

III. Usnea subg. Usnea sect. Setulosae

Thallus medium sized to rather large, densely branched and fibrillose, always very rigid; medulla almost always thin and ± dense. Color uniformly ± grayish green, without red color, ± unchanged in herbarium; surface smooth or irregularly verrucose; papillae rare and acute, or dense but obtuse.

This section does not seem very distinctive, and should be crossreferenced with others. It was called Sect. Setulosae subsect. Densirostrae, but it contains the implied type species of the section, and I am treating the only other "subsection" (Rubigineae) as a separate section, because it is usually easily recognized by its ± red thallus.

Thallus pale greengray to yellowgray, not blackened at the base (blackened but not constricted according to Ozenda & Clauzade), smooth and shining, sometimes with inconspicuous annulations, erect to subpendent (410 cm) or scrambling (to 25 cm), rigid, rather little branched (almost dichotomously), forming loose, rather irregular tufts; main branches rather stout, hard, to 1 mm diam., richly branched especially towards the ends; lateral branches finer, not constricted at the base. Soralia numerous, very small, punctiform, superficial, smaller than half width of branches, with fragile isidia when young. Lateral branches not constricted at point of attachment. Cortex 815% of diam.. Medulla compact. Medulla and axis white. Medulla K, C, P+ redorange. Ch.: protocetraric acid. Apothecia 45 mm diam., not terminal; margin with fibrils. On bark.

Florida. U. subscabrosa Nyl. ex Mot.