Fissidens serrulatus Brid. in Norway, new to Scandinavia¹

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During a fieldtrip to Hordaland in Norway, I collected Fissidens serrulatus in one place:

Norway, Hordaland, Skanevik, steep slope along road between highway E 134 and village, birch forest, on seeping rocks of a cliff, ca. 90 m alt. leg. Frahm Sept. 1, 2011, no. 2011676.

The specimen was collected because of the large size of the plants and to check, whether they belong to F. adianthoides or F. dubius. In fact, F. serrulatus looks much alike these species mentioned, also under the microscope, showing a pale band of cells along the leaf margins, but differs under the microscope by strongly mamillose laminal cells (fig. 3).

Fissidens serrulatus is an oceanic species, occurring from the Mediterranean over western France to Britain and Ireland (Frahm in Frey et al. 2006). The record from Norway is an important extension of the range, although SW-Norway is known for its atlantic floristic elements such as Hymenophyllum tunbrigense, thus quite similar to Scotland. Accordingly, there are bryophyte species such as Breutelia chrysocoma, Dicranodontium uncinatum, Scapania ornithopodioides, Campylopus atrovirens, C. gracilis, Douinia ovata, Anastrepta orcadensis, Lejeunea flava, L. patens, Radula aquilegia, Anastrophyllum reichardtianum, just to mention some species which I found in this province.

The locality of F. serrulatus was visited to examine some wet cliffs visible from the roadside but turned out to be inconspicuous with respect to other species. It grew together with larger quantities of F. osmundioides up to 3 cm long.

Frahm, J.-P. 2006. Mosses. Pp. 128-360 in Frey, W. et al. The Liverworts, Mosses and Ferns of Europe. Martins (Harley Books).

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¹ Comment added on Aug. 11., 2012: The identification is probably erroneous. It is based on the key by Smith, "Lf cells conically mamillose ... serrulatus" and "lf cells not mamillose... dubius". The laminal cells are, however, also mamillose in F. dubius. In fact, F. serrulatus has laminal cells with conical papillae, whereas F. dubius has equally thickened but strongly mamillose cell walls.

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