

Biodiversity and distribution in Austral *Trebouxia* taxa focused on Patagonia and Antarctica

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Trebouxia as a widespread and cosmopolitan genus is an important photobiont partner of a high number of lichen species in the southern hemisphere. Several taxa are molecularly similar to the ones of the northern hemisphere, such as *Trebouxia* sp. URa3, a common species in the milder regions of Antarctica, which occurs also in Europe and the Arctic. However, there are more cosmopolitan taxa which are more heterogeneous and form subgroups in more extreme climate zones in Antarctica, e.g. *T. jamesii*. Some further distinct groups seem to be restricted to the southern hemisphere or are endemic to the most extreme areas in continental Antarctica, such as *Trebouxia* sp. URa1.