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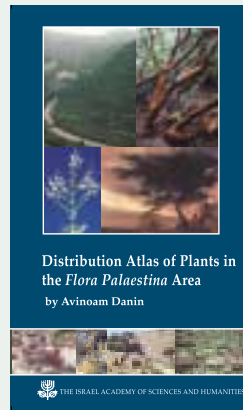
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THE BRYOPHYTE FLORA OF ISRAEL AND ADJACENT REGIONS

edited by C. Clara Heyn and Ilana Herrnstadt



THE ISRAEL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND HUMANITIES

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PART I: BRYOPSIDA (MOSESSES)

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AND MARCHANTIOPSIDA (LIVERWORTS)

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and colour plates by David Darom2004. xii+724 pp., 246 figures, 247 distribution maps, 16 SEM micrograph plates,
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This new addition to the *Flora Palaestina* series represents an up-to-date account of the bryophytes of Israel and some adjacent regions. Summarizing over twenty years of fruitful and rewarding research by Ilana Herrnstadt and the late C. Clara Heyn of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Helene Bischler and Suzanne Jovet-Ast of the Muséum National d'Historie Naturelle, Paris, it is based mainly on the extensive collections assembled during those years and kept in the Herbarium of the Hebrew University and in the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle.

The history of bryological research in Israel is rather brief, especially when compared with the extensive research that has been carried out on other plant groups. Our region has attracted few bryologists, leaving ample scope for augmenting the existing data and interpretations.

Despite its small area, this region has been found to have an unexpected diversity of bryophytes. The relative neglect of bryophyte collections and research may be a consequence of the long dry season, during which most bryophytes are inconspicuous, and of the small size of the bryophytes. Frequently, plants of several species are syntopic and intertwined in their growth.

The bryophyte flora of Israel consists of 259 taxa – 220 of mosses and 39 of liverworts – comprising 9% of the described flora of Israel. 87 taxa were recorded in Israel for the first time during the preparation of this Flora. Four species and three varieties were described recently, and one new name replaces an invalid one.

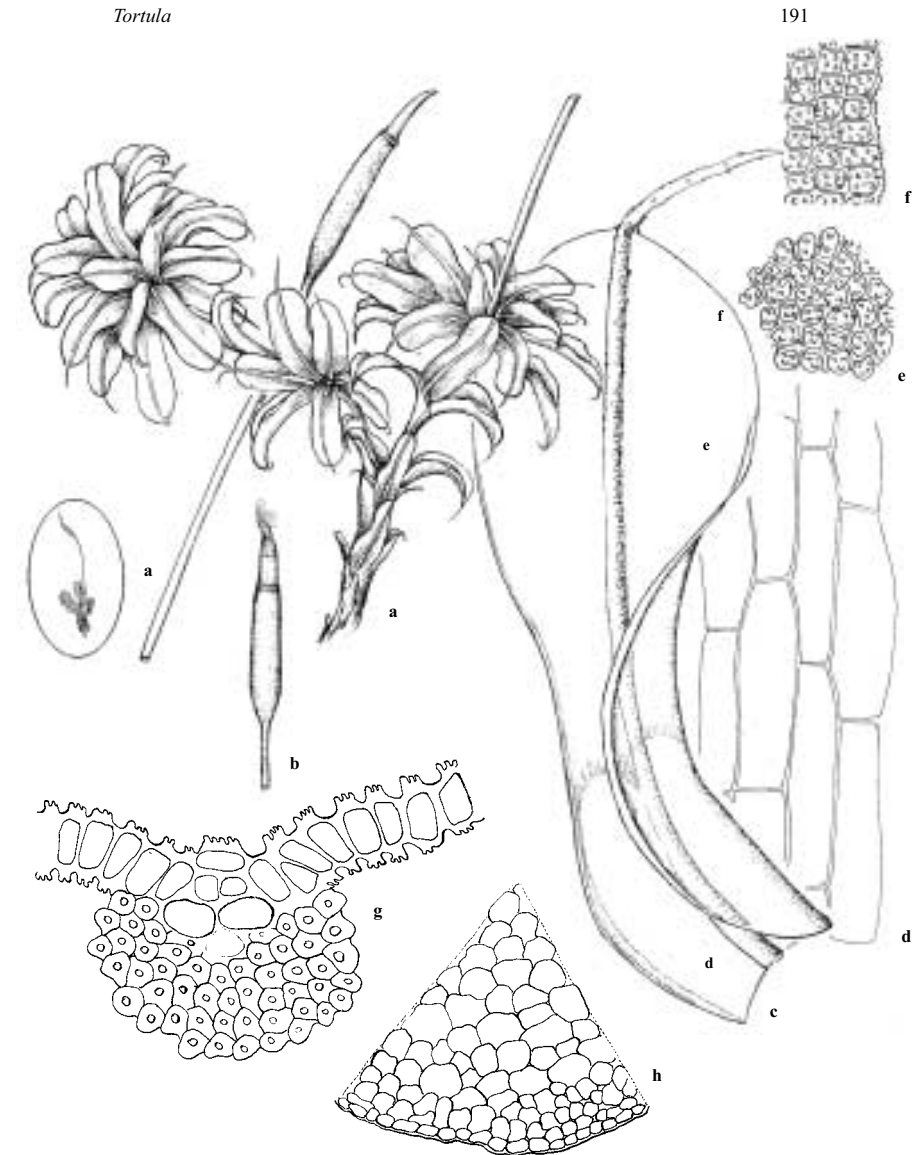


Figure 68. *Tortula intermedia*: a habit, moist ($\times 10$); b deoperculate capsule ($\times 10$); c leaf ($\times 50$); d basal cells; e upper cells; f marginal upper cells (all leaf cells $\times 500$); g cross-section of costa and portions of lamina ($\times 500$); h portion of cross-section of stem ($\times 250$). (a-g: Herrnstadt, Apr. 1987; h: Bilewsky, Apr. 1954, No. 79/80 in Herb. Bilewsky)