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Preliminary checklist of the bryophytes of Aragón (Spain)

Abstract

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A list of all bryophytes recorded for Aragón in the literature from 1779 until 2000 is provided. It includes 674 infrageneric taxa (116 Liverworts and 558 Mosses). Information on the presence of these taxa in each of the Aragonian provinces (Huesca, Zaragoza and Teruel) is included. Huesca is the province with the highest number of taxa (584).

Introduction

The area studied occupies 45.000 km² distributed in three provinces: Huesca in the North, Zaragoza in the Centre and Teruel to the South. Except for the southern tip of Teruel (mostly Júcar River basin), it lies on the Ebro River basin, from the Pyrenees to the mountains in the southeastern part of the Iberian Range. The highest altitudes are reached in the Pyrenees (Aneto, 3.404 m), and the lowest are by the Ebro River (Mequinenza, 70 m). It encloses a great variety of microclimates and vegetation types.

Historical outline of bryophytic studies in Aragón

The first bryophytic reports from Aragón are also the first from Spain (Asso 1779 and 1981), which included 28 taxa from different localities of Teruel and Huesca provinces. In the middle of the nineteenth century, a number of studies (Spruce 1849; Müller 1854; Jeanbernat 1864; Zetterstedt 1865; among others), contributed to the knowledge of the bryophyte flora from the Pyrenees. Also in this century, there is a notable contribution to Teruel province by local botanists (Loscos & Pardo 1863; Loscos & Pardo 1867; Loscos 1876-1877).

In the first half of the twentieth century, Tonglet (1903a) reported the first data on bryophytes of the Moncayo massif (Zaragoza province), but the most important studies in Aragón are later in the second half of twentieth century.

In the 1950's and 1960's, the knowledge of the Pyrenees is greatly improved mostly by the collections of Valia Allorge and Creu Casas (Casas de Puig 1956; Allorge & Casas