

OPTIMA BRYOPHYTE COMMISSION REPORT
Held at Pisa, 14th Septembre 2007

1. The Secretary of the Commission start reading a report of the activities carried out by the Commission in the last 2 years:

During the last two years the main activity of the Bryophyte Commission has been the preparation of the manuscript entitled "Hepatics and Anthocerotes of the Mediterranean, an annotated checklist".

The paper has been edited by Rosa María Ros (Commission's secretary) and Vicente Mazimpaka. A total of 26 co-authors from 18 research centers and representing 14 Mediterranean and non-Mediterranean countries, have contributed. As a result the names of all hepatics and anthocerotes published up to the end of May 2007 in the Mediterranean countries and Bulgaria, were compiled in an annotated checklist list. The list comprises accepted names and synonyms, and provides explanatory annotations for ambiguous and disputed names. A total of 403 accepted species and 12 infraspecific taxa are reported from the area. The manuscript has been submitted to the international bryological journal "Cryptogamie, Bryologie", and is expected to be published in the fascicle of October 2007.

The main problems and difficulties raised by the elaboration of the hepatics checklist were the following ones: to know the present taxonomical identity of many of the old names used in the Mediterranean literature, to assess accurately the authors of many of these old names and the absence of literature dealing with hepatic names and the regional lists.

Another minor activity carried out during this time has been the publication of a report on the Bryophyte Commission in The Bryological Times (Bryological Times (2007) 122: 6). Upon request of the editor and with the view of informing the bryologists worldwide. The Secretary contributed a short report on the aims, composition, and activities of the Commission.

2) Changes in the Commission for the coming six years (2007-2013)

According to the agreements adopted by the Commission in a previous meeting at the beginning of september, the present Turkish member of the commission will be replaced. Dr. Adnan Erdad (Aydin) accept to become new member. Nevertheless no French bryologist has been found to be able to become member of the Commission, consequently no addition is made.

3) List of objectives of the Commission for the coming 3 years (2007-2010)

The Commission accept the proposal of the OPTIMA Executive Council to participate in the organization of a meeting devoted exclusively to Cryptogams that will be held in two years, probably in Montpellier, in which also the OPTIMA Fungi Commission and the OPTIMA Lichens Commission will participate.

The subjects that the Bryophyte Commission consider to be the more interesting to be adressed in this meeting are the followings:

- Biodiversity and Conservation
- Taxonomy
- Databases

- Inventory and mapping
- Plant phylogenetics and phylogeography

The Commission firmly consider its most important task to carry out the checklist of mosses. Also it is considered to start to work on a Red list of the Mediterranean bryophytes, that will be carried out when the checklist of mosses is finished.

A database of the Mediterranean literature will be compiled by Ilana Herrnstadt, for which she will send all the members instructions about how to proceed.

The secretary will send information about the Commission in order to be included in the OPTIMA web page.