Noteworthy additions to the bryophyte flora of Georgia

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Five new records, Jubula hutchinsiae subsp. caucasica (Marchantiophyta), Anomodon tristis, Didymodon validus, Orthotrichum tenellum and Rhynchostegiella litorea (Bryophyta) are first recorded for the bryophyte flora of Georgia. In addition, the presence of Pogonatum neesii (Bryophyta), which is absent from recent country-wide checklists of Georgia, is reconfirmed.

Für die Bryophytenflora Georgiens werden fünf Neufunde, Jubula hutchinsiae subsp. caucasica (Marchantiophyta), Anomodon tristis, Didymodon validus, Orthotrichum tenellum und Rhynchostegiella litorea (Bryophyta) mitgeteilt. Zusätzlich wird das Vorkommen von Pogonatum neesii, das in der neuesten Checkliste für Georgien fehlt, bestätigt.

Key words: Bryophyte diversity, Caucasus, liverworts, mosses, new records.

Introduction

The first comprehensive overview on the bryophyte flora of the Caucasus, including Georgia, was given by Brotherus (1892). A century later, this floristic basis was updated by the checklists of Ignatov & Afonina (1992) and Konstantinova et al. (1992), providing the state-of-the-art knowledge about bryophytes in the countries of the former USSR. Later, Ignatov et al. (2007) gave an additional list, also covering records from the Caucasus. A first, although taxonomically and nomenclaturally slightly outdated Georgian bryophyte checklist was presented by Chikovani & Svanidze (2004), totalling three hornworts, 171 liverworts and 638 mosses. In addition, they refer to a high number of varieties and formas, which do not deserve taxonomic recognition any longer in view of most authors.

Most recently, the bryoflora and -vegetation of the Caucasus is again in the focus of floristic and vegetation studies (cf. Tigishvili 2006, Doroshina 2011, Zündorf 2011, Kürschner et al. 2012). With Hygrohypnum eugyrium (Schimp.) Broth. and Hyocomium armoricum (Brid.) Wijk & Margad., Zündorf (2011) added two species to the flora, which were collected in the western part (Adjara, Mtirala National Park) of the country.

Here we add the six further records. The voucher specimens are kept at B, with duplicates at TBI and in the herbarium of H. Kürschner (Berlin).