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Range Extensions for Some Nebraska Bryophytes

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Range extensions are presented for seven species of mosses in Nebraska: *Amblystegium serpens*, *Brachythecium oxycladon*, *Bryum caespiticium*, *B. capillare*, *Ephemerum cassinervum*, *Orthotrichum pumilum*, and *O. stellatum*. Six new county records are listed.

INTRODUCTION

The list of mosses given here has been made during the past several years. The collections have been identified, catalogued, and placed in the Kearney State College (KSC) bryophyte herbarium. Most of the reports are from central and western counties where little bryological work has been done. A literature search shows that no reports have been made from Adams County. Churchill (1982), Koch (1975), and Spessard (1984) reported collections from Hitchcock County, Spessard (1982) from Loup County, and Churchill (1976) from Webster County.

Nomenclature follows Crum et al. (1973), and new county reports are identified by an asterisk (*) preceding the name of the county. Collectors and collections numbers are given for each voucher specimen.

MOSSES

Amblystegium serpens (Hedw.) BSG

HITCHCOCK COUNTY: 1.6 km W of Trenton, on soil; "G" (Grigg). A highly variable species, *A. serpens* is the most widespread moss in Nebraska. It occurs in almost every known habitat and seems to adapt to most environments. It grows on a number of substrates: several soil types, rotting logs, tree bark, and moist rocks. The distribution of *A. serpens* in Nebraska appears to be statewide. Reported from Culbertson City Park by Spessard, 1984.

Brachythecium oxycladon (Brid.) Jaeg. & Sauerb.

*ADAMS COUNTY: northeast of Hastings city limit, 907 N. Burlington, 1.6 km w of post office; on soil; 107 (Forney). Occurs less frequently than *B. salebrosum* (Web. & Mohr) BSG, with which it is most likely to be confused. With practice it is possible to distinguish the two by using the size of the alar cells; *B. oxycladon* has small and quadrate alar cells, while those of *B. salebrosum* are larger, more lax, and appear similar in shape to the lower leaf cells.

Bryum caespiticium Hedw.

*HITCHCOCK COUNTY: 701 W. "E" St., Trenton; on sandy soil; "E" (Grigg). A difficult taxon to identify when not fruiting, it is sometimes confused with *B. lisae* De Not. var. *cuspidatum* (BSG) Marg. Crum (1973) indicates that *B. caespiticium* has a "silky appearance" than *B. lisae* var. *cuspidatum*. The distribution in Nebraska appears to be statewide.

Bryum capillare Hedw.

*HITCHCOCK COUNTY: Elm Creek at Trenton Dam, 0.4 km N of confluence with Republican River; "D" (Grigg). Found sporadically across the state, *B. capillare* seems to be found in moister habitats than other species of *Bryum*.

Ephemerum cassinervum (Schwaegr.) Hampe

*HITCHCOCK COUNTY: confluence of Elm Creek and Republican River at Trenton Dam, on sandy soil; "F" (Grigg). A rare moss in Nebraska, with previous reports from Lancaster and York counties (Churchill, 1977). Whether this moss is rare in Nebraska or is rarely found because of its ephemeral nature is unknown.

Orthotrichum pumilum Sw.

*WEBSTER COUNTY: 0.2 km S and 3.6 km W of Guide Rock; 27 (Friskopp). *Orthotrichum pumilum* is the most widespread of the corticolous mosses in Nebraska, with a statewide distribution. When collected, it is often fruiting even when environmental conditions are not necessarily conducive to fruiting of bryophytes.

Orthotrichum stellatum Brid.

*LOUP COUNTY: Taylor City Park, on tree bark; 6899 (Spessard). The only other report of this moss from Nebraska was made by Churchill (1977) from Sioux County.

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