

Heritage Rank Status Factors

Elcode NF00CHVE12
Gname CHOIROMYCES VENOSUS
Gcomname

Number of Occurrences

Comments Widely distributed in Europe and England (as *C. meandriformis* Pegler et al. 1993) and harvested commercially in some parts of Europe, this species is known in North America from 3 sites (Castellano et al. 1999), one each in California, Oregon, and West Virginia.

Number of Occurrences with Good Viability

U = Unknown what number of occurrences with good viability

Comments Of the North American collections, one came from a site in California that is protected at the G1/2 level.

Population Size

U = Unknown

Comments This can not be determined; records reflect only species presence.

Range Extent

Comments Described from Europe, presumably Italy, harvested commercially in parts of Europe and England; in North America known from West Virginia (tentative identification, FSL n.d.), Oregon, and California (Castellano et al. 1999).

Area of Occupancy

U = Unknown

LU = Unknown

Comments Wild guess on global situation, although reported from Europe approximate range unknown. Known from three sites in US with a bicoastal distribution. Short of using molecular tools there is no way to evaluate occupancy.

Long-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

Comments best guess is that it stable in Europe but unknown in North America

Short-term Trend in Population Size, Extent of Occurrence, Area of Occupancy, and/or Number or Condition of Occurrences

Comments best guess is that it stable in Europe but unknown in North America

Threats

G = Slightly threatened. Threats, while recognizable, are of low severity, or affecting only a small portion of the population, occurrences, or area. Ecological community occurrences may be altered in minor parts of range or degree of alteration falls within the natural variation of the type.

Scope Low **Severity** Low **Immediacy** Moderate

Comments It appears to be in good shape in parts of its range (England and Europe) but at risk in North America. It is more than likely mycorrhizal with forest trees and thus threats to the vigor or existence of the partner trees also are threats to the associated fungi.

Number of Appropriately Protected and Managed Occurrences

B = Few (1-3) occurrences appropriately protected and managed

Comments Status of protection, if any, for European collections unknown; there are two protected sites from North America: one each from a National Conservation Area and a Research Natural Area.

Intrinsic Vulnerability

B = Moderately Vulnerable. Species exhibits moderate age of maturity, frequency of reproduction, and/or fecundity such that populations generally tend to recover from decreases in abundance over a period of several years (on the order of 5-20 years or 2-5 generations); or species has moderate dispersal capability such that extirpated populations generally become reestablished through natural recolonization (unaided by humans). Ecological community occurrences may be susceptible to changes in composition and structure but tend to recover through natural processes given reasonable time (10-100 years).

Comments If forested areas are decimated this species is at risk; spore dispersal probably primarily by rodents and invertebrates so opportunities for long range dispersal limited as are the possibilities of the European and North American populations exchanging genetic material.

Environmental Specificity

B = Narrow. Specialist or community with key requirements common.

Comments The paucity of collections for a large, conspicuous truffle indicates the species may have narrow requirements for the microclimates it can inhabit in North America and that they are seldom met; in Europe the requirements appear to be met on a larger scale. In Europe and England this species is frequently reported to occur in forests dominated by hardwoods (based on the limited number of reports that include habitat information) while the collections from North America were made in forests composed primarily of members of the Pinaceae (esp. Pseudotsuga and Thuja).

Other Considerations

NRANK - N2.

Edition 11/12/2002 **Edauthor** Nancy S. Weber

Grank G4 **Grank Date** 11/24/2002

Reasons

On a world basis this species is probably in good shape; the story is quite different in North America where it has only been collected a few times.

BCD Sources

New Sources

Castellano et al. 1999. Castellano, M.A., Smith, J.A., O'Dell, T., Cazares, E., and Nugent, S. 1999. Handbook to Strategy 1 Fungal Species in the Northwest Forest Plan. Portland, Oregon: USDA Forest Service, PNWRS PNW-GTR-476.

For. Mycol. Team n.d. USDA Forest Service Forest Mycology Team Databases. Retrieved 2002.11.10 from <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/mycology/publications/data.html>.

Pegler, D.N., B.M. Spooner and T.W.K. Young. 1993. British Truffles. A revision of British hypogeous fungi. Kew: Royal Botanic Gardens. 216 pp.