AN UPDATE ON THE MADBRYO PROJECT, A COLLABORATIVE PROJECT ON MALAGASY BRYOPHYTES

Beszámoló a MADBRYO projektről, a madagaszkári mohák feltárásával kapcsolatos nemzetközi együttműködés aktuális eredményeiről

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Many specimens of Malagasy bryophytes have accumulated in herbaria over the years since the 19th century. They represent a large and mostly untapped source of vital taxonomic and biogeographic data. The MadBryo project was initiated in 2017 as an international effort to close the gaps in our knowledge of Malagasy bryophytes by gathering together the specimens and taxonomic data that are currently scattered across multiple institutions. The EGER (EGR) herbarium, both with G (Geneva, Switzerland), MO (St Louis, Missouri, USA) and PC (Paris, France) are involved in MadBryo, curating the specimens, working on targeted taxa or collections (such as the Roger Heim specimens in PC) and participating in collecting efforts. The ultimate goal is to develop a comprehensive flora for the bryophytes of Madagascar.

We present here an update to our preliminary results in order to promote dynamic exchanges on Malagasy bryology. Since the beginning of the project, more than thirty new reports have been added to the Malagasy bryoflora, including eleven species new to science and several nomenclatural updates. Taxonomic information on selected taxa (*Bazzania*, Aneuraceae...), are also being added to the XPer3 knowledge database system, allowing interactive species identification as well as flexible storage of taxa and characters. We continue these efforts, with taxonomic studies on *Leucobryum*, *Sphagnum* and several other groups.