

NEW RECORDS TO THE BRYOFLORA OF THE E SLOPE OF MT. KENYA

Új adatok a Kenya Hegy keleti lejtőjének mohaflórájához

Itambo Malombe¹ & Tamás Pócs²*

¹Cryptogamic Herbarium of the National Museum of Kenya, Nairobi; ²Biological Institute of the Eszterházy Károly Catholic University, Eger; *E-mail: pocs.tamas33@gmail.com

The first author studied the epiphyllous and other bryophyte communities along the Chogoria Trail on the East slope of Mt. Kenya through the whole forest belt between 1600 and 3000 m elevations. He selected 7 sampling plots at each 200 m altitudinal interval. At each sampling plot permanent microclimate and macroclimate measurements were carried out by dataloggers and the composition of epiphyllous communities was studied in details with special reference to the host plants. Tamás Pócs and his team (Bence Együd, Judit Havasi and Mária Szegedi) joined to this research during the August of 2021, to help in the collection and identification work. As the result, numerous epiphyllous, corticolus, lignicolous and rupicolous specimens were collected and deposited in the herbaria of EA and EGR and the greater part was already identified. From this activity the discovery of the only mainland African occurrences of the Lemurian Microlejeunea inflata and Leptodon fuciformis are outstanding. Other species turned to be new for Kenya are: Cyclodiction subbrevifolium, Fissidens submarginatus and Telaranea coactilis, The second author visited the same route in February 2004 with his wife, Sarolta Czímer, guided by Min Chuah Petiot from Nairobi University and carried out also collections, from which Orthotrichum denticulatum, Bryum subapiculatum and Lophocolea muricata were also new records to Kenya.