

**Grimmia moxleyi R.S. Williams – J. M. Holzinger, Musci Acroc. Bor.-Amer.,
600. 1926.**

Type: U.S.A., California, Los Angeles Co., between Big Rock Creek and Devil's Punch Bowl, leg. G.L. Moxley No. 1141, lectotype, designated, by Muñoz (2000), NY!; isoelectotypes FH!, H-BR!, MO!

Distribution: Am.1,2

Description

Grimmia moxleyi grows in flat, greenish-black, frequently extended mats, the leaves are erect with slightly incurved tips when dry, erect-spreading when moist, keeled, oblong, broadly rounded and muticous at apex, the perichaetial leaves are longer, the costa is weak below, projecting at dorsal side, hair-points are absent, they are only present in perichaetial leaves, the margin are plane to recurved. The distal areolation is bistratose, the mid-leaf cells are rounded-quadrate with \pm sinuose and incrassate walls, the basal marginal cells are rectangular with thin walls, the basal juxtacostal cells are elongate with thin walls. The sexuality is autoicous, capsules on arcuate setae are usually present, they are exserted, oblong-ovoid, wrinkled-plicate when dry, with a conical operculum and white, perforated and papillose peristome teeth.

Discussion

Grimmia moxleyi is endemic to southwestern states of the U.S.A., and north-western Mexico. It is a thermophilous species from acidic rock, autoicous and usually richly provided with capsules. The species is characterized by short, carinate, muticous stem leaves, contrasting with much larger hair-pointed perichaetial leaves. Muñoz (2000) synonymised erroneously *G. moxleyi* with *G. orbicularis* Bruch. Although there are some similarities, *G. orbicularis* is much larger, it grows in dense cushions on basic rock, the setae are 2-3 mm long and the capsules are brown, shiny and spherical, the operculum is mammillate, only the lowest stem leaves are muticous, and the basal juxtacostal cells have incrassate and sinuose walls. In 1999, I found *G. moxleyi* in abundancy in California on a vertical, grainy, granitic wall in Sequoia National Forest. The plants, richly provided with capsules, were growing in a thin mat, covering 3-4 square metres.

Specimens examined

U.S.A. California, Los Angeles Co., sandstone conglomerate between Big Rock Creek and Devil's Punch Bowl, leg. G.L. Moxley nr. 1141, 30-05-1926, H-Br.

1825018!; California, San Diego Co., Aqua Caliente, 6 miles east of station on route S2, leg. Churchill nr. 83162, 01-05-1983, MICH!; California, Inyo Co., Funeral mts., Mesquite Spring, west of Amargosa settlement, leg. Coville nr. 336, 20-02-1891, H-Br.!; California, Sequoia National Forest, route 178, 5 miles east of Canbrake, steep granitic wall, alt. 1310 m, leg. H.C. Greven nr. C 81, 82, 04-11-1999;

References

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- Jones, G.N. 1933. Grimmiaceae. *In*: Grout (ed.), Moss Flora of North America Vol. II, Part I: 1-66. Newfane, Vermont.
- Muñoz, J. 2000. New synonyms in *Grimmia*. Journal of Bryology 22: 99-102.