HEPATIC EXCHANGE

Contact

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Exchange Membership

- The ABLS Hepatic Exchange allows members to expand their herbarium reference material through specimen exchanges. Any member may participate, and there is no additional membership fee. A detailed history and account of the exchange has been compiled by N. G. Miller and P. G. Davison [The American Bryological and Lichenological Society Moss and Hepatic Exchanges. Evansia 23: 45–47. 2006.].

Operating Rules

- Specimens contributed to the exchange (each being of a single taxon collected from a single site) should be submitted in duplicate. For each duplicate sent, Members will be entitled to withdraw one duplicate of their choice from the exchange. Please note that one duplicate from each specimen will be considered as a gift to the herbarium of the Director (currently MO), and will subsequently reduce the contributor’s specimen count by one. Members are therefore encouraged to send at least two duplicates of each specimen.
- Sixteen duplicates can be accepted for rare or unusual taxa; eleven for less common taxa; and up to six duplicates of commonly occurring taxa will be accepted. Members should apply their best judgment concerning this rule.

- Each duplicate must be enclosed in a neat, clean packet of durable paper, approximately 6" × 4" (10 cm × 15 cm) in dimensions. Each packet must be accompanied by a suitable label on archival paper, bearing complete collection data. Printed labels should include the name of the hepatic along with authorities; country and major or local political units; precise location of the collection site; latitude and longitude; elevation; habitat; date of collection; name of the collector; number assigned to the collection; and the name of the determiner. Handwritten labels will not be accepted. Specimens should be in an acceptable condition, of appropriate size, and of herbarium quality. Please attach a label on the first duplicate of each specimen with a paper clip. Labels for the other duplicates should be placed inside the packets, and all duplicates of a single specimen should be bound with a rubber band. Do not glue labels to the packets. In the interest of all members, the Director may reject specimens not meeting these specifications. The Director is not responsible for correct identification or nomenclature.

- A copy of the exchange rules will be sent to each current Member, as well as each new Member of the Hepatic Exchange. These rules can also be found on the ALBS website. The Director will record each Member's specimen credit and will include the Members’ current balance on every returned exchange list. The Director will also email or mail a list of specimens offered for exchange to each Member in early March and September. Requests for specimens from Members will be filled in the order in which they are received.

- Members that fail to respond to four consecutive exchange lists will be removed from the ABLS Hepatic Exchange. For membership to remain active, please return the list to the Director (the returned list need not request specimens in order to be considered a response).

- The Director will submit a yearly report to the ABLS Executive Committee before each annual meeting.