

California Native Plant Society



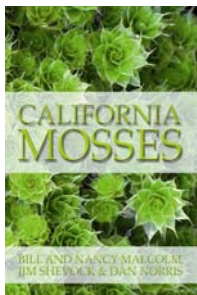
October 30, 2009

Press Release (*for immediate release*)

Available Now

California Mosses

By Bill and Nancy Malcolm, Jim Shevock, and Dan Norris



430 pages

6 x 8.75 inches, Hardcover

Micro-Optics Press, Nelson, New Zealand, 2009

ISBN 978-0-9582224-5-2

Price \$68.00

California has one of the most species rich moss floras in North America. During the last 50 years alone the checklist of California mosses has nearly doubled, yet the moss flora is seldom studied by botanists. The California Native Plant Society is proud to offer this color photographic guide as a portal into this truly remarkable group of plants. Designed to encourage both amateur and professional botanists to take up an interest in California's mosses, this guide contains over 2,200 color photographs and 1,100 black and white drawings illustrating all but five of the state's 600+ moss species.

Instead of relying on traditional "dichotomous keys" for species identification, this guide is organized by leaf shape and diagnostic traits so species are identified by pictures. Nearly half of the mosses currently documented for the state are presented with a color plate incorporating each of the 176 moss genera occurring in California. Of these genera, 79 are represented in California by a single species easily identified by use of this guide. For larger genera, several additional species plates are added to provide insights into the diversity of that group. Each full colored species plate also contains a text template containing information about the form, habitat, distribution, descriptive cellular features, and comments useful about each species to confirm identification. This indispensable guide not only incorporates the common species likely to be encountered in the field but also includes Pacific Coast endemics and species of conservation concern.

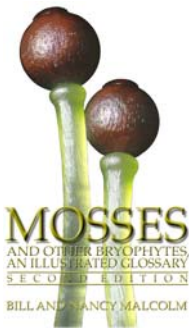
Bill and Nancy Malcolm are experienced botanists, photomicrographers, and bryophyte enthusiasts living in New Zealand. Bill trained as a physiological ecologist (Ph.D., Michigan State) and Nancy as a ceramist (M.A., Douglass-Rutgers). They are the authors and photographers of the glossary, *Mosses and Other Bryophytes*, and are currently working on a color atlas of Tasmanian mosses.

Jim Shevock is a botanist/ecologist who has spent more than 30 years in public service working for the USDA Forest Service and the National Park Service. He is currently a research associate with the Department of Botany, California Academy of Sciences and the University Herbarium, UC Berkeley. Initially a vascular plant taxonomist and authority of the flora of the southern Sierra Nevada, Jim migrated to the study of bryophytes in the late 1990s and has collaborated with Dan Norris on the California moss catalog and keys.

Dan Norris, PhD taught bryology for 24 years at Humboldt State University until his retirement in 1991 and is currently a research botanist at the University of California, Berkeley. His bryophyte collections number over 110,000 specimens and have been the basis for numerous publications as well as forming the nucleus of the bryophyte holdings at the University Herbarium, UC Berkeley.

Related title also available now:

Mosses and Other Bryophytes
By Bill and Nancy Malcolm



336 pages

6 x 8.75 inches, Hardcover

Micro-Optics Press, Nelson, New Zealand, 2006

ISBN 978-0-9582224-7-9

Price \$68.00

Available for the first time in the Northern Hemisphere from the California Native Plant Society, *Mosses and Other Bryophytes* is an illustrated glossary of terms that are used to describe mosses, liverworts, and hornworts. Written in informal prose, it is intended to be an everyday reference for bryology and botany students, gardeners, and anyone who's interested in plants. The second edition has over 50% more pages and illustrations than the previous edition, illustrating a total of more than 530 species of bryophytes. An appendix explains how to photograph bryophytes without a camera.

California Mosses and *Mosses and Other Bryophytes* are available directly from the California Native Plant Society Sales Department at (916)-447-2677 x. 204 or on the web from www.cnps.org.