A fruiting plant of Handeliobryum sikkimense (Bryopsida, Thamnobryaceae) from Yunnan, China

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With 5 figures

Abstract: A single fertile plant of *Handeliobryum sikkimense* was discovered in a collection made in Yunnan, China and the sporophyte is described and illustrated for the first time in this taxon. This monotypic genus is endemic to the Sino-Himalayan region and its current distribution is reviewed and mapped. The taxonomic position of *H. sikkimense* is discussed and this genus is considered to be a member of the family Thamnobryaceae, close to *Hydrocryphaea*. Some comment on rheophytic pleurocarpous mosses, with particular reference to production of sporophytes, is included.

Keywords: Asia, Bryophyta, *Handeliobryum*, Sino-Himalayan region, Neckeraceae, hypnoid peristome, rheophyte, sporophytes, Thamnobryaceae.

Introduction

During the Gaoligongshan expeditions organized from 2002 to 2007 to western Yunnan Province, China, J.R.Shevock and D.G.Long were able to make rich collections of bryophytes. They paid special attention to rheophytic habitats which proved to have been heavily under-collected in this region of China. The efforts to explore various river and stream environments was reinforced with the discovery of many outstanding taxa. The most remarkable of these was the discovery of *Yunnanobryon rhyacophilum* Shevock, Ochyra, S.He & D.G.Long, an endemic genus and species of the Regmatodontaceae (Shevock et al. 2011; Nosratinia et al. 2011) which is widely distributed in the 'Three Parallel Rivers' region of western Yunnan

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