

POGONATUM NEESII (POLYTRICHACEAE, MUSCI)  
IN THE RUSSIAN CAUCASUS

POGONATUM NEESII (POLYTRICHACEAE, MUSCI)  
НА РОССИЙСКОМ КАВКАЗЕ

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Abstract

*Pogonatum neesii* (C. Müll.) Dozy, a mainly East Asian and Malesian species, is reported for the Russian part of Caucasus for the first time. Earlier it was reported from here as *P. inflexum*. Outside Russia in Caucasus, *P. neesii* is known from the coastal zone of Black Sea in Georgia.

Резюме

*Pogonatum neesii* (C. Müll.) Dozy, вид с преимущественно восточноазиатским распространением, впервые приводится для российской части Кавказа. Ранее он указывался здесь как *P. inflexum*. За пределами России на Кавказе *P. neesii* встречается вдоль черноморского побережья Грузии.

Working on collections from the Georgian part of Caucasus, Abramova & Abramov (1955) found an interesting *Pogonatum*, which was identified as *P. inflexum* (Lindb.) Par., an East Asian species. The subsequent revision of the herbarium collections of *Pogonatum* in LE revealed more specimens of this species from Georgia, erroneously named in herbarium as *P. aloides*. The earliest collection has been made in 1916. The species occurs along the coast of Black Sea, mainly at lower elevations, but one specimen was found at 1550 m elevation (Abramova & Abramov, l. c.).

Later, Osada & Noguchi (1962) elucidated the differences between *P. akitense* Besch. and *P. inflexum*, and according to their concept, Caucasian plants belong to the former species. However this approach was not applied for USSR' collections, and only *P. inflexum* of these two species was reported for the country (e. g. Savicz-Ljubitskaya & Smirnova, 1970).

Hyvönen (1989) synonymized *P. akitense* with the widespread East Asian and Malesian species, *P. neesii* (C. Müll.) Dozy, and found

that Caucasian population also belongs to the latter species. However, the illustration of *P. neesii* in this monograph displays the marginal phenotype, quite different from that of Caucasian one. The most common phenotype of this species was illustrated in another paper of Hyvönen (1986).

*Pogonatum neesii* differs from the other species of the genus from Europe (including Caucasus) in having retuse upper cells of lamellae, as seen on a transverse leaf section (cf. Fig. 1).

Recently, the senior author found this species for the first time in the Russian part of Caucasus, but reported it as *P. inflexum* (Akatoва, 1997), using the key of Savicz-Ljubitskaya & Smirnova (1970). Re-studies of this specimen, however, revealed that it belongs to *P. neesii* (Fig. 1). The specimen has been collected in the Western Caucasus, Krasnodar Territory, Sochi District, Sochi River Valley near Agva Creek mouth, Nizhneorekhovo, 120 m alt., belt of *Castanea*+*Fagus* forest with evergreen shrubs; on SE-facing clayish soil bank along road. Coll. Akatova 19.VIII.1996

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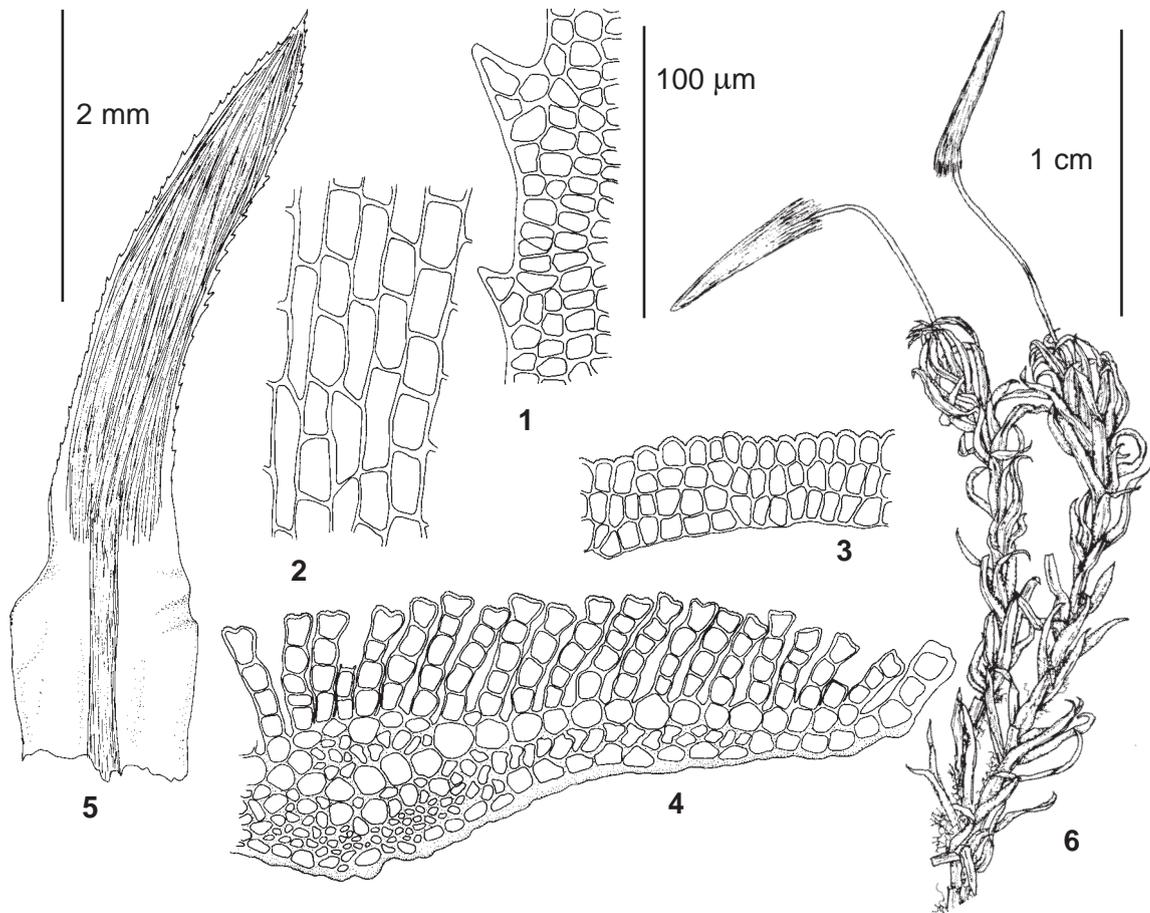


Fig. 1. *Pogonatum neessii* (C. Müll.) Dozy (from Sochi River Valley, Akatova 19.VIII.1996): 1 – mid-leaf cells near margin; 2 – basal leaf cells; 3 – side view of lamella; 4 – leaf transverse section; 5 – leaf; 6 – habit. Scale bars: 1 cm for 6; 2 mm for 5; 100  $\mu\text{m}$  for 1-4.

(MW, MHA, and herbarium of the Caucasian Nature Reserve).

One more collection was made recently in ca. 70 km NW from this place: Krasnodar Territory, Yakornaya Shchel, *Buxus* stand, valley of a creek, on soil along a trail. 10.IV.2000. Leg.

K. Markvicheva (MW).

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