

***Didymodon asperifolius* (Pottiaceae, Bryopsida), new to the Moss Flora of Turkey and southwestern Asia**

Turan ÖZDEMİR^{a*}, Bahadır KOZ^b & Nevzat BATAN^b

^a*Karadeniz Technical University, Faculty of Science & Arts,
Department of Biology, Trabzon, Turkey*

^b*Giresun University, Faculty of Science & Arts,
Department of Biology, Giresun, Turkey*

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Abstract – *Didymodon asperifolius* (Pottiaceae) is recorded in north-eastern Turkey, in the Hatila Valley National Park, being this the first record of the species for the country.

Bryophyta / Musci / Hatila Valley / Artvin.

Didymodon asperifolius has been recorded in most parts of Europe, Iceland, Central Asia, Africa and Northern America (Cortini-Pedrotti, 2001; Smith, 2004; Jimenez, 2006). Although it seems to be common in Northern Hemisphere and especially in Europe, it still lacks in checklists of Turkey (Uyar & Çetin, 2004; Kürschner & Erdağ, 2005) and in southwest Asia. This paper reports its presence in north-eastern Turkey, in the Hatila Valley National park (Artvin).

***Didymodon asperifolius* (Mitt.) H.A. Crum, Steere & L. E. Anderson.**

Turkey: Artvin province, the Hatila Valley National Park, 41° 40' N, 41° 10' E, 1300 m, on acidic rock by stream in woods, 08.07.2006, Özdemir & Koz.

The voucher specimens are kept at the Herbarium of the Science and Arts Faculty, Karadeniz Technical University.

The studied locality is sited in the Hatila valley national park in the colchic province of the Euro-Siberian floristic region, and is found in the A4 square according to the grid system of Henderson. With an altitude ranging between 170 and 3224 m a.s.l., the annual rainfall average of the area is 661 mm, and that of temperature is 12.3°C. Upper Cretaceous volcanic block forms the main geologic structure, and the brown-forest soil type is the most widespread one (Eminağaoğlu & Anşın, 2003). *Didymodon asperifolius* was found growing in stream banks associated with *Racomitrium ellipticum* (Turner) Bruch & Schimp.

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* Correspondance and reprints: ozdemirturan@gmail.com

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