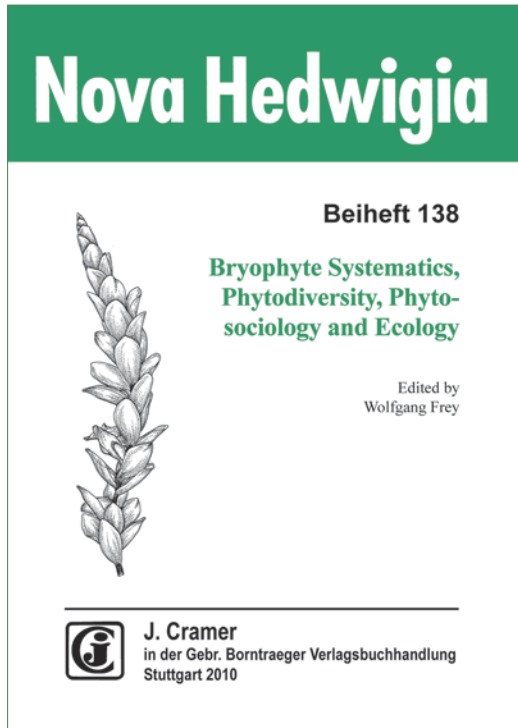


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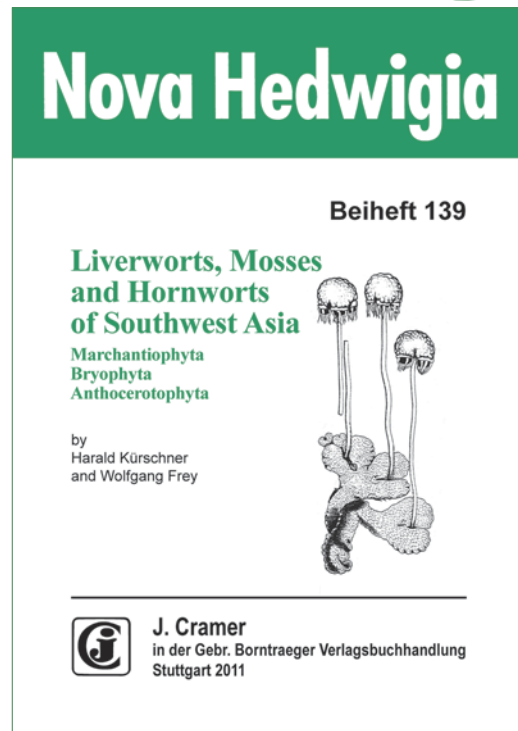
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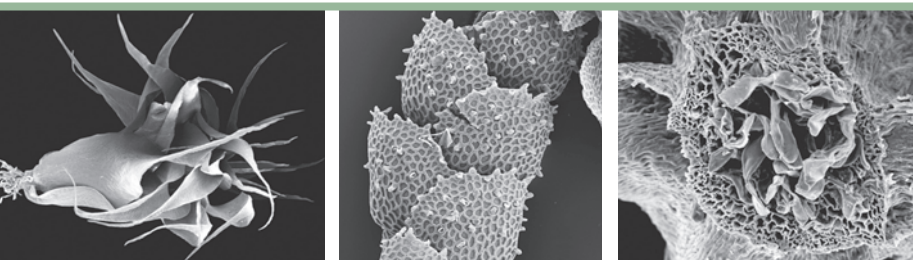
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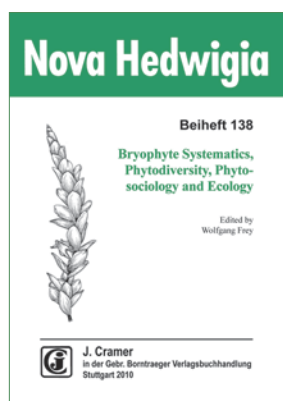


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The 23 papers of Nova Hedwigia Beiheft 138 span a broad range of topics in **systematics**, **phytodiversity**, **phytosociology** and **ecology of bryophytes** reflecting the importance of Bryology. In the **Systematic** part (8 contributions), a new genus, *Kuerschneria*, and four new species are described. Two papers include molecular analyses (genera *Oxystegus* and *Palustriella*), one paper gives a morphometric analysis of the genus *Gymnostomiella*, and five papers deal with classical morpho-anatomical systematic treatments (moss genus *Forsstroemia* and liverwort genera, *Ceratolejeunea* and *Lejeunea*). The **Phytodiversity** part (9 contributions) presents an impressive example for the recent ongoing worldwide survey of the diversity of bryophytes, ranging from Europe to South-West Asia, Macaronesia (Selvagens Islands), the Himalayan region, southern South America and to Île Amsterdam in the South Indian Ocean. These are contributions to different countries and regions (Greece, Montenegro, Turkey, Bhutan, Chile, Sino-Himalayan region), and to the oceanic islands Selvagens and Île Amsterdam.

The **Phytosociology** and **Ecology** parts (5 papers) give an impression of current phytosociological and ecological work in the tropics (2 contributions, neotropical trunk-epiphytes), two concern vegetation units in Europe and one the ecology of genus *Porella* in Madeira. The volume concludes with a contribution on asexual reproduction (propagula types) in pleurocarpous mosses.

The papers are authored by colleagues, former scholars and friends of Professor Dr. Harald Kürschner, to honour his distinguished scientific and academic career and his outstanding contributions to the bryology of South-West Asia, the tropical rain forests and to Geobotany.

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Liverworts, Mosses and Hornworts of Southwest Asia

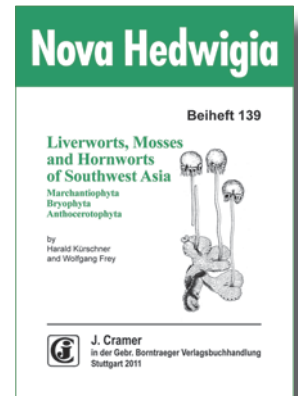
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Ed.: Harald Kürschner, Wolfgang Frey

2011. 240 pages, 9 figures, 1 table, 24 x 17 cm

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This bryophyte flora of Southwest Asia is the first comprehensive, structured synthesis of the current knowledge available on the liverworts, mosses and hornworts of this region. The area covers Afghanistan, Bahrain, Iraq, Iran, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sinai Peninsula, Syria, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, and Yemen (incl. Socotra Island), summarized to a great extent as 'Asia 5' in the 'Index Muscorum'. In total, 1193 taxa (229 liverworts, 959 mosses, 5 hornworts) and nearly 2000 names and synonyms were treated in the dichotomous keys presented, including annotations to critical, doubtful or erroneously recorded species. 14 taxa represent new country/regional records and are listed together with their collecting data in a separate paragraph.

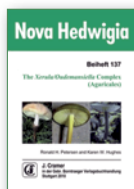
The book includes all bryophytes known to date within the large and geomorphologically varied area. Many of the species are important initial colonizers of bare rocks, crusts and soil surfaces of steppes and deserts of this region and therefore forerunners in vascular plant colonization and succession. Because they serve as indicators of ecological disturbances and air quality, their knowledge is of fundamental importance for understanding phyto-diversity and ecosystem evolution.

This flora provides users with an up-to-date tool for at least a preliminary identification of any bryophyte in the area and may stimulate and promote greater interest in this often neglected or overlooked plant group.

The flora is recommended to all botanists and ecologists, interested in bryophyte flora and vegetation, biodiversity, and nature conservation.

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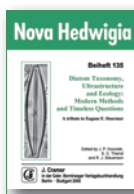
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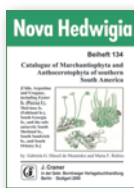
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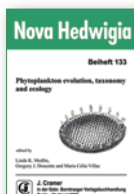
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