

## Diversity of thalloid liverworts and their conservation in Nagaland, India

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The state of Nagaland which is located in the north eastern part of the country is rich in culture and traditions have merged into Indian Union on 1st Dec., 1973. The state has a varied climatic condition and receives rainfall almost throughout the year. Due to this moist climatic condition, it favours the luxuriant growth of bryophytic plants in the state. Many workers have work on the floristic diversity of angiosperms but the work on lower groups of plants like bryophytes is scanty. Therefore, the present investigation on thalloid liverworts is the first comprehensive work done in the state. So far, 11 families belonging to 12 genera and 28 species of the thalloid liverworts have been taxonomically identified. It is interesting to know that most of the thalloid liverworts are tericolous, saxicolous, and few are corticolous and one species is purely aquatic (*Ricciocarpus natans*). All the species are new records for the state except *Marchantia palmata* = *M. emerginata*, *M. nepalensis* sp. *Riccia* sp. and *Dumortiera hirsuta*, *Targionia hypophylla* (Reported by Chaturvedi & Chaturvedi, 2007) and 2 species are new addition to Eastern Himalayan Bryoflora viz., *Fossombronia wondraczekii* and *Cyathodium smaragdenium* and 1 species *Wiesnerella denudata* is a new addition to North East India region. The highest species diversity in the present study area was *Marchantia* represented by 5 species, follow by *Riccia* and *Riccardia* each represented by 4 species. Four taxa are represented by a single taxon viz., *Dumortiera hirsuta*, *Pellia endiviifolia*, *Targionia hypophylla*, and *Wiesnerella denudata*. The saddest part in our country in general is that no efforts have been put forth for the conservation of these small, fragile and economically important bryophytic plants. Many species might have lost in nature due to indiscriminate deforestation, urbanization due to population explosion and many others anthropogenic factors. Therefore, if you want to keep your environment green (Green Earth) starts preserving, conserving bryophytes in its natural habitat so that life will not meet “wanting of green life” in the next coming generation.

### Biography

Kazhuhrii Eshuo is presently working on “Studies on Liverworts and Hornworts of Nagaland” for his Ph. D degree, in Nagaland University, Department of Botany, Lumami-Nagaland, India. He has published 6 research papers on Hepaticae (Liverworts) during his 3½ years of research work.