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OBELISK

OHIO BRYOPHYTES ET LICHENS: IDENTIFICATION, SPECIES, KNOWLEDGE

ISSUE NUMBER 1

JUNE 2005

Obelisk: An upright 4-sided monolithic pillar that gradually tapers as it rises and terminates in a pyramid. **OBELISK:** is an acronym for Ohio Bryophytes et Lichens: Identification, Species, Knowledge. It is considered appropriate for the newly formed Ohio Moss and Lichen Association as the base of the obelisk represents Ohio, the four sides symbolize the groups of lichens, moss, sphagnum, and liverworts and hornworts, and the tapered spire reaches upward to increase our knowledge of these lesser known organisms here in Ohio. In addition, the obelisk, found in most cemeteries provides a nice microhabitat for several species of lichens and our mosses. William Starling Sullivant (1803-1873), considered by many to have been the Father of American Bryology, lies beneath the shadow of the obelisk in Greenlawn Cemetery, Columbus, Ohio.

The purpose of this first issue is to test the waters of interest of the members of the Ohio Moss and Lichen Organization. If there is seen enough interest, further issues may evolve. Comments, requests, news and notes, and short articles (try to limit to 150 words or less) are welcome and should be sent to Don Flenniken. 2273 Blachleyville Road. Wooster OH 44691, or by e-mail to FlennikenD@aol.com. Copies of OBELISK are also available on-line at www.backroadlichens.com.

ORGANIZATION: The Ohio moss and lichen group met June 3, 2004 at the Gorman Nature Center, Lexington, Ohio for its initial organizational meeting. After completion of the formal session (and lunch break), the group participated in a field trip to the Mohican Outdoor School campus, Mohican State Park, Richland County. No list of species collected or observed was made of this outing. A group photograph was taken while at the Gorman Nature Center and appears elsewhere in this newsletter.

The next meeting was scheduled to be held in October at the Edge of Appalachia Preserve, Adams County.

October 22-24: 2004 Adams County

Mark Zloba was host for the fall foray of the Ohio moss and lichen group held at the Edge of Appalachia Preserve System. The Rieveschl Chalet served as base camp and for lodging for overnight guests. The main field trip was to Buzzardroost Rock on Saturday. Among the most interesting lichens found there was *Canoparmelia caroliniana*, *Canoparmelia texana*, and *Punctelia perreticulata*. On the return trip, the organization made a stop along Ohio Brush Creek to see specimens and habitat of *Phaeophyscia leana*; a rare Ohio lichen. Another rarity (*Collema coccophorum*) was found on the roadside bank leading to the Rieveschi Chalet. In addition, the organization was treated to an evening slide show of Ohio's rare and unusual mosses (and related species), compliments of Barb Andreas.

Of the 53 bryophytes collected, the most interesting included *Ptychomitrium incurvatum*, *Forsstroemia trichomitria*, and *Platydictya jungermannioides*. Four new county records were recorded during this foray: *Bryum argenteum*, *Hypnum pallescens*, *Oxystegus tenuirostris*, and *Plagiothecium cavifolium*.

A complete list of moss and lichen species collected during this foray is to appear in EVANSIA, a publication of the Americal Bryological and Lichenological Society.

In addition, the organization was treated to an evening slide show of Ohio's rare and unusual mosses (and related species), compliments of Barb Andreas.

April 16, 2005: Lucas County

Jim Toppin and Janet Traub were hosts for the spring foray. A small gathering of 8 or 9 met at Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve for a one-day field trip that also included a visit to the limestone outcroppings along the Maumee River.

The next fall foray is scheduled for **Lawrence county, October 1-2, 2005.**

BRYOPHYTES AND LICHENS FROM LUCAS COUNTY, OHIO

Lucas County is located in glaciated northwestern Ohio with Toledo the largest city and the county seat. On Saturday, April 16, 2005, a small group of dedicated bryologists and lichenologists met for a one-day field exploration of the local moss and lichen flora. The following 2 sites were the main areas of study.

1. Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve, approximately 41°35' N; 83°45' W in Springfield Township, covers 170 acres and includes a mosaic of black oak savannas, wet sedge meadows, swamp and oak woodlands, sand dunes, and sand barren prairies.
2. Metroparks Toledo Area: Farnsworth Metropark, Roche de Boeuf is located approximately 41°28' N; 83°43' W in Waterville Township, and runs along the

western shore of the Maumee River. Rising sharply from the narrow river floodplain, limestone outcrops form both talus slopes and cliffs 20-30 feet in height. The shallow river and narrow floodplain in the immediate area is littered with glacial cobbles and limestone rocks.

The following list of lichen and moss species is arranged in alphabetically by site. The names used are those preferred by the collector and identifications are those of the collectors, rather than of the authority on one individual.

The Lichens

Both lichen biomass and diversity were quite low in the areas sampled. Although a total of 28 species was recorded, several of these were in depauperate condition (*Flavoparmelia caperata*, *Parmelia sulcata*, *Punctelia rudecta*) or of underdeveloped size (*Myelochroa aurulenta*, *Phaeophyscia adiastrata*, *Phaeophyscia cernohorskyi*, *Phaeophyscia rubropulchra*, *Physciella chloantha*). The only species considered common were those known to be pollution tolerant and especially nitrophilous (*Candelaria concolor*, *Physcia millegrana*, *Physcia stellaris*, *Xanthomendoza* sp.) These species are able to survive, not only in spite of, but because of nitrogen pollution due to the close proximity of the Ohio Turnpike and Toledo Express Airport (to the Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve). The only soil lichen considered common in the sand barrens was *Cladonia polycarpoides*, much of it consisting of sterile squamules only. In addition, the genus *Caloplaca* was considered common on the limestone rocks at Roche de Boeuf

The rocky shoreline and much of the narrow river floodplain of the Maumee River were recently inundated with floodwaters and rocks were presently covered with mud and debris. As a result, any lichens once growing on these rocks (if any) were completely obscured.

Lou Campbell State Nature Preserve (19 species)

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|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. <i>Arthonia caesia</i> | 10. <i>Myelochroa aurulenta</i> |
| 2. <i>Candelaria concolor</i> | 11. <i>Parmelia sulcata</i> |
| 3. <i>Cladonia cristatella</i> | 12. * <i>Phaeophyscia pusilloides</i> |
| 4. * <i>Cladonia cylindrica</i> | 13. <i>Phaeophyscia rubropulchra</i> |
| 5. <i>Cladonia polycarpoides</i> | 14. <i>Physcia millegrana</i> |
| 6. <i>Flavoparmelia caperata</i> | 15. <i>Physcia stellaris</i> |
| 7. * <i>Hyperphyscia adglutinata</i> | 16. * <i>Physciella chloantha</i> |
| 8. <i>Lepraria lobificans</i> | 17. <i>Physconia detersa</i> |
| 9. <i>Melanelia subaurifera</i> | 18. <i>Punctelia rudecta</i> |
| | 19. <i>Trapeliopsis flexuosa</i> |

Roche de Boeuf (17 species)

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|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1. <i>Caloplaca cetrina</i> | 9. * <i>Phaeophyscia adiastrata</i> |
| 2. <i>Caloplaca feracissima</i> | 10. * <i>Phaeophyscia cernohorskui</i> |
| 3. <i>Caloplaca flavovirescens</i> | 11. <i>Phaeophyscia rubropulchra</i> |
| 4. <i>Candelaria concolor</i> | 12. <i>Physcia millegrana</i> |
| 5. <i>Candelariella efflorescens</i> | 13. <i>Physcia stellaris</i> |

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|---|---------------------------------|
| 6. *Lichenella nigritella (yet to be confirmed) | 14. *Phaeophyscia chloantha |
| 7. Endocarpon pusillum | 15. Verrucaria nigrescens |
| 8. Leproloma membranaceum | 16. *Xanthomendoza fallax |
| | 17. *Xanthomendoza ulophyllodes |

*Species so marked represent new County records

REFERENCE

Showman, Ray E. and Don G. Flenniken. 2004. The Macrolichens of Ohio. Ohio Biological Survey Bulletin New Series Volume 14 Number 3. Iv + 279 pp.

MOSES AND LIVERWORTS

The following is a list of mosses and liverworts collected by various participants during the spring foray to Lucas County, Ohio. * indicates new county records, ** indicates new state records.

Louis W. Campbell State Nature Preserve (Preliminary List)

Liverworts

1. Calypogeia fissa*
2. Geocalyx graveolens*
3. Lophocolea heterophylla*

Mosses

1. Amblystegium serpens
2. Amblystegium varium
3. Atrichum altecristatum *
4. Atrichum angustatum
5. Aulacomnium palustre
6. Barbula unguiculata
7. Brachythecium rivulare*
8. Brachythecium rutabulum
9. Bryhnia novae-angliae
10. Callicladium haldanianum
11. Campylium chrysophyllum
12. Campylium stellatum var. stellatum*
13. Ceratodon purpureus var. purpureus
14. Dicranella heteromalla
15. Dicranum scoparium
16. Drepanocladus aduncus var. aduncus
17. Drepanocladus aduncus var. kneiffii
18. Entodon seductrix
19. Fissidens adianthoides
20. Fissidens taxifolius
21. Helodium blandowii var. helodioides
22. Leptodictyum riparium

23. *Leskea gracilescens*
24. *Orthotrichum obtusifolium**
25. *Plagiomnium cuspidatum* *
26. *Platygyrium repens*
27. *Pohlia bulbifera* **
28. *Polytrichum commune* var. *commune*
29. *Polytrichum ohioense*
30. *Polytrichum piliferum*
31. *Sphagnum compactum*
32. *Sphagnum lescurii*
33. *Thuidium delicatulum*

Roche de Boeuf Park, Farnsworth Metro Park (Preliminary List)

Liverworts

1. *Porella platyphylla**
2. *Reboulia hemisphaerica**

Mosses

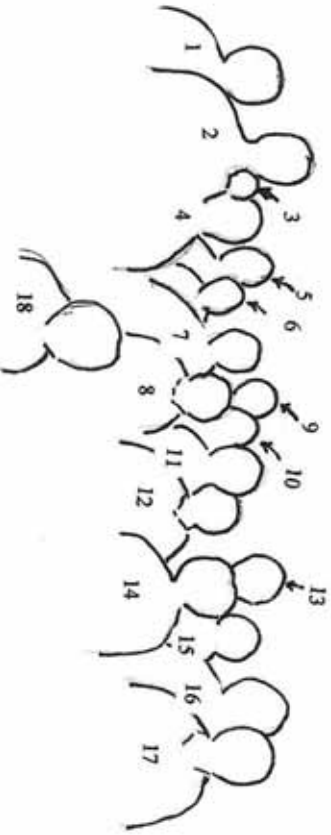
1. *Amblystegium serpens*
2. *Anomodon attenuatus*
3. *Anomodon rostratus*
4. *Bryum lisae* var. *cuspidatum**
5. *Desmatodon porteri*
6. *Didymodon tophaceus**
7. *Encalypta procera*
8. *Fissidens bryoides**
9. *Hygroamblystegium tenax* var. *tenax**
10. *Leskea gracilescens*
11. *Schistidium rivulare*

References

Miller, H.A. 1964. Ohio liverworts. *Ohio J. Sci.* 64 (3): 177-184.

Snider, J.A. and B.K. Andreas. 1996. A Catalog and Atlas of the Mosses of Ohio. *Ohio Biol. Surv. Misc. Cont. No. 2.* 105 p.

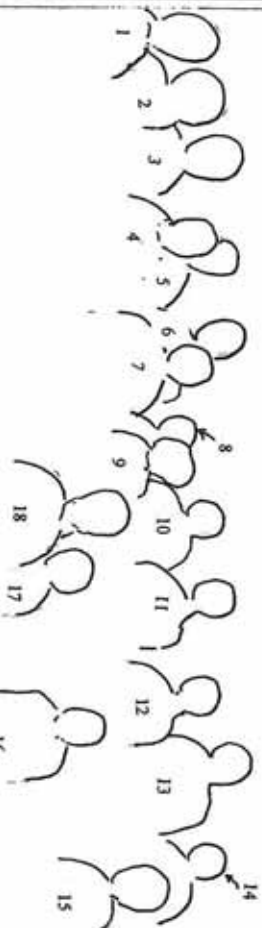
A 2-DAY FALL FORAY IS PLANNED FOR LAWRENCE COUNTY THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 1 & 2. MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO ATTEND. (For more information contact Ray Showman at reshowman@aep.com or Barb Andreas at bandreas@kent.edu)



Organizational Meeting- June, 2004

(Photo by Diane Lucas)

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|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Mark Zloba | 7. Don Flenmken | 13. Ray Showman |
| 2. Rich McCarty | 8. Janet Traub | 14. Barb Andreas |
| 3. Royger Troutman | 9. Jim Toppin | 15. Merrill Tawes |
| 4. Diane Lucas | 10. Jim McClenahen | 16. Jim McCormac |
| 5. Steve McKee | 11. Alvin Jose | 17. Rick Gardner |
| 6. Donn Horchler | 12. Tara Poling | 18. Barbara Lund |



Fall Foray, Adams County October, 2004

(Photo by Bob Kleps)

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| 1. Dan Boone | 7. Rick Gardner | 13. Ray Showman |
| 2. Mark Zloba | 8. Tricia West | 14. Tara Poling |
| 3. Jim Decker | 9. Barb Andreas | 15. Diane Lucas |
| 4. Barb Lund | 10. John Howard | 16. Janet Traub |
| 5. Jim Toppin | 11. Rich McCarty | 17. Jim McCormac |
| 6. Chris Bedel | 12. Carol Showman | 18. Bob Kleps |

(Not pictured: Don Flenmken and Alvin Jose)