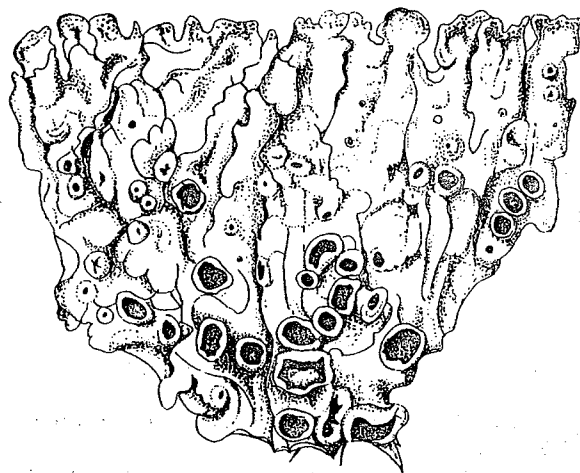


INTERNATIONAL  
LICHENOLOGICAL  
NEWSLETTER

Vol. 28, nr. 3, October 1995



Official publication of the  
International Association for Lichenology

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issued from:

Bot. Garten & Bot. Museum  
Königin-Luise-Strasse 6-8  
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ISSN: 0731 - 2830

The opinions expressed in the Newsletter are not necessarily those held by the International Association for Lichenology.

The International Lichenological Newsletter is the official organ of the International Association for Lichenology (IAL). It is published three times a year in English with selected items in French, German or Spanish. Information and news intended for publication should reach the editor at least one month prior to scheduled production (February, June and October of each year).

IAL membership is open to anyone who has an active interest in the study and use of lichens. The subscription is US \$ 20.00 or DM. 30.00 for a four-year period. Subscriptions should be sent to the Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer:

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Clifford W. Smith, University of Hawaii at Manoa, Department of Botany, 3190 Maile Way, Honolulu, HI 96822, USA. Cheques should be made payable to International Association of Lichenologists.

or (for british members) to: T.H. Moxham, Mayfair House, 21 Ashgrove, Peasedown St. John, Bath, Avon, BA2 8EB, U.K. (subscription price £13.00)

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## RESEARCH NEWS & NOTES

**Ahti, Teuvo** (Helsinki, Finland) visited herbaria in Frankfurt, Göttingen and Marburg in April and the Universities of Essen and Düsseldorf in June 1995. He also announces that **Jouko Rikinen** will defend his Ph.D. thesis in the Department of Ecology and Systematics (formerly Dept. of Botany) of the University of Helsinki on 22 September 1995. This thesis, entitled "What is behind the pretty colours? A study on photobiology of lichens", was published in the journal *Bryobrothera* in Helsinki. Bruce McCune will act as his faculty opponent. Other recent or future visitors in 1995 include **Marie-Agnes Letrouit-Galinou**, **Philippe Clerc**, **Jolanta Miadlikowska**, **Ana Rosa Burgaz** and **Isabel Martinez**, the latter staying for three months.

**Biazrov, Lev** (Moscow, Russia), supported by the International Science Foundation (grant M-31000) during 1994-1995, carried out a lichen reinventory project in the Moscow Region (Russia). The aim of the research was to estimate the actual lichen flora of the metropolitan Moscow Region and to establish trends in the species diversity by comparison with previous lichenological data. The project was realized in four steps: 1. compilation of a list of known lichen species of the Moscow Region, with their locations, using published data and herbarium collections of the Botanical Institute in St.-Petersburg and of Moscow University;

2. reinvestigation of these locations in order to confirm the presence of the lichens today; 3. identification of the collected materials; 4. compilation of a synopsis of the actual lichen flora of the Moscow Region. A publication is in preparation.

**Follmann, Gerhard** (Cologne, Germany) undertook his tenth Atacama expedition immediately after his farewell colloquy (retirement ceremony) at the University of Cologne in February, 1995. The main objective was to study some smaller fog oases ("lomas") along the xeric hilly North Chilean coast between approximately 30° and 18° s.l., probably never visited by a lichenologist before. Like the better-known, larger, "classical" tree-, shrub-, succulent-, bromeliad- or lichen oases, each of these vegetation islands supports a characteristic independent lichen population. Although "Panatacamian" elements are relatively rare, the proportion of local endemics oscillates around 20%. About 30% of the loma lichens can be considered as relics of a wetter Pleistocene period. Apart from this, new data have been compiled on the continuous decline and impoverishment of the plant cover in general and of the lichens in particular at the larger lomas, which have been studied since the sixties. A comprehensive account on the unique lichen flora and vegetation of the loma formations, including a critical catalogue, is in prep-

aration.

**Hansen, Eric Steen** (Copenhagen, Denmark) spent six weeks in July and August 1995 in North East Greenland between 79° and 82° N. He collected more than 1000 specimens of lichens and material for "Lichenes Groenlandiae Exsiccati", fascicle XII.

**Knops, J. M. H.** (Tempe, USA) successfully defended his dissertation, "The Influence of Epiphytic Lichens on the Nutrient Cycling of an Oak Woodland" for his doctorate degree at Arizona State University in May, 1994. The principal publication from his dissertation will appear in either *Ecology* or *Ecological Monographs* in the near future. Dr. Knops is now working at the University of Minnesota at the Long-term Ecological Research Site.

**Lücking, Robert** (Ulm, Germany) successfully defended his PhD thesis entitled "Foliikole Flechten und ihre Mikrohabitatpräferenzen in einem tropischen Regenwald in Costa Rica" at the end of 1994 and is presently working on the publication of his data. In the meanwhile he has received a two year research fellowship from the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) to continue his studies on neotropical foliicolous lichens. The project with the title "Neotropical foliicolous lichens: taxonomy, systematics, distribution, biodiversity, ecology, and use" starts in October 1995 and includes field trips to Costa Rica, Panama, Ecuador, Guyana, Brazil, Chile, and Argentina. Besides ecological studies on dispersal and mechanisms of biodiversity conservation in primary and

secondary forests, the project includes the preparation of monographs in the frame of the "Flora Neotropica" series. Taxa that will be treated are the families Asterothyriaceae (including *Gyalidea*, *Linhartia*, *Psorotheciopsis*, and *Asterothyrium*), Gomphillaceae (together with **Antonín Vezda**, Brno), Pilocarpaceae (together with **Edit Farkas**, Vácrtót), and Ectolechiaceae (together with **Mario Matzer**, Graz), and the genera *Mazosia* (together with **Klaus Kalb**, Neumarkt, and **Göran Thor**, Uppsala/Tsukuba) and *Trichothelium*. Furthermore, an invitation has been offered by the Herbarium of the Universidade Federal de Pernambuco (Recife) to study the various teleomorphic foliicolous lichens described by Batista and his co-workers which are almost completely unknown to lichenologists. This trip will be accompanied by **Emmanuel Sérusiaux** (Liège) who would particularly like to investigate the anamorphic taxa established by Batista et al., many of them supposed to represent hyphophores or campylidia. The monographs for the "Flora Neotropica" series are planned to be completed within 3-5 years (depending on the taxon). To make data collection as effective as possible, a collaboration with Latin American lichenologists has been started, including exchange of specimens and literature. Since the series comprises systematic groups, non-foliicolous representants of the taxa mentioned are also included in the study. Many saxicolous species are expected in the genera *Gyalidea* and *Gyalideopsis*, whereas Pilocarpaceae and Ectolechiaceae might be widespread on corticolous substrates. Still

untreated lichen collections gathered by the late Prof. **Sieghard Winkler** are at hand from several Latin American countries, including Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Costa Rica, Colombia, Venezuela, French Guiana, and Brazil. It is also planned to visit several herbaria, including B, BM, G, GZU, M, S, TUR, UPS and the private herbaria of **Klaus Kalb** and **Antonín Vezda**. Further colleagues or herbaria that are willing to cooperate by loan of specimens are especially asked to send still untreated collections of foliicolous or non-foliicolous lichens which might include the above mentioned taxa for determination or revision to the following address: Robert Lücking, Abteilung Spezielle Botanik (Biologie V), Universität Ulm, D-89081 Ulm, Germany.

**Printzen, Christian** (Cologne, Ger-

many) defended his thesis on the genus *Biatora* in Europe. Entitled "Die Flechtengattung *Biatora* in Europa", it will be published in *Bibliotheca Lichenologica*. It is written in German but includes a summary and a key to the 17 recognized European species in English. Provided funding can be found, he will shortly begin a systematic treatment of the *Lecanora symmicta* group with Prof. **Feige** in Essen.

**Wedeneev, Alexey** (Wolgograd, Russia) has started a four-year investigation of the lichen flora around Volgograd, in particular the steppe and desert areas along the lower Volga and Don rivers. He would very much like to contact colleagues from abroad to exchange ideas and publications. He is willing to offer specimens in return.

### Candidates for the Acharius Medal and the Mason E. Hale Award sought

The "Acharius Medal", initiated at the meeting of IAL in Regensburg on 31 August 1990, is an award to honour people who have made an outstanding contribution to lichenology. The first silver awards were presented at the IAL meeting during the IAL-2 symposium in Båstad, Sweden. As there had been no previous IAL award, the medal was presented to a larger number of candidates. During the International Mycological Congress in Vancouver, August 1994, four further medals were presented. A gold medal was presented in October 1994 to Prof. Poelt on occasion of his 70th birthday. The forthcoming IAL-3 Symposium in Salzburg in September 1996 seems the next suitable occasion for the presentation of awards, and suggestions for suitable candidates are invited.

The Mason E. Hale Award was established to encourage young lichenologists at the beginning of their research career. It consists of a diploma and a prize and will be presented to a young scientist for outstanding published work resulting from a doctoral dissertation or similar study. The first Award was presented in Båstad, and a second one in Vancouver. The IAL Council intends to present a third one in Salzburg on occasion of the IAL-3 Symposium. Suggestions for suitable candidates are likewise invited.

Suggestions should be sent to the President, Dr. I. Kärnefelt, Dept. of Systematic Botany, Ö. Vallgatan 18-20, S-22361 Lund, Sweden; fax 00 46 46 104234; E-mail <Ingvar.Karnefelt@botmus.lu.se>.

### Lichens are more important than you think

Lichens are probably the most misunderstood and poorly appreciated organisms in the biological world. The curse that Linnaeus put on them in 1775, calling them the "poor trash of vegetation", has not been lifted. Even today, many biologists dismiss lichens as without value or consequence. Nothing could be further from the truth. For someone who has spent the better part of a lifetime studying lichens, I find their persistently poor image puzzling. True, when I started my study of lichens approximately 40 years ago, some colleagues equated it with the study of Sanskrit, an ancient Indic language. Even now, thousands of publications by many investigators notwithstanding, this impression of esotericism persists. To burnish the image of lichens, I want to emphasize their contributions; they are an important part of the biological web that links us all together.

The problem with lichens is that they do not fit neatly anywhere. They are not plants, like mosses, and not your usual kind of fungi. Lichens are photosynthetic associations, consisting of dense populations of green algae or cyanobacteria, which release oxygen, and fungal tissue, which respire. They have a unique combination of traits, being primarily fungal but also algal (or cyanobacterial).

The most striking aspect of lichens is their ubiquity. They occur worldwide and

in most habitats. There are two permanently submerged lichens, one in fresh water (*Hydrothyria venosa*) and one in salt water (*Verrucaria serpuloides*). Lichens colonize almost any substrate, including commonly rocks and bark and occasionally tortoises and weevils. The dry valleys of Antarctica contain endolithic lichens which grow beneath the rock surface, thereby gaining protection from the fierce external climate.

According to Douglas W. Larson of the University of Guelph in Ontario, Canada, approximately 8 % of the earth's terrestrial surface has lichens as its most dominant lifeforms. In the boreal forests of North America, Europe, and Russia, vast areas of the ground are covered with reindeer lichens, particularly species of *Cladonia*. Lichens abound in deserts, on mountains, and in the tree canopies of the tropical rain forests. This broad coverage notwithstanding, the relevance of lichens to the Gaia hypothesis has been totally ignored, although the rain forests have been given a central position. It is likely that lichens also have a role in regulating the gaseous composition of the earth's atmosphere, possibly by acting as carbon dioxide sinks.

Lichens have been used as key examples of major concepts in biology. Anton DeBary in 1879 used lichens as examples of symbiosis, which he defined broadly as a living together of different species of organisms. This definition may have caused confusion later on when other workers equated symbiosis (including lichens) with mutualism, an association in which both partners benefit. The fungi of lichens have formed associations of controlled parasitism with different species of photobionts. In these associations the photobiont is a victim, not a partner, of the mycobiont. The mutualistic myth of lichens is a tough one to dispel - the most recent attempt is found in my book, *The Lichen Symbiosis* (John Wiley & Sons, New York, 1993).

The remarkable transformations that occur during the formation of lichens fascinated early Russian biologists who, in counterpoint to Darwinian ideas, viewed symbiosis as a driving force in evolution. Lichens were used as key examples when, in 1909, the Russian biologist Konstantin Mereskovsky developed the concept of symbiogenesis, which states that new species arise through symbiosis.

An undisputed role of lichens is their use as sensitive indicators of atmospheric pollution. There has been a steady stream of publications on this subject by lichenologists and other scientists. So, the next time you encounter a lichen examine it carefully and appreciate its important, but largely ignored, role in the biological world.

Vernon Ahmadjian

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### The lichenological exploration of SE Russia (Volgograd Region)

The region of Volgograd (also known under its earlier names Stalingrad or Tsaritsan) is situated in the south-eastern part of European Russia, along the lower Volga and Don rivers. It extends for about 114,000 km<sup>2</sup>, and is covered by a wide

range of landscape and vegetation types. In the North broad-leaved deciduous forests occur, while the main part is dominated by steppe and the south has deserts.

The first botanical collections were made by B. Bekker in the German colony Sarepta, on the Volga. Afterwards the Russian botanists and lichenologists K. Keller, M. Tomin and V. Savicz investigated the area. At present over 100 lichen species are known from the area, and its lichen flora is still to be considered as poorly known.

Two years ago a regular exploration of the lichen flora was started by the author. The intention is to make lichen collections in all sections of the area, and from all landscape-, bedrock- and vegetation types. Numerous collections have already been made and a lichen herbarium is growing. Five students are participating in the project, exploring areas and identifying lichens. A Lichen flora of the Volgograd Region is scheduled to be ready within four years.

Alexey M. Wedencev

### Fieldwork opportunity in the South-east of European Russia

The South-east of Russia is one of the most lichenologically underinvestigated areas of Europe. Now a group of scientists and students at the Volgograd Pedagogical University has started to study the lichens of this region, headed by Alexey Wedencev (Dept. of Botany). The group is going to organize field trips to different areas of the Volgograd region and neighbouring territories in south-east Russia (lower Volga river to the Caspian sea: Saratov-, Volgograd- and Astrakhan-regions and Kalmyk republic; middle and lower Don river: Voronezh- and Rostov-regions). The goal of the planned trips is to collect lichen material for a planned Lichen flora of the Volgograd region.

The vegetation of the area consists of broad-leaved forests in ravines, *Populus*- and *Salix*-forests in flood plains, forest-steppe vegetation in the North, different types of steppes in the middle part and deserts in the South. A considerable part of the territory is occupied by agricultural landscapes and artificial forests, and sands with different vegetation types.

We would like to invite specialists - lichen taxonomists - who are interested in cooperation to take part in the proposed expeditions. Our intention is to rent a truck, and possibly use a boat. Because of the present level of prices in Russia, participation in the proposed trips is unlikely to be very expensive. We would be glad to discuss different proposals for field routes.

Address for contacts: Alexey M. Wedencev, Teacher of the Dept. of Botany, Volgograd Pedagogical University, 22 Lenin Av., Volgograd, Russia. Tel. +7 (8442) 365544; (8442) 421677.

### Lichens in focus

What a delight to see lichens on the front page of Science in June! Finally, these organisms have received the attention we lichenologists believe they deserve. It is indeed encouraging to see that new molecular techniques work also on lichens and hopefully will give us a better understanding of the genetical basis for lichen taxonomy. This has been a major problem for us, keeping our taxonomy, even after recent developments within chemotaxonomy and electron microscopy, on a different, more superficial level, than that of our phanerogamic colleagues.

However, my enthusiasm became mixed with irritation when I read the texts (Science 268: 1492-1494), particularly the comment by Marcia Barinaga (Science 268: 1437), so much so that I have written to the editor of Science questioning the way the results have been presented, basically being THE SENSATION that lichens are now, by this new technique, shown for the first time to be fungi and to be polyphyletic. I found nothing sensational in the article, it simply confirmed and added important arguments to this long held view, which perhaps does not appear to be quite as exiting, but is nevertheless very valuable.

We all hopefully know that in the 1860-ies Simon Schwendener proved the fungal nature of lichens and their so-called "double nature". This of course was contested, but was generally accepted in spite of some diehard non-believers, at the beginning of this century! It was rather unfortunate that Zahlbruckner adhered to the Nylander-school when he wrote his treatment of lichens in Engler & Prantl (1907), later followed up by his Catalogus. There was another, more mycological line of lichenology actually started by the great French cryptogamist Fée, further developed by the Italian mycologist de Notaris and subsequently by Massalongo, Körber, Th. M. Fries, Vainio and others. This choice by Zahlbruckner delayed the development of a modern taxonomy of lichens, including them as part of the fungal system, but certainly not until June 1995.

I contest the claim, also made by the authors of the article, though in a more carefully phrased form, that: "the results of a DNA analysis dispels the widely held notion that the lichen-forming fungi are a closely knit fringe group in the fungus world". Admittedly, the views expressed on lichens depend on who you ask. The man in the street normally still confuses lichens and mosses, a view often seen in old pre-Linnean books. But I would expect that it is the generally held view among active lichenologists that would constitute the basis of a statement referring to a new scientific discovery. It is possible that the cited statement reflects the idea of lichens being specialized fungi has not been as widely accepted in America as in Western Europe. I got it in through my basic training in Uppsala in the 1970s. My teacher Rolf Santesson had successfully arranged the foliicolous lichens, embracing many different taxonomic groups, according to the new ascomycete system constructed by J. A. Nannfeldt. And when you look in Systema Ascomycetum, a series starting in 1985, lichens are incorporated in the general fungus system, as they are in the "Index of Fungi", the major international reference work of the group. Nomenclaturally the names are tied to the fungal partner, and the special

committee for fungal names is just that, not one for fungi and lichens any longer. We have also had international mycological congresses since 1971, where lichenized fungi have been included, though not always as fully as lichenologists would have wished. All of this indicates that there has been a wide and growing international acceptance of lichens as specialized fungi.

Since there is a risk that these comments may be misunderstood as coming from an envious, conservative colleague disliking the results and the attention they have got, I hasten to point out that I found nothing scientifically upsetting in the results, nor am I in any way trying to compete with them. They mainly confirmed my own views, the most surprising result being the position of the members of the Caliciales s. lat., but unfortunately the two chosen species *Mycocalicium albonigrum* and *Sphaerophorus globosus* are not very representative for the core of that order which has already been shown to be polyphyletic by Tibell in 1984. This particular point highlights one basic problem with the article: it is based on studies of very few species, a fact the authors are aware of and have discussed.

My problem is basically that I dislike this way of "selling" the results. Clearly this is a breakthrough in lichen taxonomy. We have got a new powerful technique at our disposal, but that is something entirely different from the claim made by *Science*, that the results are revolutionarily new. Finally, I am afraid, I will have to face and accept, though with regret, that this exaggeration has probably served lichenology well, and the message that lichens actually are a "growth form" of fungi, has got through to the public in a way no ordinary textbook could have managed.

Per M. Jørgensen

### Lichenological Events on the Indian Subcontinent - 1994

The lichenological investigations at the National Botanical Research Institute in Lucknow are concentrating on the *Lecanora subfusca* group. Studies of the corticolous representatives have been completed, and are presented in a manuscript treating 24 species, which is offered for publication. Studies on the saxicolous representatives are in progress.

At the Agharkar Research Institute in Pune, taxonomic studies on the genus *Arthothelium* by Dr. Urmila Makhija have been completed. His group is currently busy culturing Indian lichens.

A paper entitled "Landmark of Indian Ethnolichenology" was presented by Dr. D. K. Upreti during the IVth International Congress of Ethnobiology, 17-21 November 1994. He gave a detailed account of lichen species traditionally utilized by the different ethnic groups of India, as medicine, spices, food, fodder, dyeing and stuffing material.

From 12-18 December 1994, 14 Nepalese, one Sri Lankan and six Indian lichenologists attended an International Seminar with Workshop on lichen taxonomy, organized by the Central Department of Botany, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal, under the Botany Asia-2000 Programme. During the Workshop three days were devoted to scientific discussions on lichen taxonomy. The remain-

ing days were used for a field visit to the Ziri area of Nepal, to explore the diversity of lichens, their common use and potential for economic development. The workshop was initiated to bring together experts working on the lichens of South and Central Asia, and to facilitate the exchange of experience and promote the development of lichen taxonomy. Dr. D. D. Awasthi attended the Workshop as the main Resource Person.

D. K. Upreti

### Red List of the epiphytic lichens of Switzerland

The aim of this project is to prepare an official Red List of epiphytic lichens for the country, subdivided into the districts Jura, Central Plateau, Pre-Alps, Alps and Southern Alps. It is a joint project of the Swiss Federal Institute for Forest, Snow and Landscape Research (WSL) and the Federal Office of Environment, Forests and Landscape (BUVAL). Our efforts will mainly focus on collecting quantitative floristical data over the whole of Switzerland and thus elaborate the diversity and pattern of epiphytic lichen vegetation, and the frequency of the species. Two complementary surveys are included:

1. Since 1993 M. Dietrich has been developing a method for a representative survey of the epiphytic lichens on a subsample of the plots of the Swiss long-term forestry inventory. So far the survey has been restricted to five test regions on the Central Plateau and the Pre-Alps. In 1996 he will start to extend these studies over the whole study area.

2. To obtain more data of the lichens restricted to rare habitats, a second type of survey is being carried out by Christine Keller, Irene Roth, Silvia Stofer, Martin Frei and Urs Groner on a 20 x 20 km grid. These lichenologists carefully plan their excursions in order to find rare and hopefully lichen-rich habitats. Many new populations of rare species have already been reported since November 1994, when this project was started (e.g. *Sticta limbata*). For selected taxa, the threat to each lichen population will be calculated from the number of thalli per trunk and from the number of trees colonized by the taxon.

Further, studies on dispersal biology and early development of endangered epiphytic lichen species are currently being undertaken by Christoph Scheidegger, Beat Frey and Stefan Zoller and will be considered when estimating the conservation status of the species.

You are invited to follow the progress of this project by consulting our www-server ([http://www.wsl.ch/rauminf/riv/datenbank/lichen/database\\_lichen.html](http://www.wsl.ch/rauminf/riv/datenbank/lichen/database_lichen.html)). At present you can either check the areas from which data are already available, or you may have a look at distribution maps of all epiphytic lichens reported so far during this project. Every lichenologist is welcome to communicate floristical data of epiphytic species from Switzerland to Christoph Scheidegger. Data collection will continue until 1998, the Red List will be published in 2000.

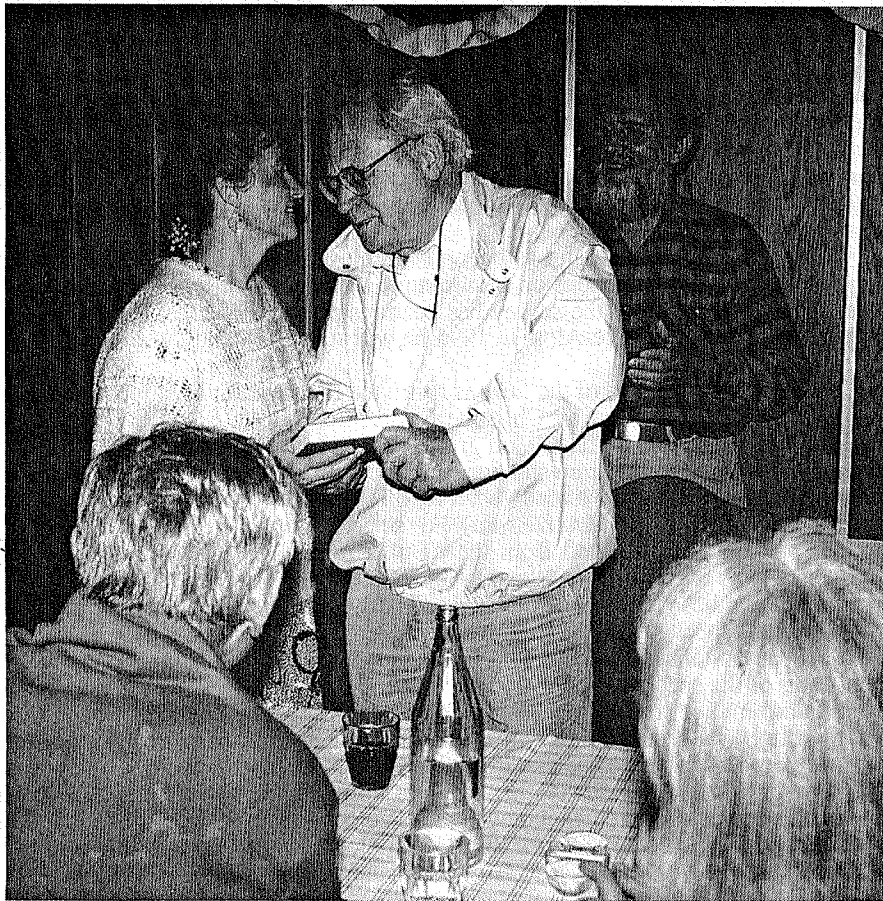
Christoph Scheidegger



IAB & IAL Symposium on Follicolous Cryptogams 29 August - 2 September 1995

Photograph below: Antonin Vezda receives a Festschrift on the occasion of his 75th birthday from one of the editors, Edith Farkas. In the background the bryologist Tamas Pocs.

Photograph on opposite page: The participants of the Symposium on Follicolous Cryptogams, gathered in the garden of Tamas Pocs.



### IAB & IAL Symposium on Foliicolous Cryptogams 29 August - 2 September 1995

At the end of August, an international group of 42 bryologists and lichenologists descended upon the medieval Hungarian town of Eger, just as the chilly Carpathian winds blew away the summer and brought rains and cold temperatures to this Central European country. A number of scheduled speakers ultimately could not attend the symposium, but participants expressed satisfaction with the results of the meeting, particularly in the quality and productivity of the informal discussions. There was a welcoming soiree featuring live Hungarian folk music and the dry red wine of the Eger region known as Bull's Blood which, despite its name, proved to be a savory substance fully compatible with a vegetarian diet. In addition to the scientific program on foliicolous cryptogams, there were informal talks featuring beautiful slide shows on Antarctica, Kenya, northern Argentina, and neotropical rain forests. A mid-symposium excursion to the Zemplén mountains included a mid-morning stop at a local vintner's to try the famous Tokaji wine characteristic of that region. The bodegas were inspected, and several participants made collections of the fluffy mycelium which covered the wine casks and cellar walls, a fungal species whose presence is apparently necessary to ensure the quality of the fermented product. In the afternoon, the group climbed a hill crowned by the ruins of a medieval castle. Some Hungarian laborers were doing restoration work within the former castle proper, while just a few meters below some lichenologists busily chipped away at the hillside with hammer and chisel. At the symposium dinner, Dr. Antonin Vezda was presented with a Festschrift prepared in honor of his 75th birthday. He seemed to be truly surprised; it appeared that for once the preparation of an honorary Festschrift had been successfully maintained a secret from its celebrated recipient. Participants also took the opportunity to thank Tamás Pócs, Edit Farkas and their many collaborators in organizing the Symposium. On the final evening, participants were treated to a sumptuous banquet at the home of the Pócs family, featuring an authentic Hungarian "goulash", and a powerful home-made pear brandy elaborated by Sándor Orbán.

William Sanders

### News from BM

David Galloway sadly left us last November to return to his homeland, New Zealand, where he is now established as a lichenological consultant. He can be currently contacted at 8B Balmoral Street, Opoho, Dunedin (fax 64-3-4730916). Following his departure we are pleased the museum placed a high priority on this research position and are delighted to have now appointed Mats Wedin from Uppsala, Sweden, well known for his important doctoral studies on *Sphaerophorus*. Mats is currently engaged in postdoctoral studies in Austria and will be joining us in February armed with molecular experience! Pat Wolseley's Leverhulme

Foundation funding in Thailand has now ended but is hoping for further funding in SE Asia - she can still be contacted through the museum. A reminder please that all requests for loans should be directed to our lichen curator, Miss Kate Pryor with whom I am in regular contact. Kate is busy reorganising the foreign herbarium alphabetically which is proving an awesome task!

O. William Purvis

### Call for lists of authorities

One challenge anyone faces with a large collection is finding name changes - not only for typing new labels, but also for filing old specimens under new names (after annotating). In this regard, I have found a "List of epithets in the parmelioid genera" prepared by the late Mason Hale in 1989 to be extremely useful and have often wished that I had a similar list for other groups. It covers the group at the world level and hence goes beyond checklists for individual regions. I would like to propose that monographers offer to provide similar lists to colleagues through the IAL newsletter (not printing the lists, but providing information on where the lists can be obtained from). For myself, I would be willing to update Hale's list, an example of which is given below:

*aberrans* (Vain.) des Abb. = *Parmotrema madagascariaceum* (Hue) Hale  
*acrita* Knox & Hale (*Xanthoparmelia*) = *Xanthoparmelia leonora* (Mass.) Hale  
*africana* Hale (*Everniastrum*) = *Everniastrum africana* Hale  
*beckettii* Stirt. (*Aspidelia*) = *Parmelia tenuirima* Hook. & Tayl. etc.

Tom Nash



### New Literature

David J. GALLOWAY, Soili STENROOS and Lidia I FERRARO. 1995. Lichenes, Peltigerales: Lobariaceae y Stictaceae. In S. A. Guarrera, I. Gamundi de Amos & C. M. Matteri (Eds.), Flora criptogámica de Tierra del Fuego Vol. XIII, Fasc. 6. 78 pages. (Keys and detailed descriptions for 21 species of *Pseudocyphellaria* and 4 of *Sticta*, with photographs and distribution maps in Tierra del Fuego and adjacent Argentina and Chile; in Spanish.)

Ulrich KIRSCHBAUM and Ute WINDISCH. 1995. Beurteilung der lufthygienischen Situation Hessens mittels epiphytischer Flechten. Umweltplanung, Arbeits- und Umweltschutz Heft Nr. 171. 150 pages. Available from: Schriftenreihe der Hessischen Landesanstalt für Umwelt, Postfach 3209, D-65022 Wiesbaden, Germany; fax + 49 611 6939555. (An evaluation of the air quality in the Bundesland Hessen with the aid of epiphytic lichens, based on mapping of c. 100 species using standardized plots; with methodological discussions, statistical analyses, and 68 distribution maps; in German.)

Vicente MARCANO. 1994. Colección Flora Liquéñica de los Andes Venezolanos. Vol. 1. Introducción al estudio de los líquenes y su clasificación. Edición de FUNDACITE Mérida, Serie Museo de Ciencia, Tecnología, Artes y Oficios. 338 pages. Available from: FUNDACITE-Mérida, P.O. Box 234, Mérida 5101A, Venezuela; fax (074) 44 52 17. (This first volume in a planned series of four covers mainly general chapters: survey of lichen exploration in Venezuela, general morphology, phylogeny, ecology, anatomy, physiology, chemistry, pharmacology, survey of orders, families and genera with their principal characters; about half of the volume contains colour photographs of representatives of the families with ecological and morphological data; in Spanish.)

T. H. NASH III. (ed.) Lichen Biology. 303 pages. Price US\$ 25.00 (16.95 pounds U.K.) (with chapters contributed by B. Büdel, J. A. Elix, D. Fehse, D. Galloway, C. Gries, R. Honegger, C. Scheidegger and A. Tehler; the book is designed as an introductory text in lichenology and as a successor to the late M. E. Hale's *Biology of Lichens*. It is dedicated to Mason.)

Jouko RIKKINEN. 1995. What's behind the pretty colours? A study on the photobiology of lichens. Bryobrothera 4. 239 pages. Available from Bookstore Tiedekirja, Kirkkokatu 14, FIN-00170 Helsinki, Finland. Price FIM 400 (ca. US\$ 95). (A thorough review which aims to analyse and explain patterns in the photobiology of lichens, with special emphasis on lichen pigments and their photobiological functions. Numerous topics concerning various aspects of the role of light in the evolution, distribution, morphology, anatomy, chemical composition, ecology, and physiology of lichens and lichen biotics are discussed.)

K. P. SINGH & G. P. SINHA. 1994. Lichen flora of Nagaland. 498 pages. Bishen Singh Mahendra Pal Singh, Dehra Dun. Available from the publisher, 23-A, New Connaught Place, Dehra Dun - 248 001, India. (Treatment of 86 genera and 346 species, including 9 new taxa - in *Arthothelium*, *Graphina*, *Graphis*, *Lecidea*, *Parmelina*, *Pertusaria* and *Sarcographina* - found in Nagaland, which is situated in NE India, at the boundary of Myanmar/Burma.)

### Lichens on-line

Recently a number of new electronic databases have become available, which may be of considerable use to lichenologists. The information below is very provisional and based on a hasty inventory. Additions and comments by the suppliers and users would be highly appreciated. Contributions preferably to be sent via email to: <hsipman@fub46.zedat.fu-berlin.de>.

#### A. Lichen herbaria

Lichen types in US; label information for holo- and isotypes. Last update: (to be enquired). Access: gopher USA-Washington DC-Smithsonian Institution, or via LIAS-info pages.

Cryptogams of CBG; label information for some 50.000 specimens. Access: via LIAS-info pages.

List of lichen genera in S; an alphabetical list of genus names, without authors. Last update: 5 Jan. 1994. Access: via LIAS-info pages.

Checklist of lichens reported from the three Guianas; a list of lichen names. Last update: 1994. Access: gopher USA-Washington DC-Smithsonian Institution, or via LIAS-info pages.

#### B. Addresses

Mycologists Online; addresses of mycologists, incl. lichenologists. Last update: (to be enquired). Access: gopher USA-Massachusetts-Cambridge-Farlow, or via LIAS-info pages.

Email numbers of lichenologists. Last update: August 1995. Access: via LIAS-info pages.

#### C. Library

CATALPA: New York Botanical Garden library catalog. Last update: continuously updated. Access: telnet: librisc.nybg.org

#### D. Diversae

LIAS-info pages: LIAS is designed as an information and data storage system for lichenized and lichenicolous Ascomycetes. A first version is under development and will be distributed via CD-ROM. The info pages give information on the taxa treated, as well as access to some further online information of lichenological interest. Offered by Gerhard Rambold, Germany. Last update: September 1995. Access: <http://www.zi.biologie.uni-muenchen.de/botsamml/lias/lias.html>.

"Lichen": floristical database with distribution maps of epiphytic lichens of Switzerland. Offered by Christoph Scheidegger, Switzerland. Last update: 1 September 1995. Access: [http://www.wsl.ch/rauminf/riv/datenbank/lichen/database\\_lichen.html](http://www.wsl.ch/rauminf/riv/datenbank/lichen/database_lichen.html).

## Personalia

### The science he left for us

I love meetings, the excitement, the special atmosphere in the lecture room, the voices from speeches, the discussions, the different opinions, the tension between people, the splendid talks by old friends, the slightly shaky contributions by the freshmen, the encounter with old friends and new. It is like walking into a class room again, seeing all the familiar faces and the teachers after the long summer holiday.

Similarly I very much enjoyed the recent IBA & IAL meeting on foliicolous cryptogams in the lovely little town of Eger in Hungary. But in a way it was different this time. We all missed somebody. Josef Poelt had been personally invited and had promised to come especially in honour of his old friend Antonin Vezda, who was to receive a very special volume of *Bibliotheca Lichenologica* dedicated to him. I was invited by Edit Farkas to take part in the opening of the meeting, and it had become my duty as President of the IAL to read a few words in gratitude to a man twenty years my senior who had meant so much to generations of students of lichens both in central Europe and abroad.

Josef Poelt also loved the meetings, especially field meetings of course, where he always turned out to be a central figure, with his great experience and enormous knowledge of biodiversity in lichens and many other groups of plants as well. But he also greatly enjoyed the scientific meetings, what the German-speaking call "Tagungen". He was a key figure wherever he went and a most welcome person at any meeting. I clearly remember his entrance at the splendid Münster meeting in 1986. He was a little late. I do not know if this was his habit, or if it was just because of his frustration at always being called for, always being interrupted by people demanding his attention while working on all his projects. Nevertheless most people were gathered in the lecture room waiting for the first session, which was just about to start. And there he came in from the left, immediately attracting everyone's attention. In the sudden silence one could only hear people whispering "It is Josef Poelt". And there he stood in front of all the younger students who had only heard about him, holding his jacket over his arm, the typical white shirt with rolled-up sleeves, his typically untidy greyish hair and bushy black eye brows.

And in Berlin a year later, during the XIV International Botanical Congress Josef was of course again a leading person in the sessions on lichenology. During the 4th International Mycological Congress in Regensburg Josef Poelt was again the most central person as President. In his numerous invited papers there was always something new and interesting, not like many others coming of age presenting their old projects over and over again with a slightly different approach only. Not Josef Poelt, he always gave us something new to think about based on his wide ex-

perience from fieldwork. He gazed at us with his little puzzling look characteristically holding his right arm in a bent position, moving it up and down. "Was ist das?", What is it?"

During the IAL meeting in Båstad Josef Poelt was one of the first to receive the Acharius medal. He was proud of it, and he gave a splendid talk which everyone will remember on the development of lichenology in Sweden. During the first meeting on Ascomycete Systematics in Paris in May 1993 Josef was one of the leading coordinators for the discussion on the Systema Ascomycetum, and in addition he gave us a great talk on the species concept in lichenized ascomycetes.

Having had the pleasure of accompanying Josef Poelt in the field has of course given many of us delightful and often very personal memories. One of mine is of the more pleasant type, both from the humorous side and from science of course. I had, like many others, asked for a meeting with him to discuss various problems in the Teloschistaceae, and we had agreed that I should come to Graz at the end of August in 1988. I went there of course and arrived in time just to find nobody home, nobody in the Holteigasse, nor at the personal addresses of himself or his colleagues. Had we perhaps decided on a different month or year? No! Josef Poelt and the other lichenologists were all in the Virgental Valley for the annual meeting of the Bryologisch-Lichenologischen Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Mitteleuropa. "Typisch Poelt", said Mayrhofer afterwards, "er hat alles schon wieder vermischt". But there were no hard feelings on my side. I was taken to the Virgental Valley and had a great time in Osttirol, learned about many new lichens from the field and got to know many new friends.

Last autumn I was very pleased to be invited by Paul Blanz to take part in a celebration party "Festkolloquium" on the occasion of Josef Poelt's 70th birthday. It was such a warm, friendly birthday party seeing Josef Poelt surrounded by large numbers of his pupils celebrating all that he had achieved. I was also very proud to present Josef Poelt with the first Acharius gold medal from the IAL for his major contributions to lichenology. It was a great moment in life for Josef Poelt. The morning after the party, Roman Türk and I said goodbye to Josef Poelt, as he was on his way to an excursion together with most of the guests. This was unfortunately the last time I saw him, but I received a few more letters from him before his death.

Josef Poelt was an extraordinary man in many ways: an intellectual; a great scholar in systematic botany; teacher; educator; a source of inspiration for generations of students in many branches of botany, not only in his dearest field lichenology, but also in vascular plants, bryophytes and fungi. He was always on his way, always embarking on something new, restless, working extremely hard, always leaving behind him, numerous new herbarium specimens and publications, in most cases together with other people. "We walk on this earth for a while", he told me, "and we have to find out something, something you like". He was looking for this again, the undiscovered lichens on the foothills of the mighty mountains, right up in the plans for a new journey to the Himalayas. But his Shangri-La became a different place, in the science he left for us.

I. Kärnefelt

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### Back issues of ILN

The following back issues of ILN are still available: 9(1), 9(2), 10(1), 10(2), 11(1), 11(2), 12(1), 12(2), 13(1), 13(2), 14(1), 14(2), 15(1), 15(2), 16(1), 16(2), 17(1), 20(1), 20(2), 20(3), 21(1), 21(2), 21(3). Photocopies are available of: vol. 1 (1), 1(2+supp.), 1(3), 2(1), 3(2), 6(2), 7(1-2), 8(1-2). Two indexes are also available: Index to vol. 1-8, Index to vol. 9-13.

According to a resolution of the IAL Executive Council, published in ILN 16 (1), April 1983, the following charges will be levied for back issues of ILN: Vol. 1: US\$ 0.25 per number (3 per volume); vol. 2-8: US\$ 0.50 per number (2 per volume); vol. 9-13: US\$ 1.00 per number (2 per volume); vol. 14-17: US\$ 1.50 per number (2 per volume).

Back issues from vol. 20 onward are available for US\$ 1.00 per number (3 per volume). The Indexes are free.

New members will receive free only copies of the numbers constituting the volume issued for the calendar year in which they join IAL.

Orders to be sent to H. Sipman, Bot. Garten & Bot. Museum, Königin-Luise-Strasse 6-8, D-14191 Berlin, Germany.

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**Australasia:** Society of Australasian Lichenologists (SAL). Info: Dr. J. A. Elix, Dept. of Chemistry, The Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia.

**Central Europe:** Bryologisch-Lichenologische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Mitteleuropa (BLAM). Info: Dr. Volker John, Pfalzmuseum für Naturkunde, Hermann-Schäfer-Strasse 17, D-67098 Bad Dürkheim, Germany.

**Czech & Slovak Republics:** Bryological and Lichenological Section of the Czech Botanical Society. Info: Dr. J. Liska, Institute of Botany, Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, CS-252 43 Pruhonice, Czech Republic.

**Finland:** Lichen Section, Societas Mycologica Fennica. Info: Dr. Teuvo Ahti, Department of Botany, P.O. Box 47, FIN-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland.

**France:** Association Française de Lichénologie (AFL). Info: Dr. Jean-Claude Boissière, Laboratoire de Biologie Végétale, Route de la Tour Dénécourt, F-77300 Fontainebleau, France.

**Great Britain:** British Lichen Society (BLS). Info: Secretary, Dr. O.W. Purvis, Botany Department, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK.

**Italy:** Società Lichenologica Italiana (SLI). Info: Secretary, Prof. Giovanni Caniglia, Dipartimento di Biologia, Via Orto Botanico 15, I-35123 Padova, Italia.

**Japan:** Lichenological Society of Japan (LSJ). Info: Dr. H. Harada, Natural History Museum and Institute, Chiba (CBM), Aobacho 955-2, Chuo-ku, Chiba 260, Japan.

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**Switzerland:** Schweizerische Vereinigung für Bryologie und Lichenologie (SVBL). Info: Ph. Clerc, Conservatoire et Jardin botaniques, Case postale 60, CH-1292 Chambésy/GE, Switzerland.

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### The front-page illustration

After the series of *Pilophorus* species, which decorated ILN vol. 21-25 (see ILN 25: 30), and were kindly presented by Hans-Martin Jahn, the editors were fortunate to receive a series of fine lichen illustrations from Dr. Ivan Pisút, drawn by himself.

So far the following have appeared on the front pages:

Vol. 26 (1993): *Cladonia stellaris* (Opiz) Pouzar et Vezda

Vol. 27 (1994): *Physcia ciliata* (Hoffm.) DR.

Vol. 28 (1995): *Physcia magnussonii* Frey