

Pseudotomentella nigra

(Höhn. & Litsch.) Svrček

Figures 1–8

Tomentella nigra Höhn. & Litsch. 1908 [2 : 78] FH! \equiv *Pseudotomentella nigra* (Höhn. & Litsch.) Svrček 1958 [7 : 68]

= *Tomentella tenebrosa* Malençon 1954 [5 : 156] see Larsen [3] and compare Larsen [4] \equiv *Pseudotomentella tenebrosa* (Malençon) M.J. Larsen 1967 [3 : 44]

Basidiome effused, loosely adherent to separable, following the substrate or partly curling away, tomentose to soft membranaceous or pelliculose, up to 1 (2) mm thick.

Hymenial surface smooth, rarely well formed, often pruinose to pellicular, becoming continuous, and when fully developed slightly crustose, light grey or light bluish grey (10B 7–6/1–2) to pale brown, light brownish-grey, yellowish brown (10YR 7–6/2–6), when postmature becoming dark greyish blue to bluish black and concolorous with the subiculum.

Subhymenium very thin, at first adhering to the subiculum, then somewhat detachable.

Subiculum thick, byssoid, tomentose to felted, often soft fibrous, very dark brown (10YR 2–1/2) to bluish or violaceous black (10B–10PB 2–1/2–6).

Margin sterile, abrupt or indefinitely thinning out, byssoid to soft tomentose, concolorous with the subiculum.

Rhizomorphs often rare and difficult to find, sometimes readily observed at the margin or in cracks of the substratum, up to 0.1 (0.2) mm thick, richly branched, soft to compact and rigid, pubescent, concolorous with the subiculum.

Hyphal system monomitic or dimitic with skeletal hyphae always associated with rhizomorphs; all generative hyphae with simple-septa.

Subhymenial hyphae regular, loosely arranged, 2–3 (4) μ m wide, thin-walled, hyaline to subhyaline.

Subicular hyphae regular, 2–3 (4.5) μm wide, loosely arranged, branched at right or wide angles, with thin to thickening wall, subhyaline to yellowish brown, a few basal becoming brownish (but see 'Incrustation' below), sometimes with simple anastomoses. Some subicular hyphae penetrate into the hymenial layer and slightly project from the surface.

Rhizomorphs complex, built up by an inner core of subhyaline to yellowish generative hyphae 2–4 (6) μm , with thin to thickening wall, parallelly arranged, becoming compact and somewhat dendroid toward the surface, frequently branched, almost indistinct, with thickening to thick wall. Outer layer built up by straight 2–3 μm wide almost unbranched generative or (pseudo)skeletal hyphae with thickening to solid wall and narrow lumen, with frequent to rare simple primary septa and sometimes with sparse or closely spaced secondary septa, subhyaline to yellowish. True skeletal hyphae infrequent or rare, 1–1.5 μm in diam., straight or rarely with some elbow-like bends and lumen almost not visible, subhyaline.

Cystidia absent.

Basidia initially globose with a long stalk, sinuos, at maturity almost cylindrical or slightly ventricose, always distinctly stipitate, some (microbasidia) 30–40 (50) \times 6–8 (9) μm , some 60–100 \times (9) 10–12 (13) μm ; 4 sterigmata up to 7 μm long and up to 2.5 μm broad at the base, hyaline to subhyaline.

Basidiospores subglobose to broadly ellipsoid in side view, globose to subglobose in frontal view, globose to transversally subglobose in polar view, with almost regular to slightly irregular outline, some (microspores) 5–7 μm in diam., some (8) 9–11 (12) μm across, sparsely and bluntly echinulate to mostly verrucose with small tubercles often bifurcate, with thickening, rarely thick wall, subhyaline to pale yellowish; often with a large yellow, oil drop. Apiculus lateral to subcentral in side view.

Chlamydospores absent.

Chemical reactions: IKI–; CB–(?); KOH (see below).

Incrustation: Almost all subicular and surface hyphae of rhizomorphs coated by a bluish sheath and densely arranged small dark blue to dark violet blue crystals in water and acid mounting media that turn bright green to olive brown in KOH. In KOH crystals partially dissolve producing a slightly cyanescent hue of hymenial elements. Spores embedded in hymenium may also assume darker colours due to deposits of this matter.

Specimens examined

AUSTRIA – Mödlinger Klauser, on litter, leg. G. Noll, 30.I.1898, holotype of *Tomentella nigra* Höhn. & Litsch. (FH: v.Höhnelt herb., sheet 1993)

FRANCE — **Alpes-Maritimes** – Col du Buis, on lying, decayed wood of *Pinus sylvestris*, leg. H. Michel, 25.X.2003 (em-8352) — **Aveyron** – La Maxane, Les Vignes,



Fig. 1: Basidiome [em-10744]

Causse Méjan, on wood of a lying, decayed twig of *Juniperus sp.*, leg. E. Martini, 9.XI.2008 (em-10733) – Millau, Le Cade, on bark of a lying, decayed branch of *Juniperus communis*, leg. E. Martini, 9.XI.2008 (em-10744) — Vaucluse – Gault, on bark of a lying, rather hard branch of *Pinus sp.*, leg. E. Martini, 12.XI.2007 (em-10344.1) – Rustrel, La Forge, on inner side of bark of a lying, decayed trunk of *Pinus sp.*, leg. E. Martini, 13.XI.2007 (em-10338)

USA — Colorado – [Unknown locality], on *Picea sp.*, leg. R.L. Gilbertson, 2.VIII.1964 (SYRF: R.L.Gilbertson 4989) — Idaho – Challis National Forest, Indian Springs Ranger Station, on a coniferous tree, leg. M.J. Larsen, 19.VII.1965 (SYRF: M.J.Larsen 1416)

Materials and methods

Specimens sampling and methodological details are described separately in this issue:

Excerpts from *Crusts & Fells*, n° 0



Fig. 2: Young basidiome with a poorly developed hymenophore. Image width = 45 mm [em-10338]



Fig. 3: Basidiome with poorly developed hymenophore. Image width = 23 mm [em-10338]

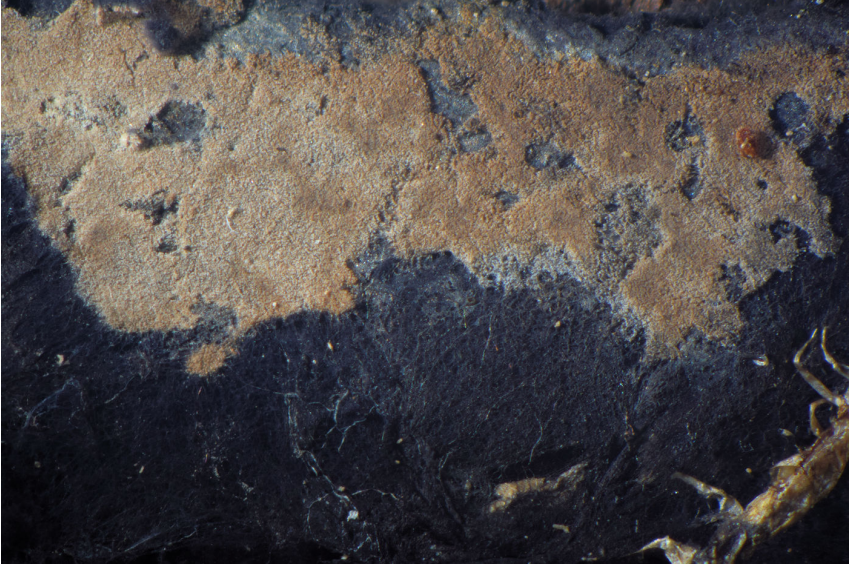


Fig. 4: Basidiome with a well developed hymenophore (dry). Image width = 9 mm [em-10733]



Fig. 5: Postmature dark hymenophore, smooth, crustose, partly detached from the subiculum (dry). Image width = 9 mm [em-8352]

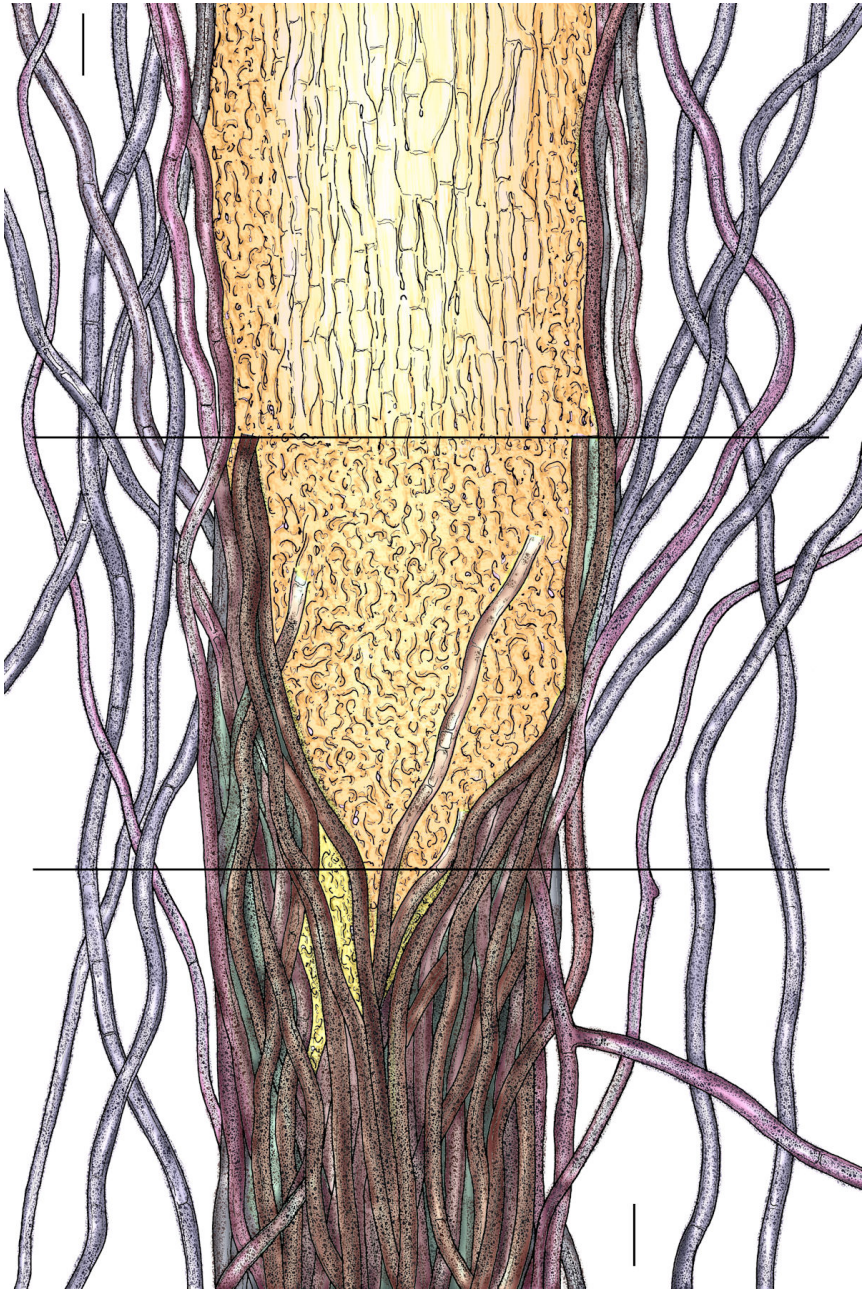


Fig. 6: Outer and inner structure of a rhizomorph: core (top), mediostratum (middle), surface (bottom). Bar = 10 μ m [em-10733]

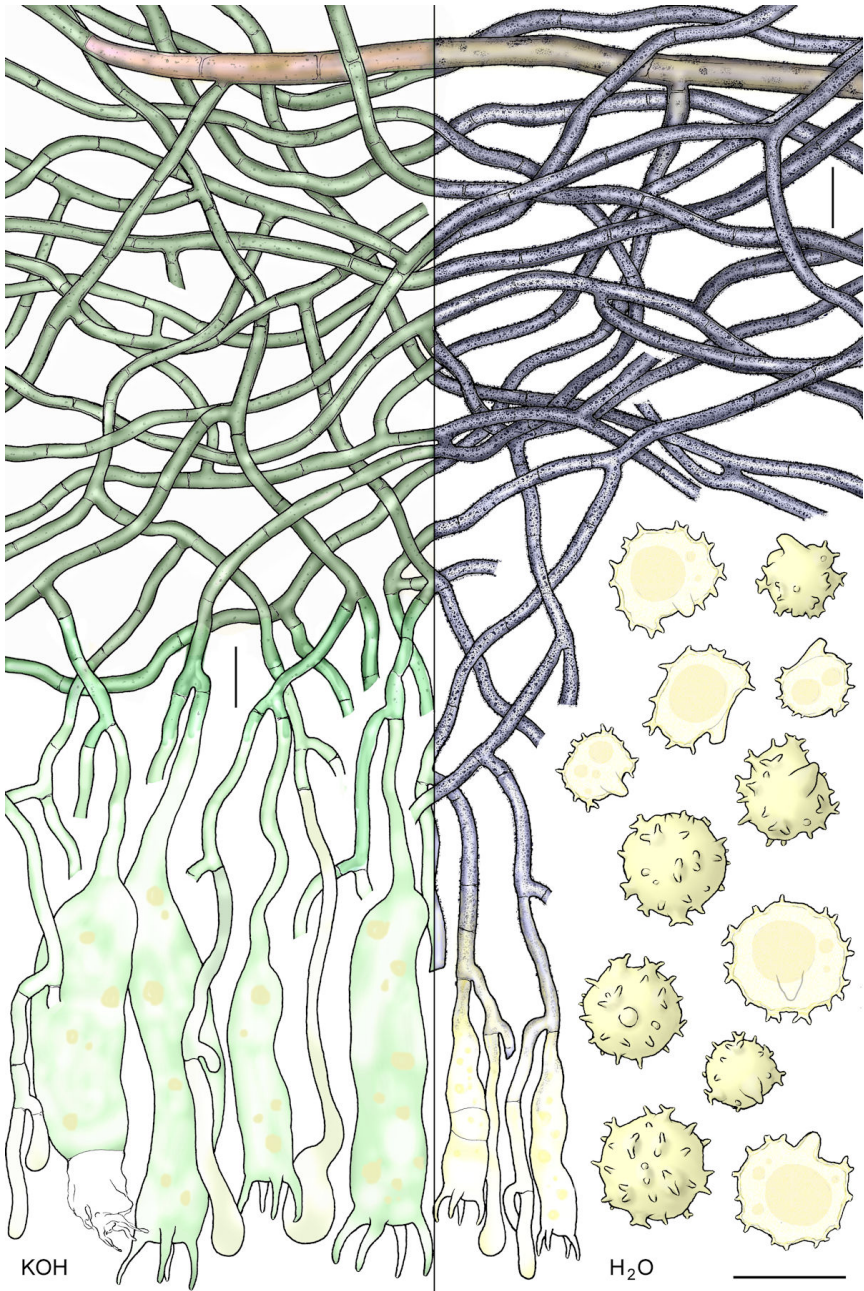


Fig. 7: Basidia, microbasidia, subhymenial and subicular hyphae; left: as mounted in KOH; right: in distilled water. From the holotype of *Pseudotomentella nigra*. Bar = 10 μ m [FH: v.Höhnelt herb., sheet 1993]

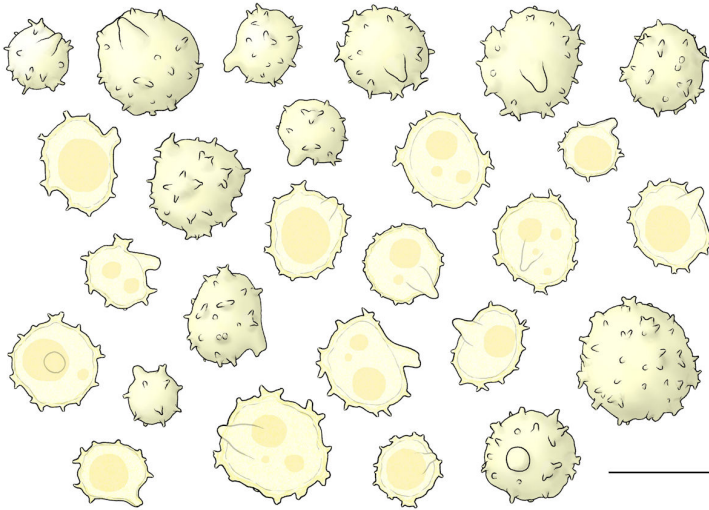


Fig. 8: Basidiospores. Bar = 10 μ m [em-8352]

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Excerpts from *Crusts & Fells*

Descriptions and reports of resupinate Aphyllophorales and Heterobasidiomycetes

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