

Census Catalogue of Polish Mosses (2003)

Adnan ERDAĞ

Adnan Menderes University, Faculty of Sci. & Arts, Biology Department, Aydın - TURKEY

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This is a valuable attempt to create a standard work on the nomenclature and distribution of Polish mosses. Although its title may suggest a local treatment that is not useful for Turkish bryologists and students, I am sure that it will attract the interest of bryologists worldwide, as many taxonomic and nomenclatural novelties regarding European and world mosses are presented in the book.

The book consists of 12 main chapters. Two of these include Polish names of mosses and a summary in Polish (Chapters 7 and 12) and will only be of interest to native botanists. The main topics of Chapter 1 (Introduction) consist of brief information on the aim of the study and a historical background regarding serial publications on Polish spore plants and available checklists for European countries. The systematic arrangements of taxa and the different approaches to make a reliable phylogeny by several authors in recent years are well summarised and discussed in Chapter 2. All taxa are arranged systematically with their Polish names and numerous annotations.

Each taxon, including detailed bibliographical data of

original sources, is given under 2 main subtitles: a systematic catalogue of supraspecific taxa (3a) and an alphabetical catalogue of species and infraspecific names (3b). These accepted names with their original citations in this chapter are very helpful for Turkish bryologists.

Twenty-five taxa excluded from the Polish moss flora are listed with annotation marks in Chapter 4.

One of the most striking parts of the catalogue is Chapter 5 (Annotations). The 513 annotations (95 pages) including many important discussions about nomenclatural or taxonomic problems and proposals for solving these problems are extremely helpful for bryologists in following the most recent approaches on the topic.

In total, 2329 synonyms are listed alphabetically consisting of 1469 specific, 37 subspecific, 573 varietal and 250 names of forms in Chapter 6 (Synonyms). Even the use of some synonyms is strongly dependent on the bryologist's individual taxonomic philosophy, and it is interesting to see the recent changes in bryophyte names and taxonomic concepts.

The familial and subfamilial placements of the moss genera included in the catalogue are presented in Chapter 8, e.g., *Codriophorus* P.Beauv. (*Grimmiaceae* Arn., *Racomitrioidae* Ochyra & Bednarek-Ochyra), *Diobelonella* Ochyra (*Dicranaceae* Schimp.) and *Cleistocarpidium* Ochyra & Bednarek-Ochyra (*Ditrichaceae* Limpr., *Ditrichoidae*).

Full author names with their abbreviations are presented according to Brummit & Powell (2002) in Chapter 9.

References (Chapter 10) are listed alphabetically (57 pages) and cover all the studies on Polish mosses, as well as important worldwide revisions of certain taxa.

The most important chapter for Turkish bryologists is Chapter 11. This includes very important taxonomical or nomenclatural novelties for bryology such as *Polytrichopsida* Vitt, Goffinet & Hedd. ex Ochyra, Zarnowiec & Bednarek-Ochyra, *class. nov.*, *Encalyptidae* Vitt, Goffinet & Hedd. ex Ochyra, Zarnowiec & Bednarek-Ochyra, *subclass. nov.*, *Hedwigiales* Ochyra, *ord. nov.*, and 3 *subfam. nov.*, 1 *gen. nov.*, 2 *sect. nov.*, as well as hundreds of *stat. et comb. nov.* and *comb. nov.*

The catalogue contains 700 species, 8 subspecies and 87 varieties belonging to 207 genera and 55 families.

To summarise, this catalogue of Polish mosses will be useful not only for Polish bryologists, but also for Turkish bryologists as a distinguished example for the preparation of a list of Turkish bryophytes. The new approaches and novelties in bryophyte systematics should be followed.