***Pohlia* section *Apalodictyon* (Bryaceae, Bryophyta) in Central and South America**

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With 4 figures and 2 maps

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Abstract: *Pohlia* section *Apalodictyon* is taxonomically studied for Central and South America. Three species are recognized in the study area (*Pohlia lonchochaete*, *P. magnifica* and *P. wahlenbergii*). *Mniobryum bolivianum* from Bolivia is proposed as a new synonym of *P. wahlenbergii*. Three new lectotypes are designated. We provide the first illustrations of *P. lonchochaete* and *P. magnifica*, two neglected species from southern South America and describe and illustrate all species observed. Distribution maps of the taxa in Latin America are presented.

Introduction

Bryum Hedw. section *Apalodictyon* Müll.Hal. was erected by C.Müller (1848) to include 33 species, of which *B. carneum* With. and *B. albicans* (Wahlenb.) Röhl. were later transferred by Limpricht (1892) to *Mniobryum* Limpr. He characterized *Mniobryum* based on sporophytic characters, while the gametophytes were the same as those defined for *Pohlia* Hedw. (elimbate leaves, elongate to fusiform cells and costa percurrent). Since then, *Mniobryum* has been reduced to a subgenus (Amann 1893), while recognized by others (Brotherus 1903, 1924).

Shaw (1982) revised *Mniobryum* species from North America, Central America and the West Indies. He placed the genus and the species involved within *Pohlia*. In turn, Nyholm (1958) and Shaw (1981) used the name *Mniobryum* for a section of *Pohlia*. Ochya et al. (2008) noted that *Mniobryum* corresponds to a name not validly published according to the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature and is a later name than *Apalodictyon*.