

Taxonomic Results of the BRYOTROP Expedition to Zaire and Rwanda

29. Thuidiaceae, *Thuidium*

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Thuidium Schimp.

For a revision of the African species see Touw (1976). The scarcity of *Thuidium* samples among the expedition's collections is most surprising and inexplicable, considering the size of the expedition, the range of habitats and altitudes explored, and the many *Thuidium* collections made by others in this part of Africa.

Both species listed below are widespread and common in African mountain forests, where they mainly grow on rocks, tree bases, and decaying wood. Other species known to occur in Eastern Zaire, Rwanda or Burundi are *T. gratum* (Hedw.) P. Beauv., *T. intricatum* Jaeg., *T. involvens* (Hedw.) Mitt., *T. ramusculosum* (Mitt.) Jaeg., and *T. varians* Welw. & Duby. Of the two remaining species listed by Born, Frahm & Pócs (1993) '*T. le testui*' should read *Thyridium letestui*, whereas *Thuidium tenuissimum* Welw. & Duby is a low altitude species known from the westernmost part of Zaire. However, a sterile collection from the Goma area in Eastern Zaire might belong here.

Thuidium chenagonii C.Müll. ex Ren. & Card.
A species ranging from Guinea to Zimbabwe and

Madagascar, and found in East Africa at altitudes from (580-) 1000 to 2200 (-2500) m; the 2 collections listed are from 1300 and 2200 m.

KB: 124, *Pócs 6791*; 135, *Frey & Kürschner 6990* (very small, atypical plants).

Thuidium versicolor (C. Müll.) Jaeg.

Ranging from E. Zaire to Madagascar, Réunion, and from Ethiopia to southernmost South Africa; also found in Cameroon (Mt Cameroon only). In East Africa found at altitudes from 1200 to 2750 (-3700) m; the BRYOTROP collection is from 2475-2560 m.

KB: 118, *Frey & Kürschner 6527*.

References

- Born, S., Frahm, J.-P. & Pócs, T.** 1993. Taxonomic results of the BRYOTROP expedition to Zaire and Rwanda. 26. A new checklist of the mosses of Central Africa. *Tropical Bryology* 8: 223-273.
- Touw, A.** 1976. A taxonomic revision of *Thuidium*, *Pelekium*, and *Raiiella* (Musci: Thuidiaceae) in Africa South of the Sahara. *Lindbergia* 3: 135-195.

