

100 years of tropical bryophyte and lichen ecology: a bibliographic guide to the literature from 1901 - 2000

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Abstract: A list of 401 citations pertaining to the ecology of tropical bryophytes and lichens is presented. The bibliography includes publications addressing the biology, ecology, natural history, and physiology of bryophytes and lichens, but generally eschews taxonomic and floristic papers. All citations have been verified, unless denoted with an asterisk (*). An appendix that groups citations by category is provided.

INTRODUCTION

In the earlier part of this century there were few published reports on the ecology of tropical bryophytes and lichens. However, bryological and lichenological research in the tropics has been rapidly increasing since the 1970's. In the past three decades, the number of publications has almost doubled every ten years (Figure 1), but the ecological literature is scattered throughout a variety of journals published in several

countries. This bibliography was compiled to bring together the literature in order to provide ecologists with a starting point for future investigations.

The list includes papers, theses, dissertations, and abstracts addressing the biology, ecology, natural history, and physiology of bryophytes and lichens. Purely taxonomic and floristic papers have been excluded, except where they provide information that is of direct interest to the researcher and conservationist concerned with the functioning of bryophytes and lichens in ecosystem-level processes and their response to environmental conditions. Only investigations conducted in one of the 172 countries or island groups which have part of their land mass

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between the Tropic of Cancer and Tropic of Capricorn are included. A great deal of work has been conducted in subtropical countries (e.g. Japan and New Zealand), but is not included.

The list suggests lichens are ecologically poorly studied compared to bryophytes. For both groups, the Neotropics has received a great deal of attention relative to other tropical regions. Investigations of community ecology and diversity are the most common, and research on the reproductive biology, animal interactions, and conservation of tropical bryophytes and lichens has been less so. In terms of substrate affinity, epiphytes are well studied compared to lithophytes and epixylic communities. Overall, every aspect of tropical bryophyte and lichen ecology is very poorly known and a great deal of future research is necessary.

All citations were verified with hard copies of reprints, communication with the primary author, or a citation database (e.g. AGRICOLA, BIOSIS), except those marked with an asterisk (*). An appendix that groups citations by category is provided. The corresponding author welcomes any corrections or additions to the list.

FIGURE 1. Tropical bryophyte and lichen ecological publications in the 20th century.

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APPENDIX

B R Y O P H Y T E S
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