Taxonomic delimitation of the genera Bryoria and Sulcaria, with a new combination Sulcaria spiralifera introduced

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Abstract: Bryoria pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera are currently treated as members of Bryoria section Implexae although conspicuous, long and depressed pseudocyphellae characterizing both species resemble those found in the genus Sulcaria. Both genera belong in Parmeliaceae and form an alectorioid group together with Alectoria, Gowardia and Pseudephebe. Parsimony and Bayesian analyses of ITS, partial GAPDH and partial Mcm7 sequence data were used to examine the phylogenetic position of B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera, and in light of these results evaluate the generic delimitation of Bryoria and Sulcaria. A total of 110 specimens of 53 species containing representatives from alectorioid and closely related genera were included in the analyses. The results clearly show first, that both B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera belong in Sulcaria rather than in Bryoria, and second, that they should be considered conspecific. Bryoria pseudocapillaris is proposed as a synonym under B. spiralifera and the name Sulcaria spiralifera comb. nov. is introduced.

Key words: alectorioid lichens, Implexae, pseudocyphellae, secondary chemistry

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Introduction

The lichen genus *Bryoria* Brodo & D. Hawksw., including some 30–40 currently recognized species, has traditionally been treated as a member of the 'alectorioid' lichens, characterized morphologically by a fruticose, often hair-like thallus (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977). In their revision of North American alectorioid genera, Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) segregated *Bryoria* from *Alectoria* Ach. based on differences in ascospore characters (colourless vs. brown,

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respectively), secondary chemistry (ß-orcinol depsidones often present vs. absent; usnic acid absent vs. present) and vegetative structures (for example, pseudocyphellae usually inconspicuous and depressed vs. conspicuous and markedly raised). They recognized five distinct sections of Bryoria on the basis of anatomical, chemical and morphological characters: Bryoria, Divaricatae (Du Rietz) Brodo & D. Hawksw., Implexae (Gyeln.) Brodo & D. Hawksw., Subdivergentes (Motyka) Brodo & D. Hawksw. and Tortuosae (Bystrek) Brodo & D. Hawksw. Section Subdivergentes was later transferred to the genus Nodobryoria Common & Brodo, differing from Bryoria by its cortical structure, lack of soralia and pseudocyphellae, as well as lack of secondary metabolites (Common & Brodo 1995).

In a molecular phylogeny of the genus *Bryoria*, Myllys *et al.* (2011) proposed a new infrageneric classification in which five sections were recognized, mostly corresponding to the sections of *Bryoria*, *Divaricatae*, *Implexae*, and *Tortuosae* of Brodo & Hawksworth

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(1977), but with the addition of section Americanae Myllys & Velmala. Section Implexae was amended to include most of the species assigned by Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) to sections Bryoria and Implexae. However, in contrast to other sections in Bryoria, genetic diversity in section Implexae was found to be minimal. In fact, only B. glabra (Motyka) Brodo & D. Hawksw. was supported as a distinct species, although some level of genetic isolation was observed between European and North American populations of B. capillaris (Ach.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. and B. implexa (Hoffm.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. These results are perhaps not surprising as taxonomic concepts within the section have been problematic, with many taxa defined almost exclusively on secondary chemistry.

The phylogenetic position of some North American taxa placed in Implexae by Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) remained unresolved in the absence of fresh material for DNA analyses. These include B. pseudocapillaris Brodo & D. Hawksw. and B. spiralifera Brodo & D. Hawksw., both restricted to coastal California northward to Washington and Oregon, respectively (Glavich 2003; Glavich et al. 2005). Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) tentatively placed these species in Bryoria, owing to their resemblance to certain species in section Implexae, while at the same time noting that their production of conspicuous long, typically depressed pseudocyphellae might equally justify their placement in Sulcaria Bystrek (see Bystrek 1971; Obermayer & Elix 2003). By contrast, the pseudocyphellae of other members of section Implexae are usually shorter, more or less inconspicuous or in some species even absent. When fertile, Sulcaria and Bryoria are readily distinguished by their spores, which are 2-4-celled and yellowish to brown versus simple and hyaline, respectively (Bystrek 1971). Unfortunately, fruiting bodies are unknown in both B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977).

The phylogenetic position of *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria* has varied during taxonomic studies of alectorioid lichens. Kärnefelt & Thell (1992) considered *Alectoria*, *Oropogon* Th.

Fr. and Sulcaria to constitute a separate family, Alectoriaceae, based mainly on reproductive structures including their relatively large, brownish, thick-walled, often multicelled spores, their strongly amyloid asci, and the branched and anastomosing hyphae of their paraphysoids. Other traditional alectorioid genera (i.e. Bryocaulon Kärnefelt, Bryoria and Pseudephebe M. Choisy) lack these features and were consequently excluded from the Alectoriaceae. More recently, however, the multi-gene phylogenies of Crespo et al. (2007, 2010) have shown that both Bryoria and Sulcaria belong in the Parmeliaceae and form an alectorioid group together with Alectoria and Pseudephebe, although the position of Bryoria within the group is weakly supported. The group additionally includes the recent segregate genus Gowardia Halonen et al. (Halonen et al. 2009) but excludes Bryocaulon, Oropogon and Nodobryoria, which have an uncertain position in the Parmeliaceae (see Thell et al. 2012 for a review of the lichen family Parmeliaceae).

Our main objectives in this study are: 1) to examine the phylogenetic position and taxonomic status of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* and, 2) in the light of these results to evaluate the taxonomic delimitation of *Sulcaria* and *Bryoria*. These questions were addressed by means of phylogenetic analyses performed on representatives of all alectorioid genera (*sensu* Crespo *et al.* 2007, 2010; Thell *et al.* 2012) and based on three gene regions: ITS regions of the nuclear ribosomal DNA, partial glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase gene (GAPDH) and partial minichromosome maintenance protein 7 gene (*Mcm7*).

Materials and Methods

Taxon selection

A total of 112 specimens were used in this study (Table 1). Seventy-one of these represented *Bryoria* (32 species), and eight represented *Sulcaria* (4 species). Taxa from all five sections of *Bryoria* were included, though in keeping with the putative placement of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977), special emphasis was accorded to section *Implexae*. In addition to the six *Implexae* species used in Myllys *et al.* (2011), we also included for the first time *B. pikei* Brodo & D. Hawksw. in

Taxon	Locality	Voucher specimen and sequence ID	GenBank accession numbers			
			ITS	GAPDH	Mcm7	
Alectoria imshaugii	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 05-32 (UBC), H131	EU282496	EU282511	KJ948003	
A. imshaugii	USA, Washington	C. Björk 15571 (UBC), L428	KJ 947931	-	-	
A. imshaugii	USA, Washington	C. Björk 16672 (UBC), L429	KJ947932	_	KJ948004	
A. ochroleuca	Iceland, Norður-Island	P. Keihäs 667 (OULU), L430	KJ947933	KJ9479 77	KJ948005	
A. ochroleuca	Russia, Murmansk Region	P. Uotila 49194 (H), L519	KJ947934	KJ947978	KJ948006	
A. sarmentosa	Finland, Oulun Pohjanmaa	P. Halonen s.n. (OULU), H29	EU282494	EU282509	KJ94800 7	
A. sarmentosa	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 05-38 (UBC), H132	EU282495	EU282510	KJ948008	
A. sarmentosa subsp. vexillifera	Finland, Oulun Pohjanmaa	P. Halonen s.n. (OULU), H28	EU282493	EU282508	KJ948009	
A. sarmentosa subsp. vexillifera	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 01-542 (UBC), H130	EU282492	EU282507	KJ948010	
A. vancouverensis	Finland, Oulun Pohjanmaa	P. Halonen s.n. (OULU), H127	EU282498	EU282513	KJ948011	
A. vancouverensis	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 01-810 (UBC), H128	EU282497	EU282512	KJ948012	
Bryocaulon divergens	USA, Alaska	S. S. Talbot & J. Myers UNI062-34 (H), L475	KJ947935	KJ947979	KJ948013	
B. divergens	Russia, Murmansk Region	L. A. Konoreva s.n. (H), LA78	KJ947936	KJ947980	KJ948014	
B. divergens	Russia, Murmansk Region	L. A. Konoreva s.n. (H), LA79	KJ947937	KJ947981	KJ948015	,
Bryoria americana	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 02-165 (UBC), L199	HQ402678	HQ402606	KJ948016	(
B. americana	Finland, Kainuu	S. Velmala 63 & P. Halonen (H), S69	HQ402677	HQ402605	KJ948017	
B. bicolor	Finland, Etelä-Häme	M. Kuusinen 1063 & R. Lampinen (H), L183	HQ402691	HQ402612	KJ948018	
B. bicolor	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 24 (H), S23	HQ402689	HQ417113	KJ948019	
B. capillaris	Finland, Etelä-Häme	V. Haikonen 22228 (H), L141	FJ668493	FJ668399	KJ948020	
B. capillaris	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 05-19 (UBC), L209	GQ996281	GQ996253	KJ948021	
B. capillaris	Finland, Etelä-Savo	L. Myllys 485 (H), L211	GQ996287	GQ996259	KJ948022	
B. capillaris	USA, Oregon	C. Björk 21120 (UBC), L369	KJ947938	KJ947982	KJ948023	
B. confusa	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang 06-26974 (KUN-L), S292	HQ402686	HQ417112	KJ948024	
B. divergescens	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang 06-26244 (KUN-L), S284	HQ402705	-	KJ948025	
B. fastigiata	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang et al. 06-26696 (KUN-L), S288	HQ402706	-	KJ948026	, ,
B. flocculosa	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang & J. Wang 09-30973 (H), L498b	KJ947939	-	KJ948027	
B. fremontii	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 05-04 (UBC), L205	FJ668503	FJ668408	KJ948028	(
B. fremontii	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 13b (H), S13	FJ668498	FJ668404	KJ948029	
B. furcellata	Canada, Manitoba	T. Ahti 63217 (H), L138	HQ402721	HQ402602	KJ948030	
B. furcellata	Finland, Etelä-Savo	V. Haikonen 22770 (H), L147	HQ402722	HQ402627	KJ948031	
B. fuscescens	Finland, Ahvenanmaa	M. Stjernberg s.n. (H), L149	GQ996290	GQ996262	KJ948032	
B. fuscescens	USA, Alaska	D. Nossov 90098-14 (UBC), L397	KJ947940	KJ947983	KJ948033	
B. fuscescens	USA, Alaska	S. Jovan 90088-24 (UBC), L398	KJ947941	KJ947984	KJ948034	
B. fuscescens	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala 51 & P. Halonen (H), S56	GQ996291	GQ996263	KJ948035	
B. glabra	Finland, Koillismaa	P. Halonen s.n. (OULU), L186	FJ668494	FJ668400	KJ948036	
B. glabra	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 07-02-0033 (UBC), S244	HQ402728	HQ402632	KJ948037	
B. hengduanensis	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang et al. 06-26692 (KUN-L), S287	HQ402704	_	KJ948038	
B. implexa chemotype 1	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 23 (H), S22	GQ996294	GQ996266	KJ948039	
B. implexa chemotype 1	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 37 (H), S39	GQ996293	GQ996265	KJ948040	
B. implexa chemotype 2	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 05-31 (UBC), L240b	GQ996282	GQ996254	KJ948041	
B. implexa chemotype 2	Iran, East-Azarbaijan	M. Sohrabi 4656 (H), L244a	GO996295	GO996267	KJ948042	

 TABLE 1. Specimens used in this study with GenBank accession numbers. New sequences produced for this study are marked in bold. Bryoria pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera specimens were submitted to GenBank as Sulcaria spiralifera(see discussion)

Taxon	Locality	Voucher specimen and sequence ID	GenBank accession numbers		
			ITS	GAPDH	Mcm7
Bryoria implexa chemotype 2	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 06-1066a (UBC), L379a	KJ947942	KJ947985	KJ948043
B. implexa chemotype 3	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 11b (H), S10	GQ996297	GQ996269	KJ948044
B. implexa chemotype 3	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 31b (H), S32	GQ996298	GQ996270	KJ948045
B. implexa chemotype 3	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 09-527 (UBC), L422b	KJ947943	-	KJ948046
B. implexa chemotype 4	Russia, Perm Territory	A. V. Melekhin 10123 (H), S166	GQ996308	GQ996273	KJ94804 7
B. implexa chemotype 4	Finland, Pohjois-Karjala	S. Velmala et al. 90 (H), S97	KJ947944	_	_
B. implexa chemotype 5	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 43a (H), S45	GQ996302	GQ996275	KJ948048
B. implexa chemotype 5	Russia, Perm Territory	Y. A. Ateeva 5055 (H), S164	GQ996285	GQ996257	KJ948049
B. indonesica	New Zealand, Gisborne	M. Wedin 4058 (UPS), L172	HQ402688	_	-
B. indonesica	New Zealand, Gisborne	M. Wedin 4057 (UPS), L173	HQ402687	_	_
B. lactinea	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang 06-26966 (KUN-L), S279	HQ402699	_	KJ948050
B. lactinea	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang et al. 06-26541 (KUN-L), \$293	HQ402700	_	_
B. lanestris	Canada, Alberta	J. Kamin 016 (UBC), S274	GQ996303	GQ996276	KJ948051
B. nadvornikiana	Iran, East-Azarbaijan	M. Sohrabi 4510 (H), L245	HQ402720	HQ402626	KJ948052
B. nadvornikiana	Finland, Kainuu	S. Velmala et al. 73 (H), S79	HQ402718	HQ402624	KJ948053
B. nitidula	Sweden, Ångermanland	J. Granbo s.n. (UPS), L163	HQ402713	HQ402621	KJ 948054
B. nitidula	Greenland	F. Högnabba 752 (H), S121	HQ402711	HQ402619	KJ948055
B. perspinosa	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang et al. 06-26547 (KUN-L), S296	HQ402698	_	_
B. pikei	Canada, British Columbia	<i>T. Goward</i> 09-323a (UBC), L420	KJ947945	_	KJ948056
B. poeltii	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang et al. 06-26697 (KUN-L), S295	HQ402701	HQ402617	KJ948057
B. pseudocapillaris	USA, California	<i>C. Björk</i> 23547 (UBC), L378	KJ947946	KJ947986	KJ948058
B. pseudocapillaris	USA, California	D. Glavich 550 (Siuslaw National Herbarium), L510	KJ947947		KJ948059
B. pseudocapillaris*	USA, California	D. Glavich s.n. (Siuslaw National Herbarium), L518a		_	KJ948060
B. rigida	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang 06-26208 (KUN-L), \$289	HQ402703	_	KJ948061
B. simplicior	Russia, Sakha Republic	<i>T. Ahti</i> 61399 (H), L231b	HQ402716	HQ402601	KJ948062
B. simplicior	Finland, Koillismaa	S. Velmala et al. 30 (H), S30b	HQ402714	HQ402622	KJ948063
B. smithii	India, Uttarkhand	L. Tibell 23319 (UPS), L174	HQ402685	HQ402610	KJ948064
B. smithii	Finland, Varsinais-Suomi	S. Velmala et al. 60 (H), S65	HQ402684	HQ402609	KJ948065
B. spiralifera	USA, California	C. Björk 23483 (UBC), L385	KJ947948	KJ947987	KJ948066
B. spiralifera	USA, California	<i>T. Carlberg</i> 02957 (H), L508a	KJ947949	KJ947988	KJ948067
B. spiralifera	USA, California	<i>T. Carlberg</i> 02957 (H), L508b	KJ947950	Kj)4/)88	KJ948068
B. spiralifera	USA, Oregon	D. Glavich s.n. (Siuslaw National Herbarium), L516	KJ947951	_	KJ948069
B. spiralifera*	USA, California	T. Carlberg 02959 (H), L509b	KJ94/931	_	KJ948009
B. subcana	Finland, Oulun Pohjanmaa	<i>P. Halonen</i> s.n. (OULU), L189			KJ948070
B. subcana B. subcana	Russia, Perm Territory	M. Schajachmetova 18.9 (H), S157	GQ996305 GQ996306	GQ996278 GQ996279	
					KJ948072
B. tenuis	Sweden, Dalarna	J. Hermansson 12855d (UPS), L164	HQ402695	HQ402616	KJ948073
B. tenuis	Finland, Kainuu	S. Velmala et al. 64 (H), S70	HQ402694	HQ402615	KJ948074
B. trichodes	Canada, Newfoundland	<i>T. Ahti</i> 60134 (H), L230	HQ402710	_	KJ948075
B. trichodes	Russia, Kamchatka	<i>T. V. Khakimullina</i> s.n. (H), L505	KJ947952	_	KJ948076
B. variabilis	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang 04-23184 (KUN-L), S286	HQ402683	-	-
<i>B</i> . sp. 1	USA, Alaska	K. Dillman 11:3 (UBC), L411	KJ947953	KJ947989	KJ9480 77

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TABLE 1. Continued

Taxon	Locality	Voucher specimen and sequence ID	GenBank accession numbers			
			ITS	GAPDH	Mcm7	
Bryoria sp. 1	USA, Alaska	K. Dillman 09:264 (UBC), L413	KJ 947954	_	KJ948078	
<i>B</i> . sp. 2	USA, Alaska	K. Dillman 11:5 (UBC), L404	KJ947955	_	KJ948079	
<i>B</i> . sp. 2	USA, Alaska	S. S. & S. Talbot 116 (UBC), L488	KJ947956	_	KJ948080	
Cladonia mitis	Finland, Uusimaa	L. Myllys 240513-1 (H), L526	KJ947957	KJ947990	KJ948081	
Gowardia arctica	Canada, Nunavut	JE. Mattsson 5115 (UPS), L171	EU282504	(EU282520)†	_	
G. arctica	Russia, Nenetsia	A. Pajunen s.n. (OULU), S146	EU282503	EU282519	KJ948082	
G. nigricans	Finland, Inarin Lappi	H. Hyvärinen s.n. (OULU), H79	EU282499	EU282514	KJ948083	
G. nigricans	Finland, Enontekiön Lappi	R. Virtanen s.n. (OULU), S201	EU282501	EU282517	KJ948084	
Nodobryoria abbreviata	USA, California	K. Knudsen 1305 (H), L152	HQ402675	KJ947991	KJ948085	
N. abbreviata	USA, Idaho	Anderson & Shushan Lich. W. North America Exs.	KJ947958	_	KJ948086	
		146 (H), L477	5		5	
N. oregana	Canada, British Columbia	T. Goward 05-26 (UBC), L198a	KJ947959	KJ947992	KJ948087	
N. subdivergens	Greenland	7E. Mattsson 5004 (UPS), L181	KJ947960	_	KJ948088	
Platismatia glauca	Finland, Uusimaa	L. Myllys 080413-1 (H), L520	KJ947961	KJ947993	KJ948089	
Pseudephebe minuscula	Russia, Franz Josef Land	S. S. Kholod s.n. (H), L525	KJ947962	_	KJ948090	
P. pubescens	USA, Alaska	T. Ahti 63704 (H), L221	HQ402676	HQ402604	KJ948091	
P. pubescens	USA, Alaska	T. Ahti 70048 & S. S. Talbot (H), L487	KJ947963	KJ947994	KJ948092	
P. pubescens	USA, Alaska	T. Ahti 70044 & S. S. Talbot (H), L491	KJ947964	KJ947995	KJ948093	
P. pubescens	Russia, Franz Josef Land	S. S. Kholod s.n. (H), L524	KJ947965	KJ947996	KJ948094	
Pseudevernia furfuracea	Finland, Uusimaa	L. Myllys 080413-2 (H), L521	KJ947966	KJ947997	KJ948095	
Sulcaria badia	USA, California	C. Björk 23688 (UBC), L391	KJ947967	KJ947998	KJ948096	
S. badia	USA, California	T. Carlberg 02955 (H), L511	KJ947968	_	KJ948097	
S. badia	USA, California	T. Carlberg 02954 (H), L512	KJ947969	KJ947999	KJ948098	
S. isidiifera	USA, California	<i>R. Riefner</i> 20-293 (H), L151	HQ402674		KJ948099	
S. isidiifera	USA, California	<i>J. Hollinger</i> 4628c (H, UBC), L476	KJ947970	KJ948000	KJ948100	
S. sulcata	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang & M. M. Liang 11-32136 (H), L492	KJ947971		KJ948101	
S. sulcata f. vulpinoides	China, Yunnan	D. L. Niu et al. 12-35586 (H), L494a	KJ947972	KJ948001	KJ948102	
S. virens	China, Yunnan	L. S. Wang & M. M. Liang 11-32117 (H), L493	KJ947973			
Usnea chaetophora	Finland, Pohjois-Savo	<i>K. Jääskeläinen</i> s.n. (H), S360	KJ947974	_	KJ948103	
U. dasopoga	Finland, Uusimaa	L. Myllys 080413-4 (H), L523	KJ947975	KJ948002	KJ948104	
U. hirta	Finland, Uusimaa	L. Myllys 080413-3 (H), L522	KJ947976	_	KJ948105	

* *Mcm7* sequences were obtained from these specimens but not used for analyses because ITS and GAPDH sequences lacking. [†]GAPDH sequence (EU282520) for *Gowardia arctica* specimen L171 was published by Halonen *et al.* (2009) but is not included in this study because it lacks the Mcm7 sequence.

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our analyses. That taxon is endemic to North America and was originally classified in section *Implexae*, as defined by Brodo & Hawksworth (1977).

In addition to specimens of Bryoria and Sulcaria, we also included representatives of all alectorioid genera (sensu Crespo et al. 2007, 2010; Thell et al. 2012), that is Alectoria (11 specimens/4 species), Gowardia (4/2) and Pseudephebe (5/2), Bryocaulon divergens (Ach.) Kärnefelt (3) and Nodobryoria (4/3). According to Thell et al. (2012), these last two genera have an uncertain position in the Parmeliaceae but, as they have traditionally been grouped with the alectorioid lichens (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977), we include them here. Cladonia mitis Sandst. (Cladoniaceae, Lecanorales) was used as outgroup. Pseudevernia furfuracea (L.) Zopf from the Hypogymnioid clade, three Usnea species from the Usneoid clade [see Thell et al. (2012) for definition of these clades] and Platismatia glauca (L.) W. L. Culb. & C. F. Culb. (uncertain position in Parmeliaceae) were also included in the analyses to test the monophyly of the alectorioid group.

Secondary chemistry

All *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria* specimens used in our phylogenetic analyses were examined for secondary compounds with thin-layer chromatography (TLC) using solvents A and B (Orange *et al.* 2001). Methods were as those described in Myllys *et al.* (2011).

Molecular methods

Total genomic DNA was extracted using the methods described in Myllys *et al.* (2011). Sequences from three gene regions were generated for this study: the complete nuclear ribosomal internal transcribed spacer region (ITS), *c.* 1 kb of the glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase gene (GAPDH) and *c.* 0.6 kb of the minichromosome maintenance protein 7 gene (*Mcm7*). ITS and GAPDH were selected based on our previous studies (i.e. Velmala *et al.* 2009; Myllys *et al.* 2011), while *Mcm7* has been shown to be promising at the species-level and genus-level studies of Spribille *et al.* (2011*a, b*) and Sadowska-Deś *et al.* (2013).

PCR profiles for ITS regions and GAPDH gene followed those described in Myllys *et al.* (2011), and PCR profiles for *Mcm7* followed those described in Schmitt *et al.* (2009).

Sequence alignment and phylogenetic analyses

We aligned our DNA sequences with MUSCLE 3.7 using default parameters (Edgar 2004) on Hippu server system at CSC – IT Center for Science, Finland (http:// www.csc.fi/english). We constructed three separate data sets to avoid the introduction of missing data in the analyses: ITS data set included 110 terminals, combined ITS+*Mcm7* data set 101 terminals, and combined ITS+*Mcm7*+GAPDH data set 76 terminals (see Table 1). Each data set was subjected to parsimony and Bayesian analyses. Parsimony analyses were performed in TNT version 1.1 for Windows (Goloboff *et al.* 2008) using the option traditional search with the following settings: random addition of sequences with 100 replicates and TBR branch swapping algorithm. Ten trees were saved for each replicate. The bootstrapping method as implemented in TNT was used with 1000 replicates to estimate node support. The program jModelTest2 version 2.1.1 (Guindon & Gascuel 2003; Darriba et al. 2012) was used to estimate an optimal evolutionary model for Bayesian analyses by calculating AIC (Akaike Information Criterion) scores for each gene region. For the ITS region, evolutionary model was estimated separately for each partition. Models with the lowest AIC scores were used in the analyses. For ITS1, ITS2, Mcm7 and GAPDH the model GTR+I+G was selected, whereas the model K80 was used for the 5.8S. Bayesian analyses were performed on all three data sets using MrBayes version 3.2.2 (Huelsenbeck & Ronquist 2001). For the ITS and ITS+Mcm7 data sets two parallel runs of 10 000 000 generations for ITS and 15 000 000 generations for ITS+Mcm7 were performed using four chains and sampling every 500th tree. The first 25% of samples, corresponding to 5000 samples for ITS and 7500 samples for ITS+Mcm7, was discarded as burn-in. For the ITS+Mcm7+GAPDH data set, two parallel runs of 20 000 000 generations were performed, also using four chains but sampling every 1000th tree. The number of samples discarded as burn-in for this data set was 5000. The temperature parameter was set to 0.05 for all three analyses.

Results

We produced 173 new sequences for this study: 46 ITS sequences, 103 *Mcm7* sequences and 26 GAPDH sequences. The remaining 114 sequences used in the analyses are from our earlier studies (Halonen *et al.* 2009; Velmala *et al.* 2009; Myllys *et al.* 2011).

Since the topologies of the TNT and Bayesian analyses did not show any strongly supported conflicts, only the trees obtained from the TNT analyses are shown (Figs 1-3).

The combined matrix of ITS, *Mcm7* and GAPDH data sets with 76 terminals included 2147 characters, of which 663 were parsimony-informative. The strict consensus of the 18 trees obtained from the TNT analysis is given in Figure 1. *Usnea dasopoga* (Ach.) Nyl. is basal to the remaining taxa, otherwise the intergeneric relationships remain mostly unsupported. Only *Gowardia* and *Alectoria* form a strongly supported monophyletic group. The alectorioid group is not monophyletic as *Pseudevernia furfuracea* forms a sister group to *Bryoria*, *Platismatia glauca* groups with *Sulcaria*, *Bryocaulon divergens* is

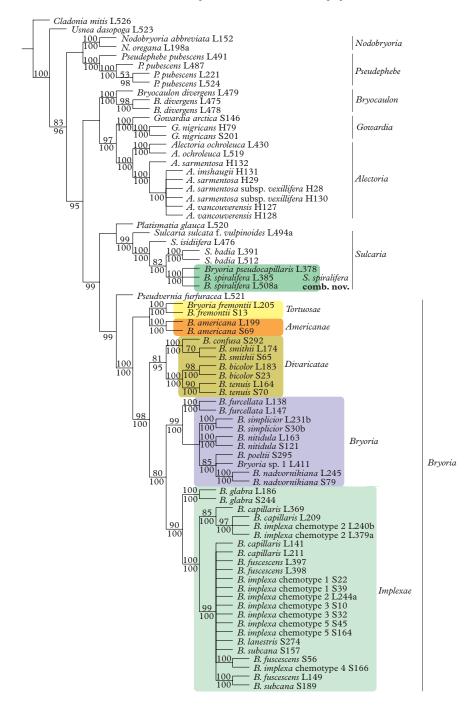


FIG. 1. Molecular phylogeny of alectorioid lichens focusing on *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria*. Strict consensus obtained from TNT analysis based on a combined ITS, *Mcm7* and GAPDH data set. Bootstrap values ≥50% obtained from TNT analysis are shown above nodes and BPP values ≥90% obtained from Bayesian analysis are shown below nodes. Five *Bryoria* sections and positions of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* are indicated in coloured boxes.

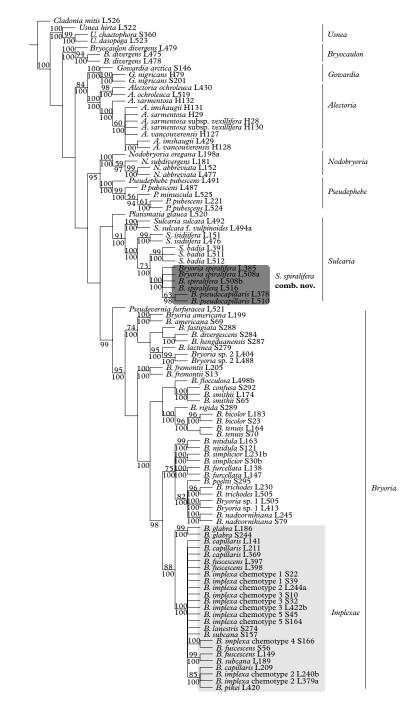


FIG. 2. Molecular phylogeny of alectorioid lichens focusing on *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria*. Strict consensus obtained from TNT analysis based on a combined ITS and *Mcm7* data set. Bootstrap values \geq 50% obtained from TNT analysis are shown above nodes and BPP values \geq 90% obtained from Bayesian analysis are shown below nodes. *Bryoria* section *Implexae* and positions of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* are indicated in coloured boxes.

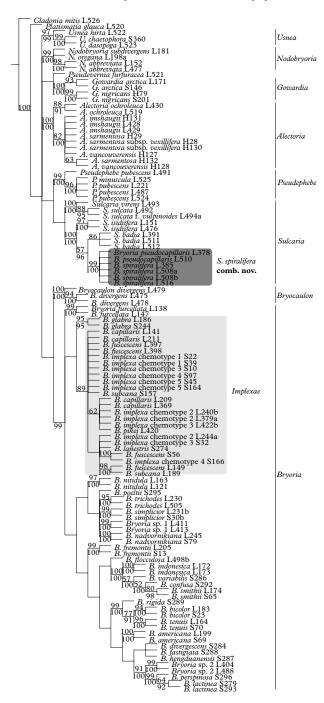


FIG. 3. Molecular phylogeny of alectorioid lichens focusing on *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria*. Strict consensus obtained from TNT analysis based on ITS data set. Bootstrap values \geq 50% obtained from TNT analysis are shown above nodes and BPP values \geq 90% obtained from Bayesian analysis are shown below nodes. *Bryoria* section *Implexae* and positions of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* are indicated in coloured boxes.

sister to the Gowardia-Alectoria clade, and Nodobryoria specimens group with Pseudephebe. The close relationship of Pseudevernia and Bryoria is supported in the Bayesian analyses (see Fig. 1 for BPP values obtained from the Bayesian analysis). Otherwise these relationships receive no support. In contrast, infrageneric relationships are mostly well resolved. All Bryoria sections discussed in Myllys et al. (2011) are either strongly supported (i.e. sections Americanae, Bryoria, Implexae and Tortuosae), or moderately supported (i.e. section Divaricatae) monophyletic groups. Interestingly, the specimens of Bryoria pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera do not group with members of Implexae. Instead, they form a sister group to Sulcaria badia Brodo & D. Hawksw. in the Sulcaria clade.

The parsimony analysis of the combined ITS+Mcm7 data with 101 terminals resulted in 290 trees. Of the aligned 1161 characters, 390 were parsimony-informative. In a strict consensus, three Usnea species form a basal group followed by Bryocaulon, but these relationships received no support (Fig. 2). Pseudevernia furfuracaea, Platismatia glauca and Nodobryoria spp. are nested inside the alectorioid clade as in the tree obtained from ITS+Mcm7+GAPDH analysis. Direct comparison of the trees obtained from different analyses is not possible because of different taxon sampling but generally the relationships within Bryoria are more poorly resolved or more poorly supported than in the ITS+Mcm7+GAPDH tree. All five sections recognized by Myllys et al. (2011) are monophyletic except section Bryoria, which is divided into two separate clades, one of which groups with section Americanae. Again, Bryoria is polyphyletic because B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera group with Sulcaria.

The TNT analysis of the ITS data set included 575 characters of which 216 were parsimony informative. In the strict consensus of the 133 equally parsimonious trees, intergeneric relationships remain unresolved with the following exceptions: *Pseudevernia furfuracea* forms a sister clade to *Gowardia*, *Pseudephebe* and *Sulcaria* group together, and *Bryocaulon* appears as a sister clade to *Bryoria* but none of these groupings receives any support (Fig. 3). Relationships within *Bryoria* are poorly supported and sections *Bryoria* and *Divaricatae* of Myllys *et al.* (2011) are not monophyletic. *Bryoria pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* form a strongly supported monophyletic group together with *S. badia* and *S. isidiifera* Brodo in the *Sulcaria* clade.

Discussion

Delimitation of *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria* and the phylogenetic position of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera*

The monophyly of the genus Bryoria as traditionally proposed (i.e. Brodo & Hawksworth 1977) could not be recovered by our analyses. This is due to the position of B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera, which in all three analyses grouped with members of Sulcaria (see Figs 1-3). The results clearly show that both species should be removed from Bryoria and placed in Sulcaria. This finding is based on data for all three data sets of two specimens of B. pseudocapillaris and four of B. spiralifera. Additional Mcm7 sequences were obtained from one B. pseudocapillaris specimen (specimen L518a, see Table 1) and one B. spiralifera specimen (specimen L509a); again, these confirm the position of both species in Sulcaria.

This finding is by no means a surprise as Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) had already noted a close resemblance between the pseudocyphellae of Sulcaria and those of B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera. Their decision to place these species in Bryoria section Implexae was prompted by a shared morphological and chemical resemblance to certain forms of B. capillaris and B. kuemmerleana (Gyeln.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. (syn. B. implexa; see Holien 1989). On the other hand, B. pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera differ significantly from other members of section Implexae, for example, in their striking pseudocyphellae, stiff habit and perpendicular side branches (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977). This last feature especially is characteristic of all four species currently placed in Sulcaria (Brodo & Hawsksworth 1977; Brodo 1986). Likewise, the restricted occurrence of *B. pseudocapillaris* and *B. spiralifera* along the American west coast (Glavich 2003) is more characteristic of *Sulcaria* than of *Bryoria*, a genus typical of cool temperate and boreal regions.

The almost complete lack of genetic variation between Bryoria pseudocapillaris and B. *spiralifera* specimens (=99-100% similar ITS sequences) raises the question of whether they may in fact belong to a single species. Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) identified secondary chemistry as their most reliable diagnostic point of distinction, that is, alectorialic and barbatolic acids and an unknown substance in *B. pseudocapillaris* versus atranorin and norstictic and connorstictic acids in B. spiralifera. Additionally, B. pseudocapillaris is described as an essentially pale species with long linear pseudocyphellae, while B. spiralifera is characterized by its more variable colour and often spiral pseudocyphellae (Fig. 4A & B). With more extended sampling, Glavich (2003) found that these morphological traits were often good predictors for the identification of the two species, but at the same time noted the existence of intermediate forms. Overlapping characters were observed in both thallus colour (ranging from pale to brown in both species) and morphology of pseudocyphellae (variation ranging from linear to spiralling in both species, see also Fig. 4C). The only exception is a dark brown coloration found only in some B. spiralifera specimens (Glavich 2003). The combination of a similar DNA profile and lack of distinct species boundaries strongly suggests that these two taxa are in fact chemical variants of a single species. In our view, B. pseudocapillaris is more appropriately treated as a synonym of B. spiralifera, and the name Sulcaria spiralifera (Brodo & D. Hawksw.) Myllys, Velmala & Goward is proposed (see below).

Our analyses show that *Sulcaria* is divided into two allopatric subclades (Figs 1–3), the first restricted to Asia and the second to North America. The original treatment of *Sulcaria* included only the Asian subclade, that is, *S. sulcata* (Lév.) Bystrek and *S. virens* (Taylor) Bystrek ex Brodo & D. Hawksw (Bystrek 1971). Both are widely distributed in the Himalayas and adjacent regions, and have more recently been reported from Japan (Awasthi & Awasthi 1985; Obermayer & Elix 2003).

Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) tentatively placed the sterile North American species S. badia in Sulcaria, based on its conspicuous, long, sulcate pseudocyphellae, though these are less well developed than in Asian members of the genus. Our analyses confirm the position of S. badia in Sulcaria and show that it is closely related to S. spiralifera. In fact, ITS sequence comparison revealed 98% sequence similarity between these two species. While we acknowledge that a 3% divergence for ITS sequences has usually been accepted as the minimum threshold for delimiting fungal species (but see Begerow et al. 2010), our analyses of S. badia consistently form a strongly supported monophyletic group separate from S. spiralifera. Hence we adopted a phylogeny-based approach instead of a similarity-based identification and treat S. badia as a distinct species. In fact, S. badia is usually easily recognized by its distinctive chestnut brown colour, extremely long pseudocyphellae extending the length of the branches, and production of atranorin alone; norstictic and connorstictic acids are lacking (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977; Peterson et al. 1998).

In addition to *S. badia* and *S. spiralifera*, the North American clade includes *S. isidiifera*. This species is known only from the type locality in southern California and is distinguished by its caespitose habit, longitudinally split branches, the presence of isidia and soredia, and production of protocetraric acid (Brodo 1986).

Topologies obtained from our three analyses are not directly comparable because of different taxon sampling but generally, as expected, the ITS tree and in part the ITS+*Mcm*7 tree were less resolved than the combined phylogeny obtained from the three data sets (Figs 1–3). For example, five *Bryoria* sections appearing in the combined phylogeny of ITS+*Mcm*7+GAPDH data were not always recovered as monophyletic in the ITS or in the ITS+*Mcm*7 trees. However, we agree with Nixon & Carpenter (1996) that phylogenetic hypotheses based on simul-

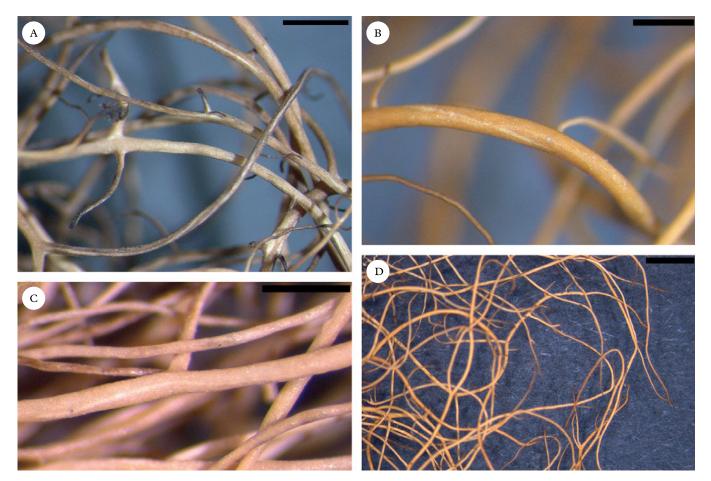


FIG. 4. *Sulcaria spiralifera*. A, typical norstictic chemotype, specimen L508a with dark brown, partly pruinose branches and spiral pseudocyphellae; B, typical alectorialic and barbatolic chemotype, specimen L510 with pale branches and spiral pseudocyphellae; C, norstictic chemotype with pale branches and straight pseudocyphellae (specimen L516); D, general habit with spinulose side branches (specimen L510). Scales: A = 1 mm; B & C = 0.5 mm; D = 2 mm.

taneous analysis of multiple data sets have the highest explanatory value, and consider the combined tree of three data sets the most reliable hypothesis of evolution. For some taxa for which GAPDH sequences could not be obtained, we still have to rely on the results obtained from the ITS and/or Mcm7 sequences. According to our ITS and combined ITS+Mcm7 analyses, for example, Bryoria contains two unidentified specimens (specimens L404 and L488), which most probably represent a new species. A formal species description, however, must await additional collections and a careful study of morphological variation. These specimens, both collected from North America, group with B. lactinea (Nyl.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. in the ITS+Mcm7 tree and form a sister group to the B. lactinea-B. perspinosa clade in the ITS tree (only ITS data available for the latter species) (Figs 2 & 3). Both B. lactinea and B. perspinosa (Bystrek) Brodo & D. Hawksw. are Asian species and were referred to section Bryoria in Myllys et al. (2011), but were not present in our ITS+*Mcm7*+GAPDH analysis.

Here it can also be noted that two other specimens (specimens L411 and L413) collected from North America most probably represent yet another undescribed species. The combined ITS+*Mcm7*+GAPDH analysis suggests that it belongs in section *Bryoria* and is most closely related to *B. nadvornikiana* (Gyeln.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. and *B. poeltii* (Bystrek) Brodo & D. Hawksw. (Fig. 1).

The addition of *Mcm7* data, not used in our previous study on the phylogeny of the genus *Bryoria* (Myllys *et al.* 2011), did not shed any further light on the relationships in section *Implexae*. Resolution within this section is still low, and two subclades appearing in the combined phylogeny of ITS+*Mcm7*+ GAPDH data (Fig. 1) are partly congruent with secondary chemistry and distribution.

In the combined ITS+Mcm7 tree (GAPDH data not available), the North American endemic B. pikei, not present in our previous study (Myllys et al. 2011), falls within section Implexae, together with North American specimens of B. capillaris and B. implexa (chemotype 2) (Fig. 2) and close to other specimens of B. capillaris, B. fuscescens (Gyeln.) Brodo & D. Hawksw., *B. glabra*, *B. implexa*, *B. lanestris* (Ach.) Brodo & D. Hawksw., and *B. subcana* (Nyl. ex Stizenb.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. With the exception, however, of *B. glabra*, none of these taxa are confirmed as distinct species. We are now examining the taxonomy of section *Implexae* with extended taxon sampling and suggest that a number of species can be recognized on traditional morphological, chemical and ecological characters notwithstanding the apparent lack of corroborating DNA evidence (Velmala *et al.* 2014).

Phylogeny of alectorioid lichens

Although this study focused primarily on the delimitation of *Bryoria* and *Sulcaria*, it may be useful to briefly discuss the phylogeny of other alectorioid lichens included in our analyses.

As currently defined by Thell et al. (2012), the alectorioid group comprises c. 66 species from five genera (i.e., Alectoria, Bryoria, Gowardia, Pseudephebe and Sulcaria). Our analyses, however, do not support the monophyly of this group. The combined phylogeny of ITS+Mcm7+GAPDH data suggests that Pseudevernia furfuracea (a sister group to Bryoria), Platismatia glauca (sister to Sulcaria), Bryocaulon (sister to Alectoria and Gowardia) and Nodobryoria (sister to Pseudephebe) belong here also (Fig. 1). Our results, however, should be treated with caution as none of the above-mentioned groupings received any support. Clearly more comprehensive taxon sampling, also from parmelioid genera, is needed to assess the relationships among the alectorioid genera. Meanwhile, it is interesting to note a close, although unsupported relationship of *Pseudephebe* and *Nodobryoria*. Nodobryoria resembles Pseudephebe in cortical structure, in lacking secondary substances, and in having similar conidia (Common & Brodo 1995). According to Thell et al. (2012), Nodobryoria has an uncertain position in Par*meliaceae*, though this is perhaps not surprising given that none of its three species have been represented in the recent large-scale molecular phylogenies. The present study, by contrast, includes all three species: two North American endemics, N. abbreviata (Müll. Arg.)

Common & Brodo and *N. oregana* (Tuck.) Common & Brodo, and *N. subdivergens* (E. Dahl) Common & Brodo, found also in Greenland (Brodo & Hawksworth 1977; Brodo & Alstrup 1981).

Alectoria was fairly well represented in our analyses, which included four of the seven species described so far. Diagnostic characters include the presence of conspicuous, white, markedly raised pseudocyphellae and the production of usnic acid, a substance lacking in the recent segregate genus Gowardia (Halonen et al. 2009). Our analyses did not recover the monophyly of A. imshaugii Brodo & D. Hawksw., A. sarmentosa (Ach.) Ach. and A. vancouverensis (Gyeln.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. (Figs 1-3). While A. imshaugii is easily recognized by its caespitose growth form and production of isidia, A. sarmentosa and A. vancouverensis are pendent species differing mainly in their chemistry, thallus anatomy and colour. Brodo & Hawksworth (1977) did not question the distinctiveness of the three taxa but acknowledged the presence of intermediate forms. Our results suggest that the species may be conspecific. For now, however, we refrain from venturing any definite taxonomic conclusions pending further study with additional taxon sampling.

Taxonomy

Sulcaria spiralifera (Brodo & D. Hawksw.) Myllys, Velmala & Goward comb. nov.

MycoBank No.: MB809146

Bryoria spiralifera Brodo & D. Hawksw., Opera Bot. 42: 131 (1977); type: USA, California, Humboldt County, pine forest near Manila, on *Pinus contorta*, 1972, *S. Dowty* 137 (CANL 38403—holotype, seen).

New synonym: Bryoria pseudocapillaris Brodo & D. Hawksw., Opera Bot. 42: 126 (1977); type: USA, Oregon, Curry County, Cape Blanco, 8 miles north of Port Orford, headland rocks and isolated trees on windswept summit, on sitka spruce at headland at 100 feet, 1974, *I. M. Brodo* 20539 (CANL 50596—holotype, seen; BM isotype, not seen).

(Fig. 4A–D)

Thallus subpendent to pendent, 4-12 cm long, pale brown to dark brown, cortex dull

or slightly shiny, often pruinose in norsticticacid chemotype; branching mostly irregular, without distinct main branches, angles between the branches mainly acute, 0.10-0.35mm diam., with spinulose side branches near apices; *pseudocyphellae* usually conspicuous, white, linear, straight or spiralling around branches, sometimes furrowed, abundant or sparse, 1–4 mm long; *soralia* and *isidia* lacking.

Apothecia and conidiomata unknown.

Chemistry. Chemotype 1: cortex and medulla K+ yellow, containing alectorialic acid, barbatolic acid and an unknown substance (Rf class 2–3 in solvent A and Rf class 3–4 in solvent B). Chemotype 2: cortex and medulla K+ yellow becoming red, containing norstictic acid, connorstictic acid and atranorin.

Distribution and habitat. Sulcaria spiralifera is a rare but sometimes locally abundant species endemic to the west coast of North America, from northern California to Washington. It grows in open or shady maritime forests on *Pinus contorta*, *Picea sitchensis* and on various shrubs and deciduous trees.

Comments. Bryoria pseudocapillaris and B. spiralifera were described in the same publication by Brodo & Hawksworth (1977). We chose to use the name B. spiralifera, since it better describes the morphology of this species.

Additional specimens examined. All specimens deposited in Siuslaw National Forest Herbarium unless stated otherwise USA: California: Del Norte County, Lake Earl State Park, on Pinus contorta var. contorta, 41°52'17·76"N, 124°11'56·04"W, sea level, 2000, D. Glavich 592; Humboldt County, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, on Pinus contorta var. contorta, 40°52'49·44"N, 124°8'50·28"W, sea level, 2000, D. Glavich 581; Humboldt County, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, 40°52'49.40"N, 124°8'50.5"W, 2001, L. Geiser 7075; Humboldt County, Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge, on branch of Picea sitchensis, 41°48'43.56"N, 124°10'46.92"W, sea level, 2000, D. Glavich 546; Humboldt County, Trinidad State beach, 41°4′9·984″N, 124°9′10·08″W, 30 m, 1999, D. Glavich 0004 (hb. D. A. Glavich); Humboldt County, Redwood National Park, on Pinus contorta var. contorta, 41°42′26·28″N, 124°8′32·64″W, 76 m, 2000, D. Glavich 593. Oregon: Coos County, Siuslaw National Forest, on branch of Vaccinium ovatum, 43°16'8.4"N, 124°9'27·72"W, 8 m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1006; Coos County, Siuslaw National Forest, 43°16'8·4"N, 124°9'27 72"W, 8 m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1866; Coos County, Siuslaw National Forest, on branch of Vaccinium ovatum, 43°28'45·48"N, 124°14'54·24"W, 20 m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1030; Coos County, Siuslaw National Forest, on trunk of Pinus contorta var. contorta, 43°28'45·48"N, 124°14'54·24W, 20m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1031; Coos County, Siuslaw National Forest, on twig of Picea sitchensis, 43°26'32.28"N, 124°16'22.08"W, 21 m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1001; Coos County, Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, on branch of Pinus contorta var. contorta, 43°28'27.48"N, 124°13'48.36"W, 32 m, 2001, A. Mikulin 1224; Coos County, Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, on branch of Pinus contorta var. contorta, 43°26"27.60"N, 124°14'49.92"W, 29 m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1051; Curry County, on Picea sitchensis, 42°50′13·20″N, 124°31′54·48″W, 2001, 15 m, D. Glavich 552; Lane County, north of Florence, on Picea sitchensis branch, 44°3′58·32″N, 124°6′52·56″W, 12 m, 2003, D. Glavich 603; Lane County, north of Florence, on Picea sitchensis, 44°3′59.04″N, 124°6′56.52″W, 6 m, 2003, L. Geiser 713 (Siuslaw National Forest Herbarium); Lane County, south of Florence, on Picea sitchensis branch, 43°52'30"N, 124°8'31.20"W, sea level, 2003, A. Ingersoll 953. Washington: Island County, Deception Pass State Park, on Picea sitchensis branch, 48°23'52·44"N, 122°39'47·52"W, 2 m, 2000, A. Mikulin 1260.

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