

**Pseudephebe** M. Choisy

(LECANORALES: PARMELIACEAE, at least s. lato)

After Brodo & Hawksworth, 1977

Rev. 5/94

Thallus fruticosefilamentous, sometimes compacted and subcrustose centrally,  $\pm$  tightly attached to the substrate, prostrate, the segments mostly narrow (to ca. 12 mm), in section rounded to flattened (dorsiventrally compressed) parallel to the substrate, attached by scattered disclike holdfasts (hapters) over the whole area,  $\pm$  thickly isotomically dichotomously branched (often strictly so), brown to deep blackbrown, matt to slightly shiny, usually concolorous except where attached to substrate, even or uneven, always without pseudocyphellae, true lateral spinules, and vegetative propagules. Cortex composed of hyphae parallel to upper surface, producing a prosoparaplectenchymatous tissue on the upper surface. Medulla white, hyphaelike, the hyphae not granular encrusted nor ornamented. Photobiont chlorococcoid.

Apothecia sometimes frequent, lateral; thalloid margin concolorous with thallus, persistent to pressed back, not incurved, sometimes ciliate; disks dark brown to almost black. Hymenium low. Asci clavate, thickwalled, amyloid, with robust tholus. Spores to 8, ellipsoid, thick walled, colorless at maturity; without distinct perispore, simple,  $712 \times 68$   $\mu\text{m}$ .

No substances. Pycnidia frequent, sunken; ostioles wide; fulcra endobasidial; pycnospores pegform (bacilliform), simple, colorless. On limefree rock, rarely on old wood or baked soil, in cold to cool places.

**1. Thallus loosely adnate and prostrate to subpendulous, usually interwoven and forming loose to dense, rather thin (12 mm) mats; basal branches usually terete (to slightly compressed); branches fine and  $\pm$  evenly thin (ca. 0.2 mm); apices not attached; internodes elongate, giving a loose hairy appearance to the thallus. Apothecia very rare; disk grayblack or brown. Branches usually less than 1 cm long; branching isotomic dichotomous; surface dark brown to black, shining, sometimes paler at base. On rock faces, boulders and gravels, rarely on wood. Arcticalpine (occasionally down to moderate elevations in dry northwestern pine woodlands), south to Labrador in the east and to Arizona, California and Guadalupe in the west. ....P.**

pubescens

1. Thallus closely attached to appressed; basal branches becoming + flattened, + terete towards tips; branches coarse, unevenly thickened, to ca. 1 mm broad, irregularly isotomic dichotomous with numerous short lateral branchlets; tips becoming adnate; internodes short (less than 1 mm), giving the thallus a rather dense appearance; surface dark brown to black, shiny or matt, sometimes pale at the base. Apothecia often present, lateral, the disk to 3 mm broad, dark redbrown to black. On rock faces, boulders, and windswept gravels. Arcticalpine, in drier inland areas, southwest to Arizona and California in the mountains. .... P. minuscula

**Literature**

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