Bryophyte Sampling and Inventory Techniques: How to find the rare and unusual species

January 7 and 8, 2015
Wednesday and Thursday

Bryophytes as the first lands plants are a remarkable evolutionary group. They contain about 20,000 species worldwide and occupy all environments except marine. Yet, they are rarely appreciated. One of the reasons for this is their generally small size, lack of showy features (like flowers) and being perceived as some type of ‘lower plant’. Here in California, over 650 mosses and 150 liverworts have been documented. New additions to the California bryoflora are being discovered as more landscapes across the state are being surveyed.

This workshop will offer classroom lecture, demonstration, and field exercises. Participants will need a hand-lens. A pocket-sized field notebook (preferably of water repellent paper) is also recommended. We will not be using compound ‘scopes as a general identification process during this course, but rather, utilizing both hand-lens and dissecting ‘scopes to be able to recognize key features and determine if a moss has been previously collected while doing a survey. The goal is to be able at the end of the course to be more effective and efficient in conducting bryophyte inventories, methods in enhanced data capture, and learn to distinguish microhabitats. The “California Mosses” book (Malcolm et al. available for purchase from CNPS) and the California moss catalogue, species keys, and liverworts and hornworts (Madroño 51: 1–269; 53: 89–197, available from the California Botanical Society) will be useful references during this course.

Jim Shevock is a retired botanist with the US Forest Service and US National Park Service who is now affiliated with the California Academy of Sciences. He has been a bryophyte researcher for the last 15 years and has collected bryophytes throughout the world. He co-authored the “Contributions toward a Bryoflora of California” with Dan Norris in 2004.

This workshop will meet Wednesday January 7 and Thursday January 8, 2015 from 9:00 to 4:30 in Holt Hall room 129 at CSU, Chico. For the field portion of the workshop on Wednesday and Thursday to Bidwell Park participants will be responsible for their own transportation. Carpooling is encouraged. Note: the field practicum occurs rain or shine so bring appropriate gear. Please come prepared with lunch and water. The registration is $180.00 personal, $220.00 business ($160.00 for members of the Friends of the Herbarium), $100.00 student (only 2 seats at this price). Please register in advance; class size is limited to 16 participants. For more information about this workshop content please contact Jim Shevock at jshevock@calacademy.org. For more information about workshop registration please contact the Friends of the Herbarium at epurvis@csuchico.edu or 530-898-5356.
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workshop registration form

Please make your check payable to “Friends of the Herbarium” and mail to
Friends of the Herbarium
California State University, Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0515

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

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PHONE: ______________________________________________________________________

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AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _______________________________________________________

www.csuchico.edu/biol/Herb/Events.html

Meesia triquetra photo by Carl Wishner
Helodium blandowii photo by Martin Lenz