The three varieties of *Echeveria pulvinata*

For some years an attractive succulent discovered by Alfred Lau has been grown as *Echeveria* ‘Frosty’, a name published in 1983 when the plant was distributed as ISI 1390. The plant is clearly allied with *E. pulvinata*. I consider it to be deserving of a botanical name. This encouraged me to look more closely at its allies.

I believe the best way to classify *Echeveria pulvinata* is to divide it into three varieties (*E. pilosa* is also an ally, but I have not seen wild plants).

1. *E. pulvinata* var. *pulvinata* (Fig. 1)
   
   

   *E. pulvinata* ‘Ruby’ B. K. Boom is a cultivar distinguished by its redder leaves. It is illustrated (Fig. 305) in John Pilbeam’s *The Genus Echeveria* (2008).

2. *E. pulvinata* var. *leucotricha* (Purpus) Kimn. **comb. nov.** (Figs. 2 and 3)
   

   Variety *leucotricha* differs in its thicker, narrower, more oblong leaves with brownish marginal hairs.

3. *E. pulvinata* var. *frigida* Kimnach **comb. nov.**
   
   
   *E. pulvinata* ‘Suave’ is another catalog name for ‘Frosty’.
   

   This new variety differs chiefly in its snowy-white hirsute leaves (Fig. 4), quite distinct from the reddish leaves of typical *E. pulvinata*. It is illustrated (Fig. 306) and discussed in Pilbeam’s *The Genus Echeveria*.

   Plant entirely hirsute except for gynoecium, stamens and inner side of petals; trichomes brownish on apex of leaves and bracts, otherwise white, ca. 1 mm long. **Stems** to 15 cm long or more, ca. 12 mm thick, **leaves** ascending, oblongulate, cuspidate, concave on upper surface, convex and slightly keeled on lower side, 5–6 cm long, 25–28 mm wide 1–2 cm below apex, 12

1. *Echeveria pulvinata* in habitat near Cuicatlán, Oaxaca, Mexico.

2. *Echeveria pulvinata* var. *leucotricha*. 