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Autor: Maier, Eva
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Introduction to the taxonomic descriptions

The descriptions of the plants are based on moistened material and those of growth forms on dry specimens. Leaves are measured without hair-points. Leaf cell measurements are not mentioned, given the variability of cell dimensions in this genus. Setae are measured without the vaginula. The description of perichaetial and perigonial leaves refers to the innermost ones. Calyptra and vaginula descriptions are included under the sporophyte. Exothecium cells are drawn from the middle of the capsule. The descriptions conform to the following scheme:

Grimmia species, reference

Type specimen label

synonyms, references

Type specimen label

Gametophyte. Sexual condition. Female: perichaetia, inner-most perichaetial leaf, length, shape; **male:** perigonia, inner-most perigonial leaf, length, shape, paraphyses. **Growth form:** plant, stem. **Leaves:** length, disposition on stem in dry and wet state, shape; *leaf form in situ*; cell pattern in leaf base, in transitional part, in laminal part; cell layers in leaf base and lamina (stratosity). **Costa:** dorsal view (shape) and costal architecture seen in transverse section.

Sporophyte. Seta (in wet state): form, length, epidermal cells, vaginula; (descriptions of ochrea often incomplete or lacking owing to want of material). **Capsule:** form, exothecial cells, stomata, annulus. **Calyptra:** form. **Operculum:** form, marginal cells. **Peristome:** insertion of peristome teeth, dorsal view, papillosity, longitudinal section of peristome tooth. **Spores.**

Diagnostic characters.—

Comparison of the specimens examined with the type specimen.

Argumentation for synonymy.—

Notes.—

Comments.—

Distribution.— Resume of information taken from specimen labels.

Habitat and substrate.— Resume of information taken from specimen labels.

Specimens examined (x), selected for description.

Figures. The 52 figures are composed of 140 plates, with the scales given for each plate.

The descriptions of the gametophyte are based on sterile plants. Therefore, attention should be paid to the differences in the cell pattern of the leaf base according to the developmental stage and to the sexual condition of the plants. In general, strongly elongate basal cells may occur in leaves located below the developing perichaetia or perigonia.

Species, especially those linked to *G. trichophylla*, may have an enlarged costa at the leaf insertion because of the addition of a bistratose subcostal cell row, either on both sides of the costa or on one side only.

Species recognised in the context of this work are presented alphabetically, for ease of consultation.