

SCHISTIDIUM AUSTROSIBIRICUM SP. NOV. AND *S. SCABRIPILUM* SP. NOV.
(GRIMMIACEAE, BRYOPHYTA) – TWO CLOSELY RELATED SPECIES
FROM ASIAN RUSSIA

SCHISTIDIUM AUSTROSIBIRICUM SP. NOV. AND *S. SCABRIPILUM* SP. NOV.
(GRIMMIACEAE, BRYOPHYTA) – ДВА НОВЫХ БЛИЗКОРОДСТВЕННЫХ ВИДА
ИЗ АЗИАТСКОЙ ЧАСТИ РОССИИ

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Abstract

Two new species of *Schistidium* are described from Asian Russia. Their distinctness is supported by nrDNA ITS1-2 sequence data. *S. austrosibiricum* was not previously differentiated from *S. sinensiapocarpum*, mainly due to their similarly long and sharply serrate hair-points in stem and perichaetial leaves and papillose dorsal side of costa. However, they differ in leaf size and shape, hair-points flatness and leaf lamina areolation. *S. austrosibiricum* is known from southernmost mountain areas of Asian Russia, while *S. sinensiapocarpum* is a widespread circumholarctic montane species. The second species, *S. scabripilum* is morphologically similar to *S. echinatum*, and some specimens were previously referred to it. The main differences between them concern hair-point length and structure, including length of protruding spinulae and their angle with the hair-point axis. However, they belong to different clades in the molecular phylogenetic tree and possess different distribution patterns. *S. scabripilum* is a northern Asian species, found in the Putorana Plateau, southern Taimyr, Yakutia and Chukotka, while *S. echinatum* is known from the Alps, Caucasus and Ural mountains, and in western North America. Description, illustrations, distribution and ecological data are provided for the new species, and comparison with similar species is given.

Резюме

Два новых вида *Schistidium* описаны из Азиатской части России. Отличия между ними подтверждены данными по последовательностям ITS1-2 ядерной ДНК. *S. austrosibiricum* ранее не отличали от *S. sinensiapocarpum*, в основном из-за сходства в строении гиалиновых волосков в стеблевых и перихециальных листьях – длинных и остро пильчатых, а также папиллозной на дорсальной поверхности жилке. Дополнительное изучение морфологических признаков позволило выявить отличия между этими видами в размерах и форме листьев, степени уплощенности гиалиновых волосков, размерах клеток пластинки листа и выемчатости клеточных стенок. *S. austrosibiricum* распространен в горных районах юга Сибири, тогда как *S. sinensiapocarpum* является более широко распространенным циркумголарктическим горным видом. Второй вид, *S. scabripilum*, по морфологическим признакам сходен с *S. echinatum*, и некоторые его образцы ранее относили к последнему виду. Их основные отличия заключаются в длине и характере орнаментации поверхности гиалиновых волосков, а именно в длине шипиков на дорсальной поверхности волоска и степени их отогнутости по отношению к оси волоска. Несмотря на значительное морфологическое сходство, эти два вида попадают в разные, далекие друг от друга клады молекулярно-филогенетического дерева. Они также имеют различия в распространении: *S. scabripilum* встречается в северных регионах Азиатской России, тогда как *S. echinatum* известен из Альп в Центральной Европе, с Кавказа, Урала и с запада Северной Америки. Приводятся описания, иллюстрации и данные об экологии и распространении новых видов, а также их сравнение с морфологически сходными видами.

KEYWORDS: taxonomy, mosses, new species, ITS

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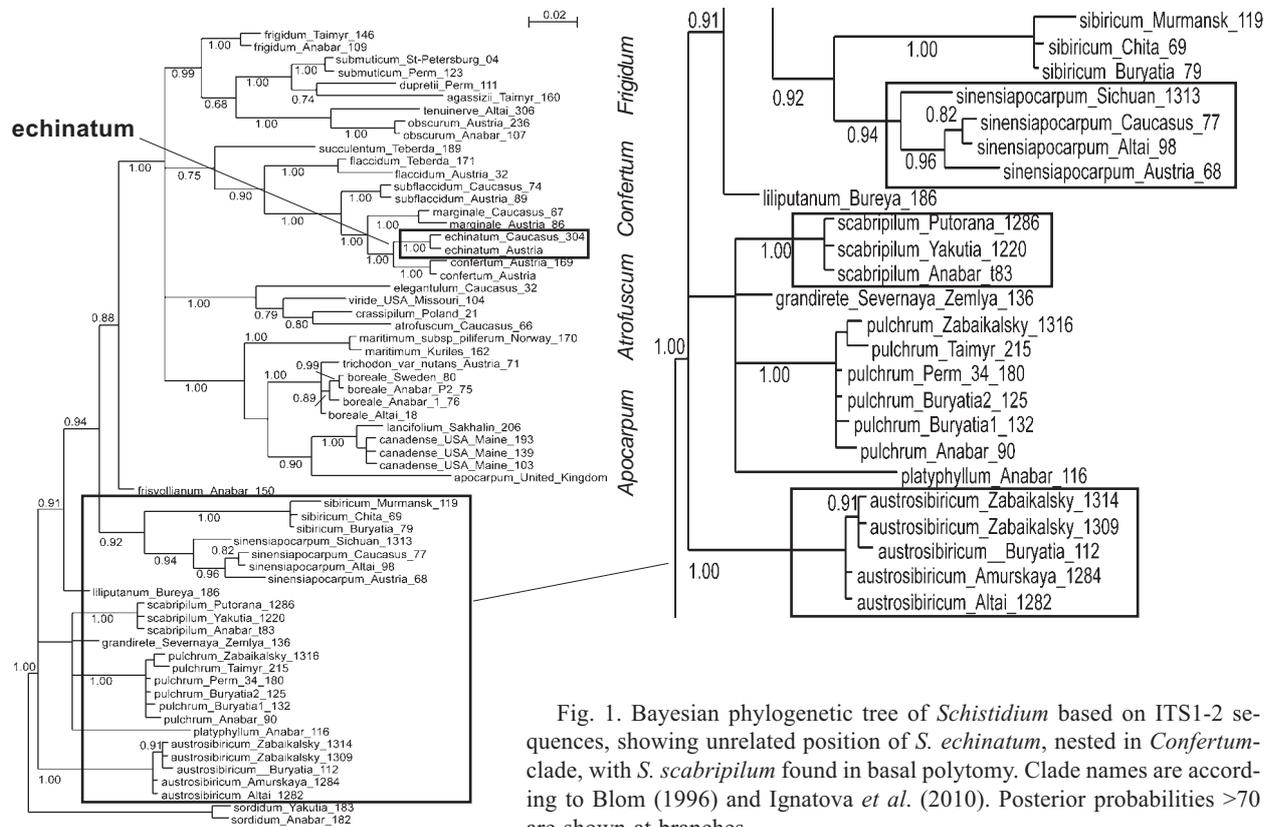


Fig. 1. Bayesian phylogenetic tree of *Schistidium* based on ITS1-2 sequences, showing unrelated position of *S. echinatum*, nested in *Confertum*-clade, with *S. scabripilum* found in basal polytomy. Clade names are according to Blom (1996) and Ignatova *et al.* (2010). Posterior probabilities >70 are shown at branches.

INTRODUCTION

The genus *Schistidium* is one of the most taxonomically difficult among moss genera. Following the revision of Blom (1996), a narrow species concept which has been supported by molecular studies (Goryunov *et al.*, 2007; Milyutina *et al.*, 2010) has become widely accepted during the last decades. A considerable number of new species have been described from both the Northern and Southern Hemisphere, and some forgotten species have been resurrected. A brief overview of recent literature concerning these novelties is given by Blom *et al.* (2016). The vast territory of Russia has quite expectedly turned out to be a source of material for the description of new species of *Schistidium*. Six new species were revealed there (Ignatova *et al.*, 2010). Two of them have restricted distribution areas in the Russian Far East: *S. bakalinii* is hitherto known only from Kuril Islands (Shikotan and Iturup), *S. frahmanum* from Chukotka and a single locality in northern Yakutia (Ochyra & Afonina, 2010; Ignatova, unpublished data). Two other species, *S. sibiricum* and *S. tenuinerve*, have comparatively wide distributions in Asian Russia, and are also known from a few disjunct localities in northern Europe (Ignatova *et al.*, 2010; Ellis *et al.*, 2016). The remaining species, *S. obscurum* and *S. succulentum*, are characterized by even wider, though more scattered distributions (Ignatova *et al.*, 2010). The distinctness of most of these species was disclosed by the help of molecular phylogenetic

analysis based on ITS1-2 sequence data, a marker which has proven very useful in resolving the species taxonomy of *Schistidium* (Milyutina *et al.*, 2010; Hofbauer *et al.*, 2016).

Ongoing bryofloristic exploration of several territories of Asian Russia, including Putorana and Anabar Plateaus, Yakutia, Transbaikalia and Amur River basin, has resulted in additional *Schistidium* collections. Some specimens of unclear affinity were studied for ITS1-2 sequences, and their comparison with previous data revealed two new and closely related species. They are described below under the names *S. austrosibiricum* and *S. scabripilum*.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The work was based mainly on specimens recently collected by V.E. Fedosov in southern Taimyr and Putorana Plateau, by O.M. Afonina and I.V. Czernyadjeva in Zabaikalsky Territory, by S.V. Dudov in Amurskaya Province and by M.S. Ignatov and E.A. Ignatova in Yakutia. Some other collections from LE, MHA, MW and SASY were also studied.

New nuclear DNA ITS1-5.8SrRNA-ITS2 sequences were obtained from ten specimens, and 62 sequences from our previous studies were included in the analysis. Specimen data and Genbank accession numbers are in Appendix 1.

DNA extractions and laboratory protocols were essentially the same as in Gardiner *et al.* (2005). Ampli-

fied DNA fragments were sequenced in the Center of collective use “Genom” in Moscow. Sequences were aligned manually in Bioedit (Hall, 1999). Trees were rooted on *Schistidium sordidum*.

Bayesian analyses were conducted under a Bayesian Markov Chain Monte Carlo approach using MrBayes v.3.1.2 (Ronquist & Huelsenbeck, 2003) with three compartments (ITS1, 5.8S and ITS2) analysed with HKY+I model for 5.8S, and with GRT+I+G model for ITS1 and ITS2. Models were selected using ModelgeneratorV.85 (Keane *et al.*, 2006). Three parallel runs were implemented, each with five chains and 20,000,000 generations (25% burnin).

Standard morphological and anatomical methods were used. Measurements were taken with Zeiss and Leitz light microscopes, cell sizes were measured on digital photos made with Nikon D70 camera and with the use of Infinity Analyze 5.0.2 Software. Drawings were made with MBS10 stereo microscope and LOMO Mikmed-2 light microscope with an aid of the Wild Heerbrugg TYP 308700 and RA6U42 drawing tubes.

RESULTS

The Bayesian analysis of the restricted set of accessions with an addition of new sequences resulted in the tree with topology similar to trees published by Ignatova *et al.* (2010, Figs. 1–2). It has a basal paraphyletic grade and maximally supported terminal clade with polytomy of four subclades, largely corresponding to *Apocarpum*-group, *Atrofucum*-group, *Confertum*-group, and *Frigidum*-group, found in morphological studies of Blom (1996) and subsequently supported by molecular phylogenetic analyses (Ignatova *et al.*, 2010). The newly obtained accessions were found within a basal polytomy. Three specimens, previously identified as *S. echinatum*, from Putorana, Anabar Plateau in southern Taimyr and Indigirka River basin in Yakutia, form a clade with PP=1.0 within a larger non-supported clade that includes also *S. platyphyllum*, *S. grandirete* and *S. pulchrum*. Note that morphologically very similar *S. echinatum* was resolved in *Confertum*-group within terminal clade, close to *S. confertum*, *S. marginale* and *S. subflaccidum*.

Another five new sequences from specimens originally referred to *S. sinensiapocarpum*, from Amurskaya Province, Zabaikalsky Territory, Buryatia and Altai, were also found in the basal grade. They formed a maximally supported clade, whereas ‘true’ *S. sinensiapocarpum* was found in basal paraphyletic grade, within a clade with *S. sibiricum*, with moderate support (PP=0.92).

These two groups of specimens were found to be distinct by this molecular phylogenetic analysis, and a study of their morphological characters also revealed some distinctions, which are discussed in the taxonomy section. They are described below as *S. scabripilum* sp. nov. and *S. austrosibiricum* sp. nov.

TAXONOMIC TREATMENT

Schistidium austrosibiricum Ignatova & H.H. Blom, sp. nov. Figs.2-3.

The new species is similar to *S. sinensiapocarpum* in its papillose dorsal side of costa and long and coarsely spinulose hair-points in stem and perichaetial leaves, but differs from the latter in possessing shorter leaves (1.5–1.7 mm vs. 1.7–2.5 mm), a more widened and flattened proximal portion of the hair-point, a mainly unistratose lamina, shorter and less sinuose median lamina cells and a different urn exothecial cell pattern with a considerable admixture of rectangular and isodiametric cells.

Holotype: Russia: Republic of Buryatia, Kurumkan District, Dzherginsky Nature Reserve, pass to Kovyli Creek, limestone outcrops, on rocks, 8.VII.2000, Tubanova 105(IV) (MW, Isotypes UUH, MHA).

Plants medium-sized to small, dull blackish- or brownish-green or dark-olivaceous above, brownish below, forming small to extensive tufts. *Stem* 0.5–1.5 cm, repeatedly branched, in transverse section with 2–3-stratose sclerodermis, medullary cells with moderately thickened walls and narrow central strand. *Leaves* straight, appressed when dry, erecto-patent when wet, lamina 1.0–1.5×0.5–0.6 mm, from ovate base gradually narrowed into short triangular acumen, keeled distally, concave proximally; *hyaline hair-points* 0.3–0.6 mm, widened and flattened proximally, but rather stiff, straight, not decurrent, sharply serrate at margins and finely scabrose on dorsal surface; *costa* percurrent or extending into the proximal portion of hair-point, narrow, strongly projecting on dorsal side, semicircular in transverse section, mainly 3-layered, papillose on dorsal side in distal portion; *margin* recurved in proximal 2/3–3/4 on one side and more shortly recurved on the other side in the widest part of leaf, flat distally and often papillose-denticulate below hair-point, bistratose in one row of cells; *lamina* smooth, unistratose or, rarely, with few narrow bistratose strips or patches; distal lamina cells isodiametric to transversely ovate, 6–9(–11) µm wide and 6–10(–12) µm long, with moderately thickened, esinuose walls; median lamina cells subquadrate and short-rectangular, 7–9.5 µm wide and 7–15 µm long, with moderately thickened and slightly sinuose walls; basal juxtacostal cells rectangular, 9–11 µm wide and 12–25 µm long, with moderately thickened esinuose walls, basal marginal cells in 5–7 rows subquadrate to short-rectangular, with thickened and porose transverse walls. *Perichaetial leaves* with oblong base and short triangular apical part, 2.0–2.5×1.0–1.1 mm, margins recurved in distal 1/2–2/3, hair-point 0.6–0.8 mm, widened and flattened proximally, decurrent or not, costa extending into its lower 1/3–1/2 portion, margins sharply serrate, dorsal surface with shortly projecting upper angles of some cells. *Calyptra* cucullate.

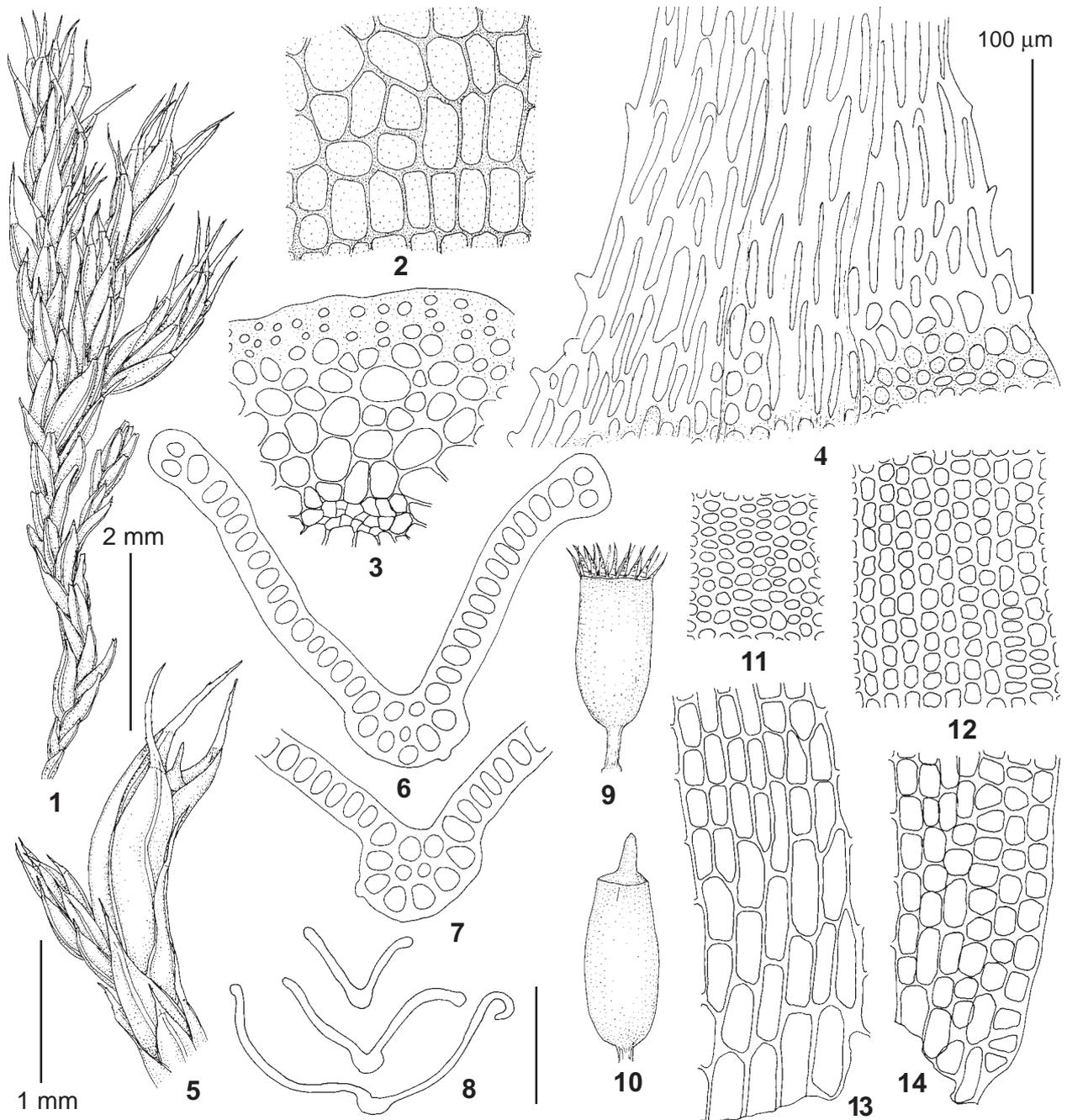


Fig. 2. *Schistidium austrosibiricum* Ignatova & H.H. Blom (from holotype: Russia, Buryatia, 8.VII.2000, *Tubanova 105(IV)*, MW). 1, 5 – habit, dry; 2 – exothecial cells; 3 – stem transverse section; 4 – distal lamina cells and lower part of hair-point; 6–8 – leaf transverse sections; 9–10 – capsules; 11 – distal lamina cells; 12 – median lamina cells; 13 – basal juxtacostal lamina cells; 14 – basal marginal lamina cells. Scale bars: 2 mm for 1; 1 mm for 5, 9–10; 0.2 mm for 8; 100 µm for 2–4, 6–7, 11–14.

Autoicous, sporophytes frequent. *Seta* 0.2–0.3 mm. *Urn* immersed, elongate-cylindrical, 0.9–1.1×0.5–0.6 mm (1.7–1.8:1), exothecial cells irregular, subquadrate and rectangular, stomata present at urn base; peristome teeth orange-brown, 320–340 µm long, with numerous perforations in distal half and some semiperforations in basal portion, densely papillose. *Operculum* conic, with long straight beak. *Spores* (10–)11–13 µm, almost smooth.

Etymology. The species epithet refers to the main distribution area of this taxon in southern Siberia.

Distribution and ecology. The species occurs in southern part of Asian Russia, from Zeya River basin (Amur River tributary, Amurskaya Province) to the East and through Buryatia and Tyva to Altai Mountains to the West, with the northernmost localities in southern Yakutia. It was collected in mountain areas at low altitudes (ca. 300–950 m a.s.l.) within the forest belt, but mainly in dry and open places, such as limestone outcrops on mountain slopes, rocks in meadows and on steppe slopes.

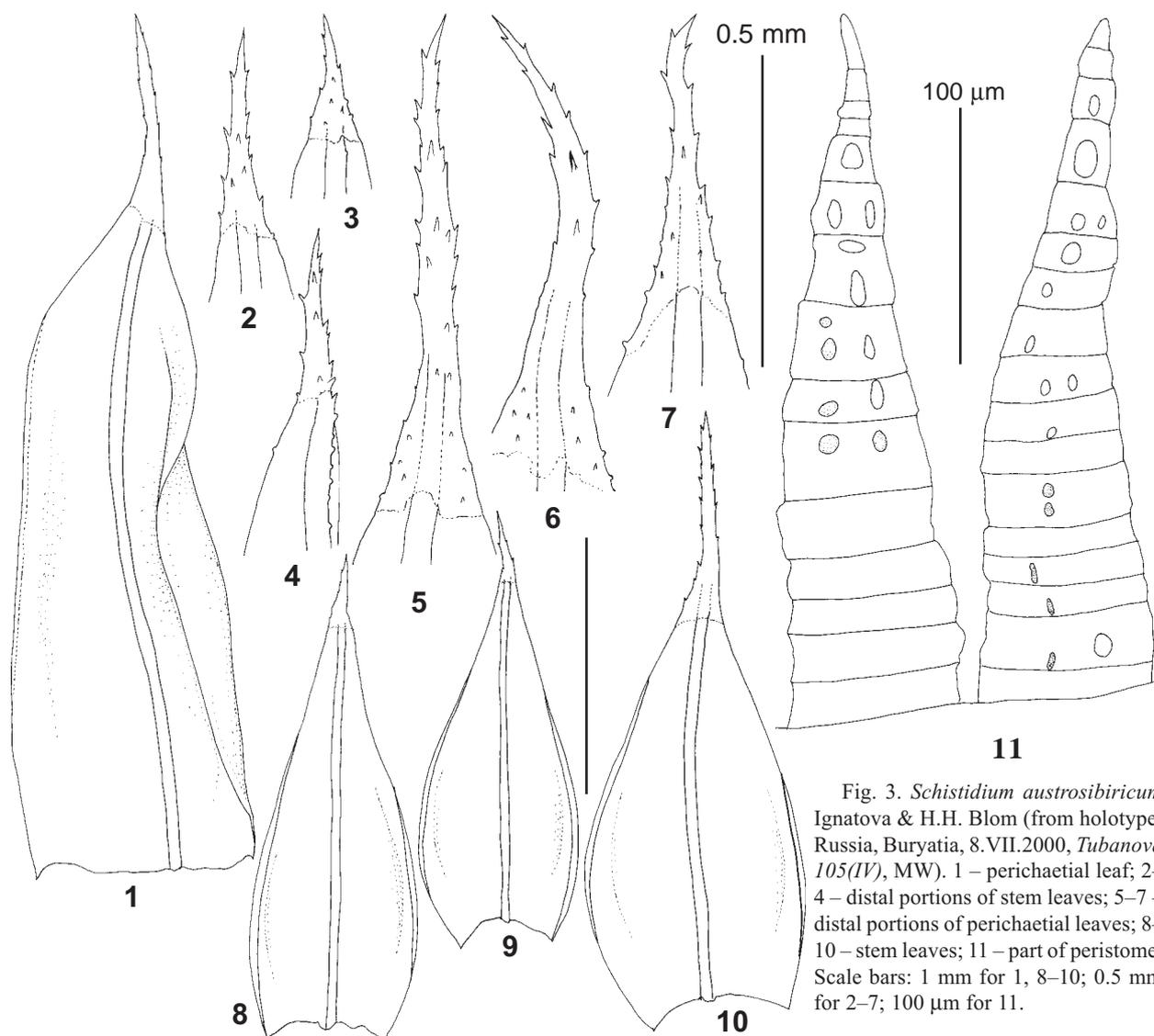


Fig. 3. *Schistidium austrosibiricum* Ignatova & H.H. Blom (from holotype: Russia, Buryatia, 8.VII.2000, *Tubanova 105(IV)*, MW). 1 – perichaetial leaf; 2–4 – distal portions of stem leaves; 5–7 – distal portions of perichaetial leaves; 8–10 – stem leaves; 11 – part of peristome. Scale bars: 1 mm for 1, 8–10; 0.5 mm for 2–7; 100 µm for 11.

Relationship and differentiation. *Schistidium austrosibiricum* shares some essential morphological characters with *S. sinensiapocarpum* and Russian specimens of this novelty were previously named *S. sinensiapocarpum*. Both species have long and sharply serrate hair-points in stem leaves and especially in perichaetial leaves. Their costae are usually papillose on the dorsal side, and leaf margins just below hair-point are often papillose-denticulate. Comparatively long cylindrical urns with length/width ratio 1.6–1.8:1 are also characteristic for both of them. However, *S. austrosibiricum* can be differentiated from *S. sinensiapocarpum* just under stereo microscope by its distinctly flattened, though rather stiff hair-points, whereas they are \pm terete throughout and only slightly widened at base in the latter species. Plants of *S. austrosibiricum* are slightly smaller with shorter stem leaves, (1.0–)1.5–1.7 mm vs. 1.7–2.5 mm and smaller length/width ratio (1.8–2.4 vs. 2.7–3.0). Microscopically, *S. austrosibiricum* has unistratose leaf lamina, with only one marginal row of cells bistratose, and only rarely

with small bistratose strips or patches in distal leaf portion, whereas *S. sinensiapocarpum* possesses a partially bistratose lamina and more thickened leaf margins, 2–3-stratose in distal part. Exothecial cells of *S. austrosibiricum* are variable in shape, with many elongate cells, while they are predominantly subquadrate and transversely rectangular in *S. sinensiapocarpum*.

S. austrosibiricum has some similarity with *S. scabripilum*, which is described below. The most striking morphological resemblance between them concerns their hair-point structure – distinctly flattened, but rather stiff due to the excurrent costa, and finely scabrose on dorsal surface because of shortly protruding upper cell angles. The differences of *S. austrosibiricum* towards *S. scabripilum* include unistratose vs. predominantly bistratose leaf lamina, almost esinuose vs. distinctly sinuose upper lamina cells, long vs. rather short urns and elongate vs. transversely rectangular exothecial cells. Furthermore, *S. austrosibiricum* usually grows on calcareous rocks, including limestone outcrops, while *S. scabripilum* prefers acid-

ic and neutral rocks. Distribution areas of these species seem not to overlap: *S. austrosibiricum* is restricted to the southern mountain areas of Asian Russia, with northernmost locality in southern Yakutia (here on dry calcareous steppe slope), while *S. scabripilum* occurs much further north, in southern Taimyr and Putorana Plateau, in Indigirka River valley of Yakutia, and in Chukotka.

Two other species with flat hair-points and unistratose lamina described from Asian Russia, *S. tenuinerve* and *S. bakalinii*, differ from *S. austrosibiricum* in the smooth dorsal surface of hair-points. In *S. tenuinerve*, hair-points also tend to be shorter, to 0.4 mm vs. to 0.6 mm in stem leaves and up to 0.5 mm vs. 0.8 mm in perichaetial leaves, and they are softer, and distinctly more finely denticulate than in *S. austrosibiricum*. *S. bakalinii* has even longer hair-points (to 1.2 mm in perichaetial leaves) which are straight and rather stiff due to the longly excurrent costa. The leaves are shorter, 1.0–1.3 mm long, and differ from those of *S. austrosibiricum* in being narrow lanceolate with margins recurved almost throughout and possessing strongly sinuose median lamina cells.

All records of *S. echinatum* from Asian Russia were found to be erroneous, belonging mainly to *S. scabripilum*. The former species also has flattened and strongly spinulose hair-points, but the spinulae are longer, with rounded ends, and are often recurved at a right angle. The plants of *S. echinatum* are slightly smaller than those of *S. austrosibiricum*, and the hair-points of stem leaves are very short, while they are long and conspicuous in the latter species.

Specimens examined: RUSSIA: **Republic Sakha/Yakutia:** Aldansky District, Gynym River at 1 km upstream of Dyulyung Creek mouth, ca. 57°35'N, 130°11'E, 350 m a.s.l., 24.VII.1991, *E.I. Ivanova s.n.* (SASY, MW); Neryungri District, Chulman Settlement surroundings, ca. 56°51'N, 124°53'E, 600 m a.s.l., 25.VI.1993, *E.I. Ivanova s.n.* (SASY, MW). **Amurskaya Province,** Zeya District, Zeya Nature Reserve, Tukuringra Mountain Range, Izvestkovy ('Limestone') Bay of the reservoir and Izvestkovy Creek valley, 21.VII.2012, *Dudov Br_12_038* and *Br_12_120* (MW). **Republic of Buryatia,** Kurumkan District, Dzherginsky Nature Reserve, 9.VII.1999, *Tubanova 161(IV)*, *121(4)* (UUH, MW). **Zabaikalsky Territory:** Gazimuro-Zavodskiy District, Pryamoy Mulday River, 52°14'48"N, 119°23'22"E, 664 m alt., 22.VII.2012, *Afonina 2812* (LE, dupl. MW); Nerchinsko-Zavodskiy District, near Nerchinsky Zavod Settlement, Krestovka Mt., 51°19'03.7"N, 119°35'53.1"E, 658 m alt., 25.VII.2012, *Afonina 3812* (LE, dupl. MW). **Tyva Republic,** Todzha Depression, Azas Lake, Ilgichul Brook, 1.VIII.1995, *Otnyukova s.n.* (MW). **Altai Republic:** Ulagan District, Chulyshman River valley 8–10 km upstream from Chulcha River mouth, *Ignatov & Ignatova 12-420* (MW); Gorno-Altaysk Town surroundings, Saidys Creek valley, 6.VIII.2000, *Ignatova s.n.* (MW).

Schistidium scabripilum Ignatova & H.H. Blom, sp. nov. Figs. 4–5.

Similar to *S. echinatum* in having a partially bistratose leaf lamina and flattened hair-points, but differs in

longer hair-points covered by dense, but short, not recurved spinulae, longer stem leaves, longer median lamina cells with distinctly sinuose walls and predominantly transversely rectangular exothecial cells of the urns.

Holotype: Russia, Republic Sakha/Yakutia, Oimyakon District, Tuora-Tas River valley, 64°39'32"N, 142°32'27"E. 900 m a.s.l., west-faced rubbly slope, on rubble and rock outcrops, 1.VIII.2015, Ignatov & Ignatova 15-1048 (MW, Isotype MHA).

Plants medium-sized, dull, olivaceous or brownish-green above, brownish below, forming small to extensive tufts. *Stem* 1–2 cm, repeatedly branched, in transverse section with 2–3-stratose sclerodermis, medullary cells with comparatively thick walls and moderately wide central strand. *Leaves* straight, appressed when dry, erecto-patent when wet, lamina 1.2–1.5×0.5–0.6 mm, from ovate base gradually or rather abruptly narrowed into triangular acumen, keeled distally, concave proximally; *hyaline hair-points* 0.25–0.6 mm, widened and flattened proximally, but rather stiff, straight, shortly decurrent, moderately serrate at margins and finely scabrose on dorsal surface; *costa* percurrent or extending into the proximal portion of hair-point, narrow, strongly projecting on dorsal side, semicircular in transverse section, 3–4-layered, smooth; *margin* recurved almost throughout, 2–3 (–4)-stratose in 2–3 rows of cells in distal 2/3, 1–2-stratose at leaf base; *lamina* smooth, partially to almost completely bistratose in median and distal parts; distal lamina cells isodiametric, transversely ovate and shortly ovate, (6–)7–10.5 µm wide and (4–)6–9(–12) µm long, with moderately thickened, esinuose walls; median lamina cells subquadrate and short-rectangular, 7–9 µm wide and 7.5–13 µm long, with moderately thickened and moderately sinuose walls; basal juxtacostal cells rectangular, 7–9.5 µm wide and 12–25(–40) µm long, with moderately thickened esinuose walls, basal marginal cells in 5–7 rows subquadrate to short-rectangular. *Perichaetial leaves* with oblong base and triangular apical part, 1.9–2.1×0.9–1.1 mm, margins recurved in distal 1/2–2/3, hair-points 0.6–0.9 mm, widened and flattened proximally, shortly to longly decurrent, costa extending into its lower 1/3 of hair-point or shorter, margins moderately to sharply serrate, dorsal surface finely and densely scabrose due to shortly projecting upper cell angles. *Calyptra* cucullate.

Autoicous, sporophytes frequent. *Seta* 0.2–0.3 mm. *Urn* immersed, short-cylindrical, 0.7–0.8×0.5–0.6 mm (1.3–1.4:1), exothecial cells subquadrate and transversely rectangular, stomata present at urn base; peristome teeth orange-brown, 225–250 µm long, with few longitudinal slits in distal portion or rather strongly perforated distally, densely papillose. *Operculum* conic, with long straight or oblique beak. *Spores* 9–12.5 µm, almost smooth.

Etymology. The species epithet refers to the finely scabrose hyaline hair-points of stem and perichaetial leaves.

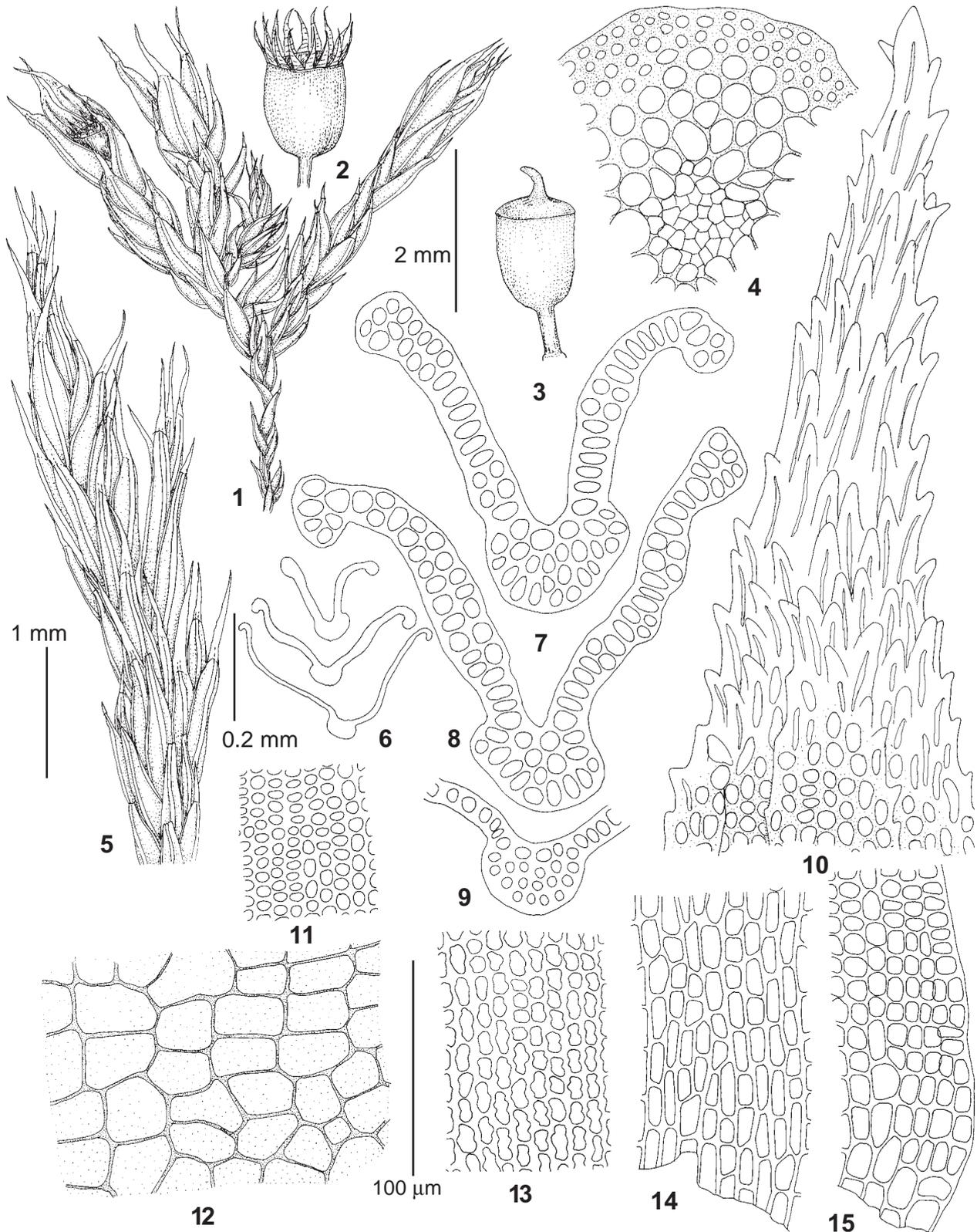


Fig. 4. *Schistidium scabripilum* Ignatova & H.H. Blom (from holotype: Russia, Republic Sakha/Yakutia, Tuora-Tas River valley, Ignatov & Ignatova 15-1048, MW). 1, 5 – habit, dry; 2–3 – capsules; 4 – stem transverse section; 6–9 – leaf transverse sections; 10 – distal lamina cells and hair-point; 11 – distal lamina cells; 12 – exothecial cells; 13 – median lamina cells; 14 – basal juxtacostal lamina cells; 15 – basal marginal lamina cells. Scale bars: 2 mm for 1; 1 mm for 2–3, 5; 0.2 mm for 6; 100 μm for 4, 7–15.

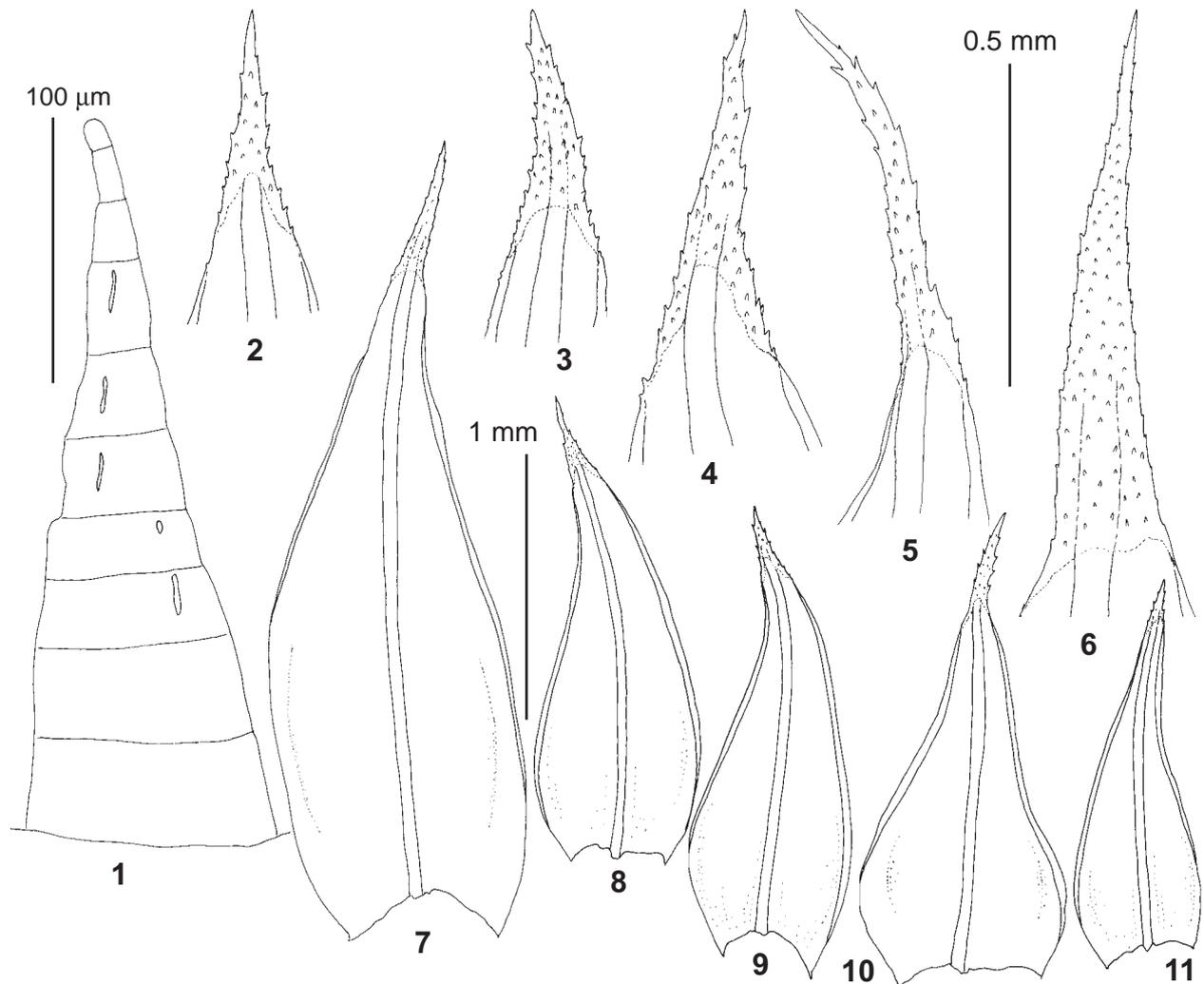


Fig. 5. *Schistidium scabripilum* Ignatova & H.H. Blom (from holotype: Russia, Republic Sakha/Yakutia, Tuora-Tas River valley, Ignatov & Ignatova 15-1048, MW). 1 – part of peristome; 2–4 – distal portions of stem leaves; 5–6 – distal portions of perichaetial leaves; 7 – perichaetial leaf; 8–11 – stem leaves. Scale bars: 1 mm for 7–11; 0.5 mm for 2–6; 100 µm for 1.

Distribution and ecology. *S. scabripilum* has a scattered distribution in mountain areas in the permafrost zone of Asian Russia. In addition to its type locality in Yakutia, it has been collected in Anadyr River basin in Chukotka, in southern Taimyr and on the Putorana Plateau. The species occurs at comparatively low altitudes, 250–900 m a.s.l. within the belt of open larch forests, and grows on siliceous rocks (sandstone, gneiss, dolerite, andesite, shist).

Relationship and differentiation. Habitually, *S. scabripilum* resembles *S. pulchrum*, which is very common and rather variable in north-east Asian Russia. However, its clearly flattened and densely scabrose hair-points and partially bistratose leaf lamina discriminate it from that species. It has often been identified as *S. echinatum* due to the superficially similar hair-point structure combined with a partially bistratose leaf lamina, which is also characteristic of *S. echinatum*. There are, however small, but constant morphological differences between these species. The hair-points in stem leaves of *S. scabripilum* are comparatively long, 0.25–0.6 mm, whereas they never

exceed 0.3 mm in *S. echinatum* and often consist of a few hyaline cells only; the dorsal side of hair-points is densely, but finely scabrose in *S. scabripilum* due to shortly protruding upper cell angles (though hair-points are rather sharply serrate at margins), whereas the dorsal spinulae consist of long, obtuse, finger-like protruding cell ends in *S. echinatum*. Exothecial cells of *S. scabripilum* are isodiametric and transversely rectangular, while they are mostly oblong and irregular in *S. echinatum*. These species have different distribution and ecological preferences: *S. scabripilum* is restricted to the permafrost zone of Asian Russia and grows on siliceous rocks, whereas *S. echinatum* is known from South Urals, the Caucasus, Austrian Alps and California in western North America and prefers calcareous rocks.

The distinction between *S. scabripilum* and *S. austrosibiricum* is discussed under the latter species. As in *S. austrosibiricum*, *S. scabripilum* can be separated from other Siberian species with flattened hair-points, i.e., *S. bakalinii* and *S. tenuinerve*, by the densely scabrose dorsal surface of hair-points, which is generally smooth in

both the other species. Shorter leaves and flattened hair-points are the main characters separating *S. scabripilum* from *S. sinensiapocarpum*, which also has a different distribution pattern.

Specimens examined: RUSSIA: Krasnoyarsk Territory: Taimyrsky Municipal District: Khatanga Settlement outskirts, Merkyu River valley 4 km upstream its mouth, *Fedosov 11-289* (MW); Putorana Plateau, vicinity of Glubokoe Lake, *Fedosov 15-0348* (MW). Chukotka: Anagyr District, upper course of Tanyurer River, Televeem Creek, 23.VII.1979, *Afonina s.n.* (LE, MW).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to all who collected material for this study in remote and difficult accessible areas of Asian Russia. We also thank the curators of herbaria MHA, LE, SASY and UUH who made their collections available to us. The study of Ignatova was partially supported by RFBR grant #15-04-06027 and of Kuznetsova by #15-29-02647.

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Appendix 1. Species of *Schistidium* used for molecular phylogenetic analysis of nrITS. For new sequences specimen data are given. Some specimens used in previous studies have two accessions numbers, for ITS1 and ITS2 separately.

<i>S. austrosibiricum</i>	Russia, Altai, Chulyshman	<i>Ignatov & Ignatova 12-420</i> (MW)	KX443486
<i>S. austrosibiricum</i>	Russia, Amurskaya Territory, Zeya	<i>Dudov BR 12_12_038</i> (MW)	KX443487
<i>S. austrosibiricum</i>	Russia, Buryatia	<i>Tubanov 105(IV)</i> (MW)	KX443488
<i>S. austrosibiricum 1</i>	Russia, Transbaikalia	25 July 2012, <i>Afonina 3812</i> (MW)	KX443489
<i>S. austrosibiricum 2</i>	Russia, Transbaikalia	22 July 2012, <i>Afonina 2812/2</i> (MW)	KX443491
<i>S. pulchrum</i>	Russia, Transbaikalia	6 Aug 2012, <i>Afonina 7312</i> (MW)	KX443492
<i>S. pulchrum</i>	Russia, Transbaikalia	25 July 2012, <i>Afonina 3812/2</i> MW	KX443495
<i>S. scabripilum</i>	Russia, Yakutia, Tupra-Tas	<i>Ignatov & Ignatova 15-1048</i> (MHA)	KX443493
<i>S. scabripilum</i>	Russia, Krasnoyarsk, Putorana	<i>Fedosov 15-0348</i> MW	KX443494
<i>S. sinensiapocarpum</i>	China Sichuan	<i>Koponen 46033</i> (H)	KX443490

S. agassizii Taimyr HM053879; *S. apocarpum* United Kingdom HM031076; *S. atrofusum* Caucasus HM053887; *S. boreale* Altai DQ822025, HM031060; *S. boreale* Anabar 1 HM053888; *S. boreale* Anabar 2 HM053889; *S. boreale* Sweden HM053890; *S. canadense* Maine 1 HM053915; *S. canadense* Maine 2 HM053914; *S. canadense* Maine 3 HM053917; *S. confertum* Austria HM053891; *S. confertum* Austria JF262179; *S. crassipilum* Poland DQ822020, HM031073; *S. dupretii* Perm HM053895; *S. echinatum* Austria HQ890509; *S. echinatum* Caucasus HQ890508; *S. elegantulum* Caucasus DQ822022, HM031071; *S. flaccidum* Austria HQ890510; *S. flaccidum* Caucasus HM053899; *S. frigidum* Anabar HM053904; *S. frigidum* Taimyr HM053907; *S. frisvolianum* Anabar HM053908; *S. grandirete* Severnaya Zemlya HM053911; *S. lancifolium* Sakhalin HQ890512; *S. liliputanum* Byreya HM053918; *S. marginale* Austria HM053919; *S. marginale* Caucasus HM053921; *S. maritimum* Kuril Isl. HM053924; *S. maritimum* subsp. *piliferum* Norway HM053923; *S. obscurum* Anabar HM053900; *S. obscurum* Austria HQ890519; *S. platyphyllum* Anabar HM053926; *S. pulchrum* Anabar 1 DQ822031, HM031050; *S. pulchrum* Anabar 2 HQ890521; *S. pulchrum* Buryatia 1 DQ822028, HM031051; *S. pulchrum* Buryatia 2 DQ822032, HM031052; *S. pulchrum* Perm DQ822030, HM031053; *S. sibiricum* Buryatia HM053883; *S. sibiricum* Murmansk HM053885; *S. sibiricum* Trabsbaikalia HM053884; *S. sinensiapocarpum* Austria HM053939; *S. sinensiapocarpum* Caucasus HM053940; *S. sordidum* Anabar HM053942; *S. sordidum* Yakutia HM053943; *S. subflaccidum* Austria HM053945; *S. subflaccidum* Caucasus HM053946; *S. submuticum* Perm DQ822010, HM031056; *S. submuticum* St.-Petersburg DQ822009, HM031058; *S. succulentum* Caucasus HQ890523, HM053897; *S. tenuinerve* Altai HQ890525; *S. trichodon* var. *nutans* Austria HM053953; *S. viride* Missouri HM053957.