

## Notes on the lichen genus *Erioderma* in La Réunion

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**Abstract** – The number of species of *Erioderma* known in the Reunion from where the genus was described is doubled, to six. The following new records are added: *Erioderma borbonicum* sp. nov., *E. papyraceum* and *E. solediatum*. These appear to be part of an ancient stock of Gondwana species which is surprising since the island is a fairly young, though it may have functioned as a refuge for species present in nearby older landmasses.

**Biodiversity / *Erioderma* / Gondwana element / Mascarene Islands / new records & species**

**Résumé** – Le nombre d'espèces connues d'*Erioderma* dans l'île de la Réunion est doublé, pour atteindre un nombre de six. Les nouvelles découvertes suivantes sont ajoutées: *Erioderma borbonicum* sp. nov., *E. papyraceum*, et *E. solediatum*. Ces espèces appartiennent probablement à une souche gondwanique. Cette révélation est inattendue, l'île étant d'origine assez récente. Mais elle aurait assuré un rôle de refuge pour les espèces de la région voisine.

**Biodiversité / *Erioderma* / élément Gondwanique / espèces nouvelles / Isles Mascareignes**

### INTRODUCTION

The lichen genus *Erioderma* is historically linked to the small South Indian Ocean island Réunion (once named Ile de Bourbon) off Madagascar from where Fée (1825) described the genus based on the new species *Erioderma polycarpa* (Fig. 1). This specimen had been collected there during the French revolution (1795-98) by the exiled nobleman Louis Marie Aubert du Petit Thouars (1758-1831), who had returned to France in 1820 with his collections. However, Acharius (1810) had already described the species as *Sticta groendaliana* based on a specimen that the Finnish ship-doctor F. C. Gröndal had collected in the Mascarenes (most probably on Mauritius ("Ile de France")), see Jørgensen 2001). It must be a rare species on the islands as it to our knowledge never has been recollected in the Mascarenes before 1989 (by G. Follmann & I. Follman-Schrag, B). This in contrast to the other species described from Réunion, *Erioderma unguigerum* (Bory) Nyl., which Jean Baptist Geneviève