

2022

## BC Conservation Status Rank Review and Changes

### Vascular Plants

**Additions:** 12 vascular plants were added to the BC flora. Only two were native species.

*Taraxacum scopulorum*, alpine dandelion is a previously overlooked species. Specimens collected in limited habitat in the Peace River area that were previously identified as *Drymocallis convallaria* were reidentified as *Drymocallis arguta*, tall wood beauty.

Among the Exotics is *Cytisus multiflorus*, Spanish broom, an ornamental shrub that has escaped from plantings and appears to be established on Vancouver Island and *Phytolacca americana*, pokeweed, a garden ornamental from eastern North America that has established a population in a Vancouver Park.

**Excluded:** Eight vascular plants were removed from the flora primarily due to an absence of reliably verified specimens or misidentification.

**Taxonomic/Name Changes:** 43 changes in taxonomic classification or nomenclature were made this year. Most of these changes better align BC taxonomy and nomenclature with the Canada-wide database VASCAN and recent treatments in the Flora of North Americana and the revised Flora of the Pacific Northwest, 2nd Edition (Hitchcock and Cronquist)(Giblin et al. eds, 2018).

**Status Assessment:** 46 taxa had changes to their provincial conservation status ranks this year. Almost all changes were due to new information or new interpretation of the same information. The ranks of 6 taxa were changed to SU (Unknown) because of taxonomic questions or uncertainty regarding provenance. For example, the rank for *Catabrosa aquatica*, brookgrass was changed from SH to SU because the historical collection from Fernie included no details regarding provenance and a contemporary record from Texada Island represents an introduction. Other rank changes represent minor refinements that have been made possible through recent surveys or new information.

### Bryophytes

**Additions:** 26 mosses were added to the BC flora. Most of these were reported for BC by the Flora of N. America Vol. 28 and confirmed with specimens. Several others, such as *Brachythecium campestre*, *Sphagnum orientale* and *Tortula plinthobia* are not listed for BC in FNA Vol. 28, but were verified with collections by BC bryologists.

**Excluded:** 22 mosses were removed from the BC flora because they could not be confirmed with collections, or they were reidentified as other species.

**Taxonomic/Name Changes:** 106 taxonomic changes were made to bryophytes (and one liverwort) this year. Many were generic reassignments or spelling corrections following *An annotated checklist of bryophytes of Europe, Macaronesia and Cyprus* (Hodgetts et al. 2020.) Several trinomials were added where FNA (Vol. 28) recognizes subtaxa (e.g. *Orthotrichum pallens* var. *pallens*); others were removed where FNA (Vol. 28) does not recognize subtaxa (e.g. *Amblystegium serpens*)

**Status Assessment:** Ranks for three mosses were changed to SU (Unknown) due to uncertainty related to taxonomy or specimen identification.

## Fungi

Four lichens and one macrofungus were added to the myco-flora this year. This reflects incidental changes brought to our attention and not that there are few updates to these groups. Many more changes are expected once we have the opportunity to address these groups and undertake assessments in the coming months and years.

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