but may appear greenish when located in shaded positions.

Jackelixia is a close relative of the common *Xanthoria parietina* the common orange yellow lichen on fruit tree bark. The two genera can be separated by the thallus shape which is flat in *Xanthoria* and the surface appears domed (raised) in *Jackelixia*.

This genus was named in honour of Jack Elix a world renowned Australian lichenologist.

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