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## Bryophytes of Des Moines County, Iowa

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## Bryophytes of Des Moines County, Iowa

ROSEMARY THELE<sup>1</sup>

*Abstract.* The total number of mosses reported in Des Moines County up until April 1, 1961, is 52; the total number of liverworts, 6. Of these, 14 species of mosses are newly recorded in this report. At least 25 more mosses and 5 or 6 more liverworts should be found in this county.

I owe much of my interest in the study of mosses to Dr. H. S. Conard, author of the book *How to Know the Mosses*. It was through his encouragement that I continued collecting mosses after I began my study as a biology project three years ago, and it is at his request that I am making this report of my findings.

The most recent lists of mosses and liverworts of Iowa are those of Dr. Conard (1945, 1956). In these reports the counties are designated in which each species is known to occur. The number of species from a county reflects principally the amount of collecting that has been done in that county.

Since the number of species known from Des Moines County is relatively small, I have collected in the hope of extending the knowledge of these plants in Iowa. Previous collections in Des Moines County were made by Professor B. Shimek of the State University and by Dr. Conard. My collections have been verified by Dr. Conard. In order to facilitate further contributions to the bryophyte flora of Des Moines County, I am presenting a complete list of the species so far reported. My collections are designated by a single asterisk; those species in my collection which are newly reported in this paper are designated by two asterisks.

### MUSCI

*Amblystegium varium*\*  
*Anomodon attenuatus*\*  
*Anomodon minor*  
*Anomodon rostratus*\*  
*Atrichum angustatum*\*\*  
*Atrichum undulatum*\*  
*Atrichum undulatum* var. *altecristatum*  
*Barbula fallax*  
*Barbula unguiculata*\*  
*Brachythesium flagellare*\*\*  
*Brachythesium oxycladon*\*  
*Brachythesium salebrosum*\*\*  
*Bryhnia graminicolor*\*  
*Bryum argenteum*\*  
*Bryum caespiticium*\*  
*Campyllum chrysophyllum*\*  
*Campyllum hispidulum*\*\*  
*Ceratodon purpureus*\*\*  
*Chamberlainia acuminata*\*  
*Climacium americanum*\*\*  
*Desmatodon porteri*  
*Dicranella heteromalla*\*\*  
*Dicranum scoparium*\*\*

*Didymodon tophaceus*  
*Entodon seductrix*\*  
*Eurhynchium hians*\*  
*Eurhynchium serrulatum*\*  
*Fissidens julianus*\*  
*Fissidens taxifolius*\*  
*Funaria hygrometrica*  
*Grimmia apocarpa*  
*Gymnostomum calcareum*  
*Gymnostomum recurvirostrum*  
*Hygroamblystegium irriguum*\*  
*Hygroamblystegium noterophilum*\*  
*Leptobryum pyriforme*\*\*  
*Leptodictum riparium*\*  
*Leptodictum trichorhodium*\*\*  
*Leskea gracilescens*\*  
*Leskea nervosa*  
*Leskea obscura*\*  
*Leucobryum galucum*\*\*  
*Mnium cuspidatum*\*\*  
*Phascum cuspidatum* var. *americanum*\*\*  
*Plagiothecium geophilum*  
*Platygyrium repens*  
*Pohlia wahlenbergii*

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*Polytrichum juniperinum*\*\*  
*Rhodobryum roseum*  
*Thuidium recognitum*\*\*

*Timmia megapolitana*  
*Weisia viridula*\*

HEPATICAÆ

*Conocephalum conicum*  
*Frullania eboracensis*  
*Frullania riparia*

*Porella pinnata* (the only locality in the state)  
*Porella platyphylloidea*  
*Reboulia hemisphaerica*

In all, 14 species of mosses are new records for Des Moines County. Totals are mosses, 52; liverworts, 6. At least 25 more mosses should be found and 5 or 6 more liverworts. Much work remains to be done in collecting bryophytes in this county, as in most of the counties of Iowa.

I wish to express thanks to Sister Mary Josita, R.S.M., biology teacher at Notre Dame High School, and to Dr. H. S. Conard, Honorary Fellow of the Academy, for assistance throughout this study, including the preparation of this report.

ADDENDUM

Since making this report the following species have been added to the list:

*Amblystegium compactum*\*\*  
*Aulacomnium heterostichum*\*\*  
*Bartramia pomiformis*\*\*  
*Brachythecium rutabulum*\*\*  
*Cirriphyllum bosci*\*\*

*Grimmia apocarpa alpicola*\*\*  
*Hypnum patientiae americanus*\*\*  
 (new to the state)  
*Physcomitrium pyriforme (turbatum)*\*\*  
*Polytrichum commune*\*\*

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