

## KEY TO SELECTED POLYTRICHOPSIDS OF THE VANCOUVER AREA

- 1a. Lamellae present on both surfaces of leaf ...2.
- 1b. Lamellae present on ventral surface of leaf only ...3.
- 2a. Lamellae on ventral surface of leaf numerous, wavy, nearly occupying the whole surface of upper part of leaf; leaf not abruptly broadened at base ...*Oligotrichum aligerum*.
- 2b. Lamellae on ventral surface of leaf few, not wavy, confined to a narrow strip down the centre of leaf; leaf abruptly broadened at base ...*Oligotrichum parallelum* (Lynn Canyon).
- 3a. Leaves somewhat translucent, undulate, bordered by longer, narrower cells; calyptra lacking hairs ...4.
- 3b. Leaves usually more or less opaque, sometimes somewhat translucent, neither undulate nor bordered by narrower cells; calyptra hairy ...5.
- 4a. Monoicous; sporangia strongly curved and sometimes horizontal; common weed of lawns and gardens ...*Atrichum undulatum*.
- 4b. Dioicous; sporangia more or less straight and erect; commonly on disturbed soil in shady, natural habitats ...*Atrichum selwynii*.
- 5a. Uppermost cells of lamellae distinctly roughened (papillose) ...6.
- 5b. Uppermost cells of lamellae more or less smooth or notched in cross-section ...7.
- 6a. Plants robust, dark green; leaves linear-lanceolate, slightly contorted when dry  
...*Polytrichastrum alpinum*.
- 6b. Plants relatively short, yellow-green; leaves oblong-lanceolate, folded up against stem when dry  
...*Pogonatum urnigerum*.
- 7a. Uppermost cells of lamellae with a U-shaped notch in section  
...*Polytrichum commune*.
- 7b. Uppermost cells of lamellae smooth in section ...8.
- 8a. Leaves with conspicuous, long, white hairpoints ...*Polytrichum piliferum*.
- 8b. Leaves with short hairpoints or hairpoints not long and white ...9.
- 9a. Laminae incurved and enclosing much of lamellae; hairpoints reddish-tinged ...10.
- 9a. Laminae not enclosing lamellae; hairpoints usually not reddish-tinged ...11.

- 10a. Stems with a tomentum of whitish rhizoids; often in bogs **...*Polytrichum strictum*.**
- 10b. Stems lacking a tomentum of whitish rhizoids; common and widespread, often in weedy habitats  
**...*Polytrichum juniperinum*.**
- 11a. Leaves strongly contorted, not folded up against stem when dry  
**...*Pogonatum contortum*.**
- 11b. Leaves not strongly contorted, slightly twisted and folded up against stem when dry  
**...*Polytrichastrum formosum/longisetum*.**