

The average (median) garden in the database supports 27 bryophyte species. By far the richest is that of Gordon Rothero in Argyll (108 species), followed by Sam Bosanquet's garden in Brechfa (61 species).

The cut-off date for further additions to the database will be 3rd March 2008, so please send in lists before that date. Please note: data from species-poor gardens are just as important as those from species-rich gardens. Details of what to submit can be found on page 48 of *Field Bryology* 93. Thanks very much in advance for your effort.

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Tortula schimperi in England

In a recent paper, Cano *et al.* (2005) reported on a study they carried out on *Tortula subulata* Hedw. and related species. In this they concluded that the varieties of *T. subulata*, namely var. *angustata* (Schimp.) Limpr., var. *graeffii* Warnst. and var. *subinermis* (Bruch ex Schimp.) Wilson, intergraded with the type and could not be maintained as distinct taxa. However, amongst the material named var. *angustata* that they examined they found some specimens that differed in having a 2(–3)-stratose leaf border and smaller mid-leaf cells, (7.5–)10.0–16.3(–17.5) μm wide v. a unistratose border and mid-leaf cells (13.75–)15–20 μm wide. Also a separate clade was recognized by molecular analysis. This plant the authors treated as a new species, *T. schimperi* (Cano *et al.*, 2005).

Following publication of a report by Cano *et al.* in 2005, **A.J.E. Smith** has re-examined specimens of *Tortula subulata* var. *angustata* in the BBSUK, E and NMW herberia.

Amongst the specimens in my herbarium that I lent Dr Cano the only one named var. *angustata* was returned labelled *T. schimperi*. In their list of specimens examined (Cano *et al.*, 2005) was one British locality – ‘Bromsberrow, W. Gloster, 9.v.1910, H.H. Knight s.n. [i.e. from v.c. 34]. Additionally, Cano *et al.* (2005) reported *T. schimperi* from Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Spain, Turkey and the USA. With two records of the new species from England,

and thinking it worthwhile investigating the matter further, I examined specimens labelled var. *angustata* in three herbaria (BBSUK, E and NMW). The result of this study is as follows.

***Tortula schimperi* Cano, Werner & Guerra**

Southlynch Plantation (11), 11 October 1958, J.A. Paton (BBSUK); Damp bank in copse, Cumnor Hurst Brick Pits (22), 25 January 1957, A.J.E. Smith (BBSUK, herb. A.J.E. Smith).

***Tortula subulata* Hedw.**

On a hedge-bank, Silverton (3), June 1907, G.B. Savery (E); Clouts Wood, near Swindon (7) 41/17, 30 May 1978, J. Appleyard (BBSUK); North of Hursley Park (11), 17 October 1958, J.A. Paton (E); Damp clay soil, Buckenden Lane, Hertford (20), March 1897, H. Darton (E); Damp clay, Hertford (20), Spring 1900, H. Darton (E); On base-poor clay soil in deep shade in a hedge bank on low-lying site, near Prattle Wood, Noke (23), May 1949, E.W. Jones (E, BBSUK); Fulmar (24), August 1914, W.R. Sherrin (NMW); On ground by stream in wood, Vale Farm, north of Shottisham (25) TM 315454, 9 April 1981, M.E. Newton, (BBSUK); Near Naseby (32), no date, H.N. Dixon (NMW); Wye Valley, near Symonds Yat (34), April 1911, H.H. Knight & J.B. Duncan (E); Banks of River Leadon, Redmarley D'Abitot (37), March 1910, H.H. Knight & D.A. Jones (E); Witnels End, Shatterford, Bewdley (37), October 1910, J.B. Duncan (E); Banks of River Leadon, Redmarley D'Abitot (37), 24 March 1930, H.H. Knight (BBSUK); On sandstone rock ledge, Hasty Bank, near Stokesly (62) NZ571035, alt. 300 m, 21 November 1998, J.M. Blackburn (BBSUK); Goldsborough Mill, Knaresborough (64) 44/35, 2 April 1955, J. Appleyard (NMW); Hedge-side, Southlands, Hexham (67), July 1949, E.M. Lobley (BBSUK);

Base of hedge in garden, Southlands, Hexham (67), June 1950, U.K. Duncan & E.M. Lobley (E); By the Till below Efal (68), March 1927, J.B. Duncan (E); Banks of the Tweed near Cornhill (68), March 1929, J.B. Duncan (E); Dry rocky bank in old quarry, south-west end of Airhouse Wood, near Hartside, Oxton (81), 1 April 1973, D.G. Long (E); Damp rocky bank by stream, Dewlaw Dean (81) 36/466705, 30 March 1974, D.G. Long (E); On soil of rocky bank of gully, Channel Kirk (81) 36/434540, 25 December 1987, D.G. Long (E); Haddington (82), 24 November 1906, J. McAndrew (E); In field south of Craigmillar Castle (83), March 1902, herb. J. McAndrew (E); By Water of Leith below Hailes Stn (83), no date, ex-herb. J. McAndrew (E); West end old Lime Works, Gilmarton (83), 14 April 1908, herb. J. McAndrew (E); Near Water of Leith, Balerno (83), 9 May 1910, herb. J. McAndrew (E); Heriot (83), 29 April 1911, herb. J. McAndrew (E); Grassy banks at seashore, Lamb Bay, Stronsay (111), 11 May 1940, J. Sinclair (E).

***Trichostomum brachydontium* Bruch**

Mortar of old stone wall, Chase End Hill (36), 5 April 1924, L.C.B. Trotter (NMW).

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Reference

Cano M.J, Werner O, Guerra J. (2005). A morphometric and molecular study in *Tortula subulata* complex (Pottiaceae, Bryophyta). *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society* 149, 333–350.