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**THE HERBARIUM OF THE BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT IN
KÁROLY ESZTERHÁZY COLLEGE (EGER)**

Andrea Sass-Gyarmati and András Vojtkó

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THE HERBARIUM OF THE BOTANICAL DEPARTMENT IN KÁROLY ESZTERHÁZY COLLEGE (EGER)

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1. Short history of the Herbarium

Certain collections as well as the herbarium as a whole, because of their uniqueness, are indispensable to scientific study, and have become a valued part of our national heritage. Some collections are irreproducible while others are treasured for their comprehensiveness – covering certain areas or complete taxonomic groups. The Eger herbarium also includes one of the largest cryptogamic collections in Central Europe.

The Botanical Department was founded in 1949, by Tibor Hortobágyi, a prominent Hungarian algae researcher. This course of development was followed under the direction of Tamás Pócs, appointed in 1961, who founded the herbarium with his fern, lichen, bryophyte and vascular plant collections. A year later János Suba joined the department, who obtained for the Herbarium the Márton Vrabélyi vascular collection, previously preserved at Dobó István Jesuitical Secondary School. This valuable collection includes 19th century source material of the flora of Bükk and Mátra mountains from Vrabélyi's own collections as well as exchange material from prominent botanists (Haynald, Holuby, Janka, Kerner, Vágner, etc...) of the time.

In 1963 and 1965-66, owing to its Vietnam partnership the College received tropical material in larger amounts for the first time, collected by Tamás Pócs. From the 60's a more rapid development of the collections can be observed. The herbarium now incorporated its staff's own collection of vascular and non-vascular material from Northern Hungary and the Carpathians. The college provided significant funds for the Department to purchase herbarium materials as well literature. This is how bryophyte collections of Árpád Károlyi and László Vajda and Ferenc Fórius's comprehensive lichen herbarium, as well as the majority of Ádám Boros's professional library could be obtained. It also allowed for smaller contributions to the travels of Dénes Balázs geographer in exchange for valuable bryophyte collections from around the world. The herbarium also includes very rich bryophyte material from India, Vietnam and Argentina

collected by György Topál and from Papua New Guinea collected by János Balogh (both zoologists).

To date the herbarium includes contributions from 210 botanists and incorporates 10000 vascular, 8000 lichen and 200000 bryophyte specimens. It cultivates active partnership with many herbaria of the world. Specialists of various taxa from abroad and Hungary frequently visit the herbarium to study unrevised material. Maintaining the main profile the cryptogamic collection has become the largest within the herbarium. Specimens from all around the world can be found in the bryophyte collection with remarkable collections by the staff on expeditions in East Africa, Tunisia, the Indian Ocean islands, Australia, Cuba, Venezuela, Vietnam, the Fiji Islands and other territories.

From within the Carpathian basin the collection of the cryprogamic vegetation of loess cliffs is unique in its comprehensiveness. Vascular and cryptogamic plants were both collected in different areas of Hungary: Órség, the Bükk and Mátra mountains; and from the Carpathians: the Lower Tatra, Bihar, Retezát, Hargita,, Tarcu, Parâng and Fogaras mountains. We also preserve material from outside the Carpathians: from the Julian Alps, the Spitzbergen, Greece and Bulgaria.

We aim to assemble comprehensive compilations of various taxa in our special collections like the *Calymperaceae* family, ordo *Hookeriales*, from the genera of *Fissidens*, *Colura*, *Cololejeunea*, *Lejeunea*, *Lopholejeunea* and *Frullania*. to make their revisions possible.

Lichen specimens have also been collected all over Hungary. We also have a considerable tropical collection from Kenya, Tanzania, Indian Ocean Islands, Ruanda, Argentina, Brasil, Vietnam, Australia, and the Fiji Islands.

A database of lichen collections (ISIS 2.3) and an update of bryophyte types has been developed.

2. International Relations

Our Herbarium operates within the international network of herbaria. We exchange material with more than 60 herbaria worldwide. Numerous exsiccata series are preserved a list of which is appended below. Our type material of over 500 specimens is recognised and cited worldwide. We lay great emphasis on the development and maintenance of our academic library, assembling periodicals, biogeographical publications, flora works and coenological works among which rarities can also be found.

The Hungarian National Office of Cultural Heritage declared the Eger College Herbarium protected in 2007 (resolution no. 401/0055/004/2007). Since the declaration the most important development has been the relocation of the cryptogamic collection in one of the buildings of Eszterházy College Faculty of Science. The two spacious state-of-the-arts-halls are adjoined by two research rooms equipped with microscopes, computers and a cryptogamic library facilitating the study, revision and exchange of materials (formerly stored in five separate locations). The new facilities allow the labelling and integration of the large amounts of previously identified material making it possible to send them out to the specialists concerned for revision.



Fig.2. The European bryophyte collection



Fig. 2. One open cupboerd in the overseas hepatic collection

3. List of Exsiccata or their parts preserved in the Herbarium of the Botanical Department of Eszterházy College, Eger (EGR):

- Bryophyta Africana Selecta*. Ed. R. Ochyra and T. Pócs
Bryophyta Arctica exsiccata. Ed. W. C. Steere and Kjeld A. Holmen
Bryophyta Exsiccata Generis Plagiochilae. Ed. J. Heinrichs & H. Anton
Bryophyta Exsiccata. Z. Iwatsuki and M. Mizutani
Bryophyta Hawaiica Exsiccata. Ed. W.J.Hoe
Bryophyta Neotropica Exsiccata. Ed. S.R. Gradstein
Bryophyta Selecta Exsiccata. Ed. H. Inoue
Bryophyta Vogesiaca Exsiccata. Ed. J.-P. Frahm
Bryophytes of Asia. Ed. H. Deguchi & T. Yamaguchi
Bryophytes of Asia. Ed. Z. Iwatsuki & M. Higuchi
Bryophytes of South China. Ed. B.J. Lin & L. Zhang
Bryophytorum Typorum Exsiccata. Ed. W.R. Buck.
Bryotheca Brasiliensis. Ed. E. Ule
Bryotheca Europaea. Ed. Rabenhorst, Winter
Bryotheca Gottingensis. Ed. I. Holz & J. Heinrichs.
Bryotheca Polonica. Ed. S. Lisowski Kraków, 1954
Camyloporodes Centrali-Africanae. Ed. J.-P. Frahm
Camyloporodes Peruviana Exsiccatae. Ed. J.-P. Frahm
Collection of Juncaceae, Cyperaceae, Typhaceae and Sparganiaceae. Ed. Á. Dégen
Cryptogamas exsiccatas. Ed. F. Petrak
Fontinalaceae Exsiccatae. Ed. B. Allen
Hepaticae et Musci URSS exsiccati. Ed. I. Abramov
Hepaticae et Musci URSS exsiccati. Ed. L.I. Savicz-Ljubitzkaja
Hepaticae Europaeae Exsiccatae. Ed. V. Schiffner
Hepaticae Exsiccatae S.O.Lindbergii. Ed. S. Piipo
Hepaticae Japonicae Exsiccatae. Ed. S. Hattori
Hepaticae macroregioni meridionali Poloniae exsiccati. Ed. K. Jedrzejko, H. Klama, A. Stebel, J. Arnowiec
Hepaticae macroregioni meridionali Poloniae exsiccati. *Liverworts of Southern Poland*. Ed. K. Jedrzejko
Hepaticae macroregioni meridionali Poloniae exsiccati. *Mosses of Southern Poland*. Ed. K. Jedrzejko
Herbier Bryologique. Ed. J.L. De Sloover
Iter Indicum 1839/94. Ed. V. Schiffner
Moss exsiccati. Ed. T.C.Frye
Musci Australasiae Exsiccati. Ed. H. Streimann
Musci et Hep. Novae Caledoniae Exsiccati. Ed. I. Thériot
Musci Frondosi Archipelagici Indici et Polynesiaci. Ed. M. Fleischer

Musci Frondosi Archipelagici Indici. Ed. M. Fleischer
Musci japonici Exsiccati. Ed. Z. Iwatsuki and A. Nouchi & S. Hattori
Musci Turkestanici. Ed. V.F. Brotherus
Société d'Échange des Muscinées (S.E.M.)
Sphagotheca Boreali-Americana. Ed. R.E. Andrus and D.H. Vitt
Svenska Pacific Expeditionen 1917-17. Ed. Carlo Inga Skottsberg
Flora exsiccata Austro-Hungarica, a Museo universitatis Vindobonensis edita
Flora Hungarica exsiccata, a sectione botanica Musei Nationalis Hungarici edita
Lichenes Bükkenes Exsiccati. Ed. F. Főriss
Lichenes Regni Hungarici Exsiccati. Ed. Ö. Szatala
Lichenes saxonici exsiccati. Ed. Schade, Stolle & Riehmer
Lichenes Selecti Exsiccati. Editi ab Instituto Botanico Academiae Scientiarum Cechoslovacae, Pruhonice prope Pragam. Ed. A. Vêzda
Lichenotheca Rossica Exsiccata. Ed. P. Savicz
Plantae Exsiccatae Carpatorum. Ed. A. Margittai
Plantae Hungariae Exsiccatae. Ed. Á. Boros
Plantae Hungariae Exsiccatae. Ed. Dr. Á. Dégen

4. Publications on the Eger Herbarium:

- Kis G. (2004): Non European Bryophyta types and list of exsiccata in the Eger Cryptogamic Herbarium (EGR). *Folia Hist. nat. Mus. Matr.* 28: 5–52.
- Kis G., Pócs T. & Szabó A. (2000): Az Eszterházy Károly Főiskola Növénygyűjteményei. Magyar Tudomány Napja '99. Konferencia előadásainak összefoglalói. EKF Biológia és Környezettudományi Intézet, Eger. pp. 40–41.
- Molnár K. (2004): Lichen types and list of exsiccata in the Eger Cryptogamic Herbarium (EGR). *Folia Hist. nat. Mus. Matr.* 28: 53–55.
- Nagy I. & Papp S. (1965): Az Egri Tanárképző Főiskola herbáriuma – Bot. Közlem. 52: 157–159.
- Ochrya R. & Pócs T. (1992): Bryophyta Africana Selecta. Series I-IV. Number 101-200. (Schaeidae of Exsiccata) Kraków, 4 x 7 pp.
- Ochrya R. & Pócs T. (1993): Bryophyta Africana Selecta. A new exsiccata from Africa. *Fragm. Flor. Geobot.* 37 (2): 379–388. Kraków.
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- Ochrya R. & Pócs T. (1993): Bryophyta Africana Selecta. Series V–VIII. Number 1–100. (Schaeidae of Exsiccata) Kraków, 4 x 7 pp.
- Pócs T. (1976–1977): Type catalogue of the Bryophyte Herbarium of Ho Si Minh Teacher's College, Eger, Hungary. *Folia Hist. nat. Mus. Matr.* 4: 15–36.
- Pócs T. (2000): Botanikai kutatások 50 esztendeje az Egri Tanárképző Főiskola Növénytani Tanszékén. Magyar Tudomány Napja '99. Konferencia elő-

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- Pócs, T. (2005): Activities in tropical bryology at the Eszterházy College, Eger, Hungary (EGR) during 2004–2005. *Bryol. Times* 116: 6
- A. Sass-Gyarmati A., K. Molnár K, A. Vojtkó A. and S. Dulai S. (2010): Bryophyte and lichen species collected by Antal Margittai found in the Herbarium of Eger (EGR). A Kárpátok növényzetének vizsgálata az elmúlt kétszáz évben. *Proceedings*, 220–226 p. Mukacevo-Beregovo, Ukraine.
- Suba J. (1981): Emlékezés Vrabélyi Mártonra, Heves megye nagy flórakutatójára. *Folia Hist. nat. Mus. Matr.* 7: 11–14.
- Vojtkó A. (1996): Vrabélyi Márton bükk-hegységi gyűjtései az egri Növényzeti Tanszék herbáriumára alapján. – *Bot. Közl.* 83: 170.