

Frosted Glass-whiskers

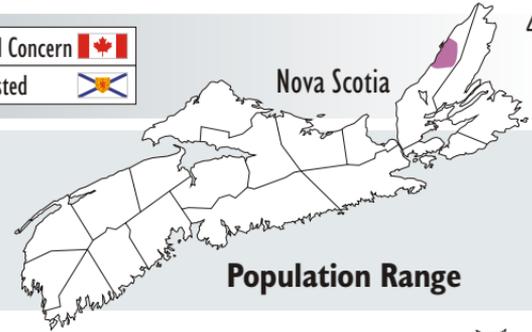
Sclerophora peronella

STATUS

Special Concern 

Not Listed 

Nova Scotia



Occurs near Sugar-loaf Mountain and Margaree River in Cape Breton.

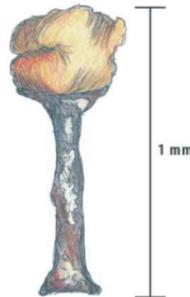
Population Range



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Species Description

Frosted glass-whiskers is a stubble lichen with tiny, pale pink apothecia (spore-bearing structures), mounted on a 0.5-1 mm reddish-brown stalk. A powdery whitish to yellow brown substance covers ("frosts") the top of the lichen. The thallus (main body) is found within the tree, and is therefore not visible.



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Habitat

Found in the exposed wood of red maple trees in old-growth hardwood forests. It is more rarely found growing on the bark of hardwood trees.



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Frosted Glass-Whiskers is typically observed in old-growth hardwood forests, growing in the heart-wood and sap-wood of red maple trees.

Interesting Points

- This tiny cryptic stubble lichen is very rare or threatened over much of its global range.
- Two of the three known locations of this species in Canada are in Nova Scotia.
- The entire known physical area of coverage by this species in Canada is less than 1 square meter.
- It is an indicator species for old-growth forests.



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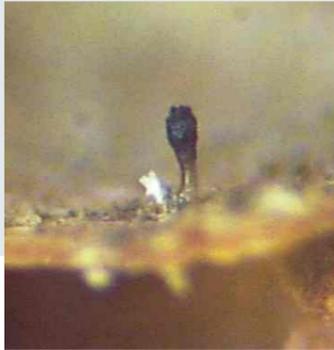
Similar Species

There are more than 45 stubble lichen species in Nova Scotia. They are distinguished under a microscope by comparing the spores and apothecia. Learn how to recognize stubble lichens and then look for this species on red maple scars in old-growth forests.



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Chaenotheca servitii



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Phaeocalicium minutissimum

Threats to Survival

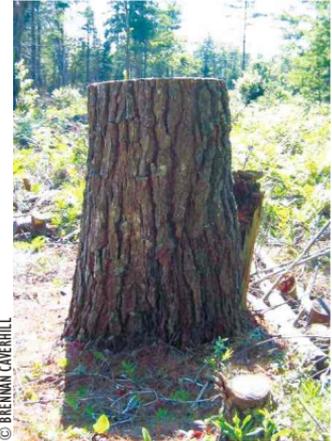
- Forestry activities and land clearing reduces the old-growth stands on which this species depends.
- Declining numbers of maple trees, likely due to acid rain.
- Our lack of knowledge about where this species is located.

How You Can Help

Anyone can learn about stubble lichens and how to recognize them - and report sightings! Be an advocate of sustainable forestry practices. Woodlot owners can maintain old growth forests on their properties.



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Contacts, Information & Sighting Reports

Contact: Department of Environment and Labour (902) 424-2176

Info: www.sararegistry.gc.ca

Sighting Reports: 1-866-727-3447 or sightings@speciesatrisk.ca