

Rare Plant Status Review: *Scytinium teretiusculum*

Add to Considered But Rejected list

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Background

Scytinium teretiusculum (Wallr.) Otálora, P.M. Jørg. & Wedin is a foliose, gelatinous lichen in the Collemataceae that is found in western Europe and North America (Esslinger 2021, CNALH 2022, NatureServe 2022). It has a Global Rank of G4G5Q; it is considered Critically Imperiled (S1) in Washington state and Michigan and Vulnerable (S3) in Oregon and New Brunswick and Nova Scotia provinces (NatureServe 2022). It is included in the Northwest Forest Plan as a Category E taxon (as *Leptogium teretiusculum*) (USDA/USDI 2001). As part of the Species of Conservation Concern process, it was added to a list of species to be considered for SCC Account development by CNPS.

There are approximately 32 California collections of *S. teretiusculum* in the Consortium of North American Lichen Herbaria (CNALH 2022). However, based on its abundance in southwest Oregon, it may be more common in northern California than collections would suggest (Sims 2022 pers. comm., Loring 2022 pers. comm.). To complicate matters further, systematists working on the molecular systematics of the genus *Scytinium* have found that the populations currently placed in *Scytinium teretiusculum* likely belong to several different species (McCune 2022 pers. comm., Stone 2022 pers. comm.). In addition, whatever species these are, they are very difficult to distinguish from one another (McCune 2022 pers. comm., Stone 2022 pers. comm.). Early in 2022, Aaron Sims sent out an email to the CALS Lichen Conservation Committee about addition of this lichen to the CNPS Inventory. The consensus of those who responded (and the opinion of the *Scytinium* experts who were contacted) is that this lichen should not be considered for addition to the CNPS Inventory at this time (McCune 2022 pers. comm., Sims 2022 pers. comm., Stone 2022 pers. comm.).

Recommended Actions

CNPS: Add to Considered But Rejected list

CNDDDB: Do not rank

Draft CNPS Inventory Record

Scytinium teretiusculum (Wallr.) Otálora, P.M. Jørg. & Wedin

Considered But Rejected

Reason: May not occur in California; taxonomic knowledge of the genus and delimitation of this species is in flux.

Common name: shrubby vinyl

Literature Cited:

Sent to CALS Conservation Committee for final comments on 2022-10-03, but no further comments were received

[CNALH] Consortium of North American Lichen Herbaria. 2022.
<http://lichenportal.org/portal/index.php> [accessed August 2022].

Esslinger, T. L. 2021. A cumulative checklist for the lichen-forming, lichenicolous, and allied fungi of the continental US and Canada. *Opuscula Philolichenum* 20: 100-394. Available at:
<https://www.ndsu.edu/pubweb/~esslinge/chcklst/chcklst7.htm> and at:
http://sweetgum.nybg.org/science/op/biblio_list.php?BucVolume_tab=20
[accessed August 2022].

NatureServe. 2022. NatureServe Explorer. Website
<https://explorer.natureserve.org> [accessed August 2022].

USDA/USDI. 2001. Record of Decision and Standards and Guidelines for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines. Available at
https://www.blm.gov/or/plans/surveyandmanage/files/rd-rod_s_and_g-2001-01.pdf [accessed August 2022].

Personal Communication:

McCune, Bruce. 2022. Professor, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Oregon State University. Personal communication about current research on *Scytinium teretiusculum*. Email correspondence on 9 September 2022.

Sims, Aaron. 2022. Rare Plant Program Director, CNPS. Personal communication summary of emails with the CALS/CNPS Lichen Conservation Committee. Email correspondence on 12 January 2022.

Stone, Daphne. 2022. Faculty Research Assistant, Lichenologist, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Oregon State University. Personal communication about current research on *Scytinium teretiusculum*. Email correspondence on 9 September 2022.