Sub-Guide to "Simple" Thalloid Liverworts

*Revised through 21 December 2009*

***Group S1 – Thallus with a distinct mid-rib & unistratose wings***

**Group S1**

Thalli with **hairs** on **both** surfaces **and** margins; midrib **lacking** central strand; *Apometzgeria*

gametangia on **ventral** branches; NW, AP

Thalli small (1-4 mm wide) with **hairs** on margins **only**; midrib **lacking** central strand; *Metzgeria*

gametangia on **ventral** branches; WS

Thalli larger (3-6 mm wide) **lacking** hairs; midrib with central **strand**; *Pallavicinia*

gametangia on **dorsal** surface of midrib; WS

***Group S2 – Thallus with indistinct midrib & gradually thinning wings***

**Group S2**

Thalli **subterranean, colorless or white**; parasitic on a basidiomycetous endophyte; only *Cryptothallus*

only mature capsules visible above the surface; GL

Thalli **terrestrial** & **green**.

Thalli **freely branched;** rhizoids few or absent; WS *Riccardia*

Thalli mostly **unbranched**.

Thalli with **thick** **midrib** area, +**red tinged** in sunlight; WS *Pellia*

Thalli **lacking** a distinctive midrib area, but with a distinctive **greasy** luster & feel; WS *Aneura*

***Group S3 – Thallus with scalloped or wavy, irregular margins***

**Group S3**

Thallus margins +**regularly** lobed; flask-like **gemmae bottles** & *Nostoc* **colonies** common; WS *Blasia*

Thallus margins **irregularly** lobed; **lacking** gemmae bottles & *Nostoc* colonies.

Thallus midrib **lighter colored**; male thalli with scattered **scales** on **both** surfaces; *Calycularia*

sporangia **spherical**; NWThallus midrib **not** lighter colored; male thalli with **scales** mainly on midline **dorsal** surface; *Moerckia*

sporangia **cylindric**; N

***Group S4 – Thallus narrow with leaf-like lobes***

**Group S4**

Thalli **erect** & **fleshy** from a creeping, **rhizome**-**like** base; lobes +**isophyllous**; NW, ME, NH *Haplomitrium*

Thalli with leaf-like **scales** on the dorsal surface; white **oil** **bodies** visible at 10x; NW *Apotreubia*

Thalli with **involucres** on the dorsal surface & apical **tubers**; rhizoids **colorless**; CA *Geothallus*

Thalli **lacking** any of the above unique characters; rhizoids usually **purplish**; WS *Fossombronia*

End.