

Over 130 years ago Charles Darwin wrote of his desire for a complete catalogue of all known plant species, but such is yet to be realised. A network of 41 scientists from 18 countries here present the first-ever worldwide checklist for liverworts (Marchantiophyta) and hornworts (Anthocerotophyta) that includes 7,486 species. This group of generally small-sized plants constitute a major part of the biodiversity in many regions of the world and are of critical biological and ecological significance. This will contribute to The Plant List, which has been developed and disseminated as a direct response to the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation and designed as a framework for action to halt the loss of plant diversity. Checklists are powerful and important tools that can integrate overwhelmingly scattered information and provide baseline fundamental information that can be applied broadly from taxonomy to conservation. The authors envision that

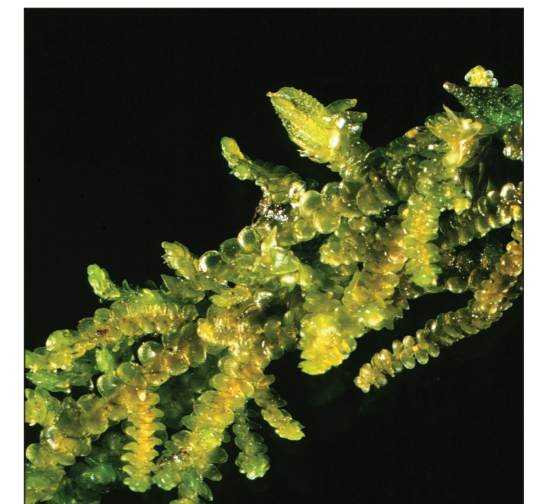
The success of this checklist, initiated in 2008, has been underpinned by its community approach involving taxonomic specialists working towards a consensus on taxonomy, nomenclature and distribution. The authors envision this checklist will increase the accessibility and use of accurate botanical name information for research, conservation and sustainable use for this often over-looked group of plants.



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WORLD CHECKLIST OF HORNWORTS AND LIVERWORTS

EDITED BY LARS SÖDERSTRÖM,
ANDERS HAGBORG, MATT VON KONRAT



Frullania pycnantha (Hook.f. et Taylor)

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John Kress
Smithsonian Institution
P.O. Box 37012
Washington, DC 20013-7012
U.S.A.
E-mail: kressj@si.edu

Managing Editor

Lyubomir Penev
Institute of Biodiversity and Ecosystem Research
Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Yurii Gagarin Street 2
1113 Sofia, Bulgaria
E-mail: info@pensoft.net

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Pensoft Publishers
Prof. Georgi Zlatarski 12, 1700 Sofia, Bulgaria. Tel. +359-2-8704281, Fax +359-2-8704282
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