

The Nordic Bryological Society's annual meeting and excursion 2000

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Four taxa, *Herbertus aduncus* ssp. *hutchinsiae*, *Plagiochila punctata*, *Riccardia latifrons* ssp. *arctica* and *Scapania lingulata* are reported new to the Faeroes.

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The field excursion and annual meeting of the Nordic Bryological Society took place in the Faeroes from July 9–15. Participants from Sweden (5), Norway (5), Germany (1) and Denmark (1) were accommodated at the field station of Collegium Academicum Faeroense, Akraberg at Suduroy, through the courtesy of the local biologists, Dorete Bloch and Anna Maria Fosaa. The Society also visited the Faeroes in 1973 (*Lindbergia* 3:69–78, 1975), but on that occasion Suduroy and Nolsoy were not investigated, making these two islands the obvious subject of this trip. The field station also supplied working space for the participants, and a local woman took good care of us by supplying what we needed to prepare breakfast and lunch packets and she also daily cooked a warm evening meal for us.

An enumeration of the Bryophytes and Anthocero-phytes of the Faeroes was prepared in advance, including dot-maps of all species known to occur (Damsholt 2000). All participants received a copy, to be well prepared for a flora comprising about 120 taxa of liver-and hornworts, 23 species of *Sphagnum* and 290 species of true mosses. Species new to the Faeroes found during this stay were: *Herbertus aduncus* ssp. *hutchinsiae*, *Plagiochila punctata*, *Riccardia latifrons* ssp. *arctica* and *Scapania lingulata*. In addition

we rediscovered *Metzgeria fruticulosa* and *Porella platyphylla*, confirming earlier dubious reports of these two species.

The Faeroes, situated in the middle of the north Atlantic ocean, are distinguished by mild winters and cold rainy summers, so it was a surprise to find the vegetation in summer 2000 rather dry, making it difficult in the field to know what was collected. The geology of the Faeroes, with mountains built up of horizontal basalt- and tuff layers, favours calcareous bryophytes. Larger carpets of *Sphagnum* occur only on the rather few horizontal plateaus, sometimes forming larger or usually smaller acidic mires.

After the flight to Vagar airport and transport by bus to Torshavn, we sailed on the ferry “Smiril” to Drelnes in the northern part of Suduroy. On arrival we were met by a bus that took us to the southernmost point, Akraberg, where the field station is situated.

July 10. The surroundings of Akraberg and Sumbafjall were the subject of investigation this day. We climbed towards Spoafelli from the southwest, and on the way up found *Diphyscium foliosum*, *Scorpidium cossonii*, *Frullania tamarisci*, *Scapania gracilis*, *Trichostomum brachydontium* var. *litorale*, *Campylopus atrovirens*, and *C. introflexus* (KH). On the summit we found *Anthelia juratzkana*, *Marsupella sprucei*, *Conostomum tetragonum* and *Gymnomitrium concinnatum*. On the eastern steep side occurred *Breutelia chrysocoma* while a plateau just below the summit supported a

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small *Sphagnum* carpet with *Cephaloziella hampeana*, *Lophozia incisa* ssp. *incisa*, and *L. ventricosa* var. *silvicola*. Further on was *Hypnum callichroum*.

At the annual meeting of the society Nils Cronberg was elected new president of the society, Lars Söderström was re-elected as treasurer and Einar Heegaard and Kristian Hassel were elected to the council for 2 years; Gerhard Kristensson was elected for 1 year. Svein Olav Drangeid was re-elected as auditor. Kell Damsholt was elected member of Lindbergia council.

July 11. We were picked up by bus in the morning for the ca 10 km drive to the town Vagur, to investigate the famous N-S-running ravine, Gjogvaragjogv, earlier reported as housing a rich bryoflora (Jensen 1897), and to climb Hvannafelli. It was a somewhat disappointing day, because the flora had changed much. Fortunately we found *Harpalejeunea molleri* (KH), a species found only once in the Faeroes before. The changes in the ravine were probably caused by a small dam built below the site and Hvannafelli was found very dry and not as rich in bryophytes as the earlier report indicated.

In the ravine we collected *Cololejeunea calcarea*, *Frullania tamarisci* var. *cornubica*, *Jungermannia exsertifolia* ssp. *cordifolia*, *J. lanceolata* (= *J. riparia*), *J. obovata*, *Lejeunea cavifolia*, *L. patens*, *Lophozia bantriensis*, *Marsupella emarginata*, *Metzgeria conjugata*, *M. furcata*, *Radula aquilegia* (KH), *R. complanata* ssp. *lindenbergiana*, *Riccardia multifida*, *Amphidium lapponicum*, *Tortella tortuosa* and pioneering the slopes above the edge of the ravine, *Entosthodon attenuatus* and *Andreaea alpina*. From Hvannafelli we found *Campylopus schwarzii*.

July 12. We reached Trongisvágur by bus in the morning to investigate the NE-facing rock-walls and slopes at Hvannhagi and, on the way over the mountain, the slopes above Trongisvágur. At the N.-NE.-facing rock-walls and crevices at Hvannhagi we found *Anoetangium aestivum* (LA), *Campylopus schimperi* (LA det. JPF), *C. schwarzii* (LA det. JPF), *Cololejeunea calcarea*, *Entosthodon attenuatus* (LA), *Frullania teneriffae* (LA), *Jungermannia borealis*, *Lejeunea cavifolia*, *Lophozia excisa*, *Metzgeria furcata* var. *flexipilis*, and *Porella cordaeana*, while on the grassy slopes above the small lake occurred *Scapania gracilis* and *Saccogyna viticulosa*. On stony slopes *Plagiochila carringtonii* occurred, and along the outlet from the little lake to the sea *Preissia quadrata* was refound, a rather rare plant in the Faeroes.

July 13. The plan of the day was to investigate Prestfjall near Hvalba in the northernmost part of the island. After driving by bus to Hvalba, we took the small road south of Heygsvatn to collect on the west-

ern slopes of Mt. Økslin; here *Scapania lingulata*, *Frullania teneriffae* (LA), *Hypnum resupinatum* (LA), *Isopterygiopsis pulchella* (LA) and *Porella platyphylla* were found, the latter only reported from the Faeroes without indication of localities. The main group continued at low level on to the eastern slopes of Økslin and followed the road towards the eastern slopes of Mt. Prestfjall, whereas the higher parts were investigated by a single person collecting *Herbertus aduncus* ssp. *hutchinsiae* and *Breutelia chrysocoma*, whereas *Arctoa fulvella* and *Anoetangium aestivum* were found in rock-crevices or below rock-walls (LA).

At the slopes around and above the earlier coal-mines were found *Bazzania tricrenata*, *Lejeunea patens*, *Mastigophora woodsii*, *Plagiochila spinulosa*, *Pleurozia purpurea*, *Riccardia multifida* and *Saccogyna viticulosa*.

July 14. The day was devoted to an investigation of Oynafjall at Drelnes and some small brooks at Famjin. Oynafjall was climbed from the east. *Calypogeia arguta* (LA) was found for the second time in the Faeroes, and on a plateau at ca alt. 320 m a slightly inclining area dominated by *Sphagnum* occurred with *Aneura pinguis*, *Calypogeia muelleriana*, *Lophozia incisa* ssp. *incisa*, *L. ventricosa* var. *silvicola*, *Riccardia latifrons* ssp. *arctica* and *Warnstorfia sarmentosa* (LA). In the hummocks were *Bazzania tricrenata*, *Pleurozia purpurea* and *Mastigophora woodsii*. On cliffs, alt. 250 m, *Frullania teneriffae* (KH) was found. Late in the afternoon we drove to Famjin on the west coast, to look for *Bryum miniatum*, reported as frequent on stones in the small brooks of the N-NW.-facing slopes of the valley. The search was unfortunately in vain, as only *Mylia taylorii*, *Tetraplodon mnioides* (KH) and *Campylopus flexuosus* (= *C. paradoxus*) were found.

July 15. After a very early start we reached the ferry "Smiril" for the journey from Drelnes back to Torshavn. Immediately on arrival we took the small boat "Ritan" to the nearby island Nolsoy, where we arrived late in the morning. The stone fences of the small town were investigated, but first, on vertical sides of larger stones of the scree below the NE-facing rock-walls of Mt. Kagið, *Glyphomitrium daviesii* was found. Although the vegetation was surprisingly dry, further up among the stones we found plenty of *Plagiochila carringtonii* and at the upper edge of some stones *Frullania teneriffae*, *Plagiochila punctata*, *P. spinulosa*, *Bazzania tricrenata* and in rock-caves below the vertical wall *Lejeunea patens*, *Metzgeria conjugata* and *Conocephalum conicum*. *Herbertus stramineus* occurred along the path. On the almost east-facing vertical walls below Mt. Eggjarklettur *Frullania fragilifolia*, *Metzgeria fruticulosa*, *Radula*

complanata ssp. *lindenbergiana*, and *Porella platyphylla* were collected. Close to the nesting Puffins, *Radula aquilegia* (LA) and *Zygodon viridissimus* (LA) were collected and at a hummock in a small mire *Polytrichum strictum* was found(KH). The small boat "Ritan" took us back to Torshavn, where we stayed over night.

July 16. Departure in the morning with the airport-bus to Vagar airport with arrival in Copenhagen in the afternoon. The participants from Trondheim took off differently.

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References

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