**Didymodon rufidulus** new to Mongolia

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*Didymodon rufidulus* (Pottiaceae) is reported for the first time from Mongolia. A brief description and digital photographs of the species are provided, and its relationship with some closely related species within the genus is discussed.


*Didymodon rufidulus* (Pottiaceae) wurde neu für die Mongolei nachgewiesen. Eine Beschreibung der Art mit Illustrationen wird präsentiert, und die Beziehung zu einigen nahe verwandten Arten innerhalb der Gattung wird diskutiert.

**Key words:** Bryophyta, Pottiaceae, new record.

**Introduction**

In the course of a revision of the genus *Didymodon* Hedw. for Mongolia, one of the specimens labelled as *D. nigrescens* (Mitt.) K.Saito attracted our attention. After studying types of *Didymodon* specimens from herbarium H and JE, and consulting the relevant literature (SAITO 1975, LI et al. 2001, JIMÉNEZ et al. 2005, JIMÉNEZ 2006, ZANDER 1993, 2007, TSEGMED et al. 2010, KUČERA & IGNATOV 2015), it was concluded that the sample does not correspond to *D. nigrescens*, but to *D. rufidulus* (Müll.Hal.) Broth. This species was formerly known only from China, but never from Mongolia. Hence, this is reported as a new addition to the Mongolian moss flora.

**Results**

*Didymodon rufidulus* (Müll.Hal.) Broth.  
(Fig. 1)

Plants 0.5–1.0 cm high, growing in dense turfs, green. Stems erect, branched, without hyalodermis, sclerodermis scarcely differentiated or with the outer cells smaller and thicker-walled, central strand differentiated. Rhizoidal tubers absent. Leaves monomorphic, more or less appressed and slightly flexuose when dry, erect-patent to spreading and not keeled when moist, ovate- to triangular-lanceolate, broadly concave adaxially across leaf, gradually narrowed to the apex, not caducous, 1.2–2.1 × 0.24–0.32 mm; lamina unistratose; margins entire, lightly recurved from base to 3/4 of the leaf, unistratose. Costa ending several cells below the apex; ventral cells of the costa, in the upper middle of the leaf, rectangular to subquadrate, smooth or mammilllose or rarely with low branched papillae, dorsal cells of the costa, in the upper middle of the leaf, rectangular, mammilllose; in transverse section at leaf base, elliptical; with 2–3 guide cells in one layer, without ventral stereids, one layer of dorsal stereids.

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