Notes on the Hepatic Flora of the Athens Area

Hall, Gustav W.

The Ohio Journal of Science. v58 n1 (January, 1958), 15-19
http://hdl.handle.net/1811/4498

Downloaded from the Knowledge Bank, The Ohio State University's institutional repository
NOTES ON THE HEPATIC FLORA OF THE ATHENS AREA

GUSTAV W. HALL

Department of Botany, Ohio University, Athens

In comparison with the hepatic flora of many adjacent states, that of Ohio has received relatively little attention. Since 1953, the writer has collected extensively in southeastern Ohio, chiefly in the neighborhood of Athens. Apparently no records of any liverworts from this area have been published. This report attempts to summarize all collections from the area up to the present.

An unpublished thesis by McCleary (1946) deals chiefly with mosses but furnishes authenticated records of 10 hepatics. Prescher (1946) collected approximately 38 species from Athens Township. The total reported was higher but unfortunately has been reduced by misidentified or unsatisfactory material.

Fifty-eight species, supported by specimens, are recorded at present. Substrate as observed in the area, relative abundance, and one collection from Athens County are cited for each. Records from neighboring Meigs and eastern Vinton County, which were included in this study, are appended. The writer’s collections are referred to merely by collection number; those of others by collector and date. All specimens cited are deposited in the Ohio University Herbarium in Athens.

Liverworts are almost universally less common and occupy a narrower spectrum of habitats than mosses. The unglaciated hill country of southeastern Ohio is quite favorable, however, and comparatively rich in species. Constant moisture of the substrate and of the air is required by most liverworts, and damp, coarse-grained sandstone in rich, shady ravines is the outstanding hepatic habitat in the Athens area. Only a few species venture into relatively dry, exposed situations.

Ptilidiaceae


Trichocolea tomentella (Ehrh.) Dumort. On moist sandstone and adjacent humus. Uncommon. 287, Waterloo Game Preserve.

Lepidoziaceae

Bazzania denudata (Torrey) Trevis. A single collection, from moist sandstone: 289, Waterloo Game Preserve.

Bazzania trilobata (L.) S. F. Gray. On moist sandstone, occasionally on adjacent mossy soil. Uncommon. 551, two miles north of Mineral. Also Vinton County: 2674, in ravine adjacent to Moonville Tunnel, Brown Twp. This species is much more widespread and luxuriant in the Hocking Caves region to the northwest.

Lepidozia reptans (L.) Dumort. On moist sandstone, sometimes decaying logs. Uncommon. 651, one-half mile northeast of Carbondale.


Calypogeiaceae

Calypogea trichomanis (L.) Corda. Chiefly on moist sandstone overhangs. Common. 649, one-half mile northeast of Carbondale. Also Vinton County: 2902A, near Piney Point of Lake Hope; Meigs County: 183, near junction of Rte. 33 and Kingsbury Creek.

Cephaloziaceae


_Cephalozia media_ Lindb. On moist sandstone, sometimes soil. Rather common. 119, North Hill Caves near Athens.

_Norvellia curvifolia_ (Dicks) Mitt. On moist decorticated logs, less frequently on sandstone. Rather common. 611, Stroud's Run, Canaan Twp. Also Vinton County: 2690, near Piney Point of Lake Hope.

_Odontoschisma denudatum_ (Mart.) Dumort. A single collection, from a decaying stump: Blickle, July 27, 1946, Sec. 32-33, Athens Twp.


Harpanthaceae

_Lophocolea alata_ Mitt. On moist sandstone. Rare. 675, Waterloo State Forest.

_Lophocolea heterophylla_ (Schrad.) Dumort. On wood, rocks, and soil. Quite common and widespread. 584, Burr Oak Lake, Trimble Twp.

_Chiloscyphus pallescens_ (Ehrh.) Dumort. On moist rotting wood, soil, and sandstone. A few collections from Athens Twp. 683, Dobson's Hollow near Athens.

_Chiloscyphus polyanthus_ (L.) Corda. A single collection, from moist soil: Prescher, June 20, 1946, Sec. 9-10-16, Athens Twp.

_Geocalyx graveolens_ (Schrad.) Nees. On moist sandstone. Rather common. 503, Birch Hollow near Carbondale. Also Vinton County: 2648, along Raccoon Creek near Arbaugh.

Jungermanniaceae

_Lophosia incisa_ (Schrad.) Dumort. In mats of _Cephalozia_ on moist sandstone. Several collections, all from Athens Twp. 279, North Hill Caves near Athens.

_Jungermannia lanceolata_ L. On moist sandstone. Several collections, all from Rome Twp. 2272C, just south of Broadwell.

_Jungermannia pumila_ With. A single scanty collection, from moist sandstone: Prescher, July 2, 1946, Sec. 5-6-12, Athens Twp.


_Nardia lescurii_ (Aust.) Underw. One scanty collection, probably this species, from moist sandstone: Blickle, June 28, 1946, Sec. 32-33, Athens Twp.

_Pleqtocolea crenulata_ (Smith) Evans. A single collection, from an exposed clay bank: 581, North Hill Caves near Athens.

_Pleqtocolea crenuliformis_ (Aust.) Mitt. A single collection, from moist sandstone: Prescher, July 2, 1946, Sec. 5-6-12, Athens Twp.

_Pleqtocolea hyalina_ (Lyell) Mitt. On moist sandstone. Rather common. 158, along Rte. 33 near West Branch of Shade River, Lodi Twp.

Plagiochilaceae

_Plagiochila asplenioidea_ (L.) Dumort. Chiefly on moist sandstone. Quite common and widespread. 663, along Rockcamp Creek, Waterloo Twp. Also Vinton County: 2691, near Piney Point of Lake Hope; Meigs County: 2689, Forked Run State Park.

Scapaniaceae


_Scapania nemorosa_ (L.) Dumort. Chiefly on moist sandstone. Quite common and widespread. 227, two miles west of Broadwell. Also Vinton County: 2692, near Piney Point of Lake Hope.

Porellaceae

Porella pinnata L. On moist sandstone adjacent to waterfalls. Apparently rare. 211, Crumley's Run, Canaan Twp.
Porella platyphylla (L.) Lindb. [including P. platyphyloidea (Schwein.) Lindb.] On sandstone, limestone, tree bases, and decaying logs, chiefly along streams. Quite common and widespread. 648, one-half mile northeast of Carbondale. Also Vinton County: 2685, Lake Hope State Park.

Radulaceae

Radula complanata (L.) Dumort. On sandstone, sometimes limestone. Fairly common. 634, near Concord Church, Ames Twp.
Radula obconica Sulliv. On moist sandstone, often growing over rootlets and other bryophytes; sometimes tree trunks. Fairly common. 637, along Rte. 56 opposite the Waterloo Game Preserve. Also Vinton County: 2632, Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest; Meigs County: 738, Forked Run State Park.

Frullaniaceae

Frullania asa-grayana Mont. On dry sandstone. Rather common. 639, on Rte. 56 opposite the Waterloo Game Preserve. Also Meigs County: 2636, Forked Run State Park.
Frullania plana Sulliv. A single collection, from moist sandstone: 2615, Stroud's Run, Canaan Twp.

Lejeuneaceae


Fossombroniaceae

Fossombronia wondraczki (Corda) Dumort. On moist exposed soil. Fairly common. 605, near Buchtel Buffalo Bent.

Pelliaceae


Blasiaceae

Pallaviciniaceae

*Pallavicinia lyellii* (Hook.) S. F. Gray. On wet rotting wood, soil, and among other bryophytes on sandstone. Uncommon. 643, one-half mile northeast of Carbondale. The species is much more plentiful in peat bogs elsewhere in Ohio.

Metzgeriaceae

*Metzgeria conjugata* Lindb. Chiefly on moist sandstone. Fairly common. 2614, Stroud's Run, Canaan Twp. Also Meigs County: 2637, Forked Run State Park.

Riccardiaceae


Marchantiaceae


Rebouliaceae


Ricciaceae

*Ruciocarpus natans* (L.) Corda. A single collection, from a stagnant pond: 2647, remains of old Hocking Canal north of Armitage. A few sterile thalli of *Riccia* sp. have been observed on a muddy bank of the Hocking River near Athens.

Anthocerotaceae


ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Sincere acknowledgment is given Dr. W. G. Gambill, who guided the study, Dr. A. H. Blickle, collector of many interesting specimens both for Prescher’s work and the present study, Dr. Margaret Fulford who determined or verified a number of doubtful collections, and especially to Mr. Harold E. Robinson, who cooperated closely while working on his parallel study of the moss flora of the area.
REFERENCES

Conard, H. S. 1944. How to Know the Mosses, 2nd ed. Wm. C. Brown Co., Dubuque, Iowa.