Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis and S. tornense new to Russia from the Murmansk region

ALEXEY V. MELECHIN

Melechin, A. V. 2010: Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis and S. tornense new to Russia from the Murmansk region. *Graphis Scripta 22*: 63−64 Stockholm. ISSN 0901-7593.

Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis and *S. tornense* are reported new to Russia from the Murmansk region. Their habitats are characterized and the differences from similar species are discussed.

A. V. Melechin. Polar-Alpine Botanical Garden-Institute, Kola Science Center RAS, Kirovsk, Russia. E-mail: lichenoid@yandex.ru

Dombrovskaya (1996: 73) mentioned that *Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis* and *S. tornense* might occur in the Murmansk region and in northern Karelia. In the present note I report these species as new to Russia based on material from the Murmansk region collected in 2007−2008. To my knowledge these species have not been recorded for Russia before. Good descriptions of the species are given by, e.g., Gilbert et al. (2009).

Material

The nomenclature follows Santesson et al. (2004). The specimens are deposited in herbarium KPABG (Russia, Kirovsk), with duplicates in H and BM.

The species

Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis

On tundra, in bottom of brook ravine with snow until the middle of summer, on soil among mosses on big boulder. *Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis* is usually saxicolous, but may grow also on soil (Purvis & James 1985).

Specimen examined: **Russia.** *Murmansk region*: Lovosersky District, coast of Lumbovsky bay of the White Sea, 67°41″54″N, 40°33′02″E, alt. 30 m, 16.VII.2007 (KPABG-7449).

Stereocaulon tornense

On tundra, on morain in brook valley, on small (1−3 cm) pebbles.

Specimen examined: **Russia.** *Murmansk region*: Monchegorsk District, Lapland State Reserve, Mts. Monche-tundra, the tributary of the Vite river, 67°56′15″N, 32°37′31″E, alt. 730 m, 24.VII.2008 (KPABG-4390).

Discussion

The presence of soredia distinguishes these species from *S. condensatum* and *S. cumulatum* – two similar and widespread species in Russia including the Murmansk region. Another member of this group of crustose species, *S. nivale* (Follmann) Fryday, is esorediate and should not be confused with *S. leucophaeopsis* and *S. tornense*; that species is endemic to the

Pacific northwest of North America (Fryday & Glew 2003).

The finding of *Stereocaulon leucophaeopsis* and *S. tornense* in Murmansk region was likely, since both are known from the neighbouring countries of Fennoscandia (Santesson et al. 2004, Elvebakk & Bjerke 2006).

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