

LICHENS FROM TWO INLAND LOCALITIES IN WEST GREENLAND AND THEIR CLIMATIC PREFERENCES

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Abstract

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In total, 143 lichen taxa collected from two inland localities in West Greenland are reported and categorized toward their climatic preferences in Greenland. Eighty three lichen taxa were collected in Eqaqut Ilorliit in the Ameralik Fjord area in 2000 and 120 lichen taxa were collected in Utaap Kuua, east of Sisimiut, in 1998. The two localities share 58 lichen taxa. Almost three fourths of the 143 lichens are more or less equally distributed in continental and oceanic areas in Greenland. About one sixth of the lichens occur most frequently in oceanic areas and more rarely in continental areas, while less than one tenth of the lichens occur frequently in continental areas and more rarely in oceanic areas. The climate of the two localities is low arctic, oceanic. Although they are situated at some distance from the outer coast and close to the continental zone, they are poor in lichens with a mainly continental distribution in Greenland compared to, for example, Kangerlussuaq, which is located in the continental inland region in the southernmost West Greenland.

Keywords: West Greenland, climatic preferences, distribution types, ecology, lichenized ascomycetes.

INTRODUCTION

During the studies on lichen biota in Greenland, K. HANSEN (1971) was the first to pay particular attention to the distribution of the species toward climatic conditions. He defined oceanity-continentiality index for the species based on 126 species of macrolichens found in 1962 and 1965. At that time he classified the examined species into four categories: distinctly continental, somewhat continental, climatically indifferent and somewhat oceanic. The author of the present paper (HANSEN, 2010) modified the oceanity-continentiality index as follows: distinct continental (not found in the present investigation), somewhat continental, indifferent, somewhat oceanic and distinctly oceanic (found at present). He based the modification on his observations of 200 selected lichens (including microlichens) collected in the southernmost West

Greenland in summer 2008 and K. Hansen's studies on the climatic distribution types.

This paper is the first attempt to compile a list of lichens from two localities in West Greenland. The investigation includes information on the climatic distribution types of lichens and a comparison with previous results obtained during similar studies on lichens from South West Greenland.

STUDY AREA

The lichens were collected from two inland localities in West Greenland, Eqaqut Ilorliit and Utaap Kuua. Eqaqut Ilorliit (64° 09' N, 50° 30' W) is situated in a small bay on the southern coast of the Ameralik Fjord c. 20 km of its head. The distance to Nuuk, a capital of Greenland is 65 km. The maximum alti-

tude of the mountains just south of the bay is about 1200 m a. s. l. The rocks are largely composed of Amittsoq gneiss and Nuuk gneiss, and amphibolite occurs abundantly (LUND et al., 2000). The climate is low arctic, oceanic (HANSEN, 1993). The mean annual temperature in July is ca. 7 °C, while in Nuuk it is ca. 8 °C. However, the summer temperatures are somewhat higher and the winter temperatures lower in the inland locality, Eqaluit Ilorliit, than the corresponding temperatures measured in Nuuk. In the same way the annual precipitation is somewhat lower (756 mm) in the Ameralik locality than that in Nuuk (LUND et al., 2000).

The second locality, Utaap Kuua (67° 01' N, 53° 12' W) is situated in a mountainous area c. 35 km east of Sisimiut. The maximum altitude of the mountains is comparable to that of the mountains in Eqaluit Ilorliit. Like in the Sisimiut area, the bedrock is mainly composed of Archaean gneiss, which is intruded by younger, more or less basic rocks (HANSEN, 1998). The climate is low arctic and oceanic and comparable to that of Sisimiut, where summer temperature reaches the same level as in Eqaluit Ilorliit, but is somewhat lower in winter. The annual precipitation is about 400 mm in Sisimiut and probably the same or somewhat higher in Utaap Kuua. The mean annual precipitation is only 140 mm in Kangerlussuaq (67° 02' N, 50° 40' W).

Mixed dwarf shrub heaths dominated by *Betula nana*, *Ledum groenlandicum* and *Salix glauca* occur abundantly in places with a protected snow cover during winter in Eqaluit Ilorliit (LUND et al., 2000). *Ledum palustre* and *Vaccinium uliginosum* are the dominant dwarf shrubs in areas exposed to strong winds and with a thinner snow cover. Both types of dwarf shrub heaths are fairly rich in lichens. Thickets composed of *Alnus crispa* and *Salix glauca* occur scattered in the area. A few epiphytic lichens grow on twigs and branches of the shrubs. A steppe vegetation with *Artemisia borealis* and *Carex supina* covers some south- and southeast exposed, dry slopes, but it is poorly developed compared to the corresponding vegetation type in Kangerlussuaq (BÖCHER, 1954, 1959). Different types of saxicolous lichen communities cover the rock faces. *Empetrum nigrum* is often the dominant species in the mixed dwarf shrub heaths in Utaap Kuua (LUND & BAY, 1998). They also consist of *Betula nana*, *Ledum*

groenlandicum, *L. palustre*, *Salix glauca* and *Vaccinium uliginosum* and are generally rich in lichens. *Betula nana* heaths and fell-fields rich in lichens occur in places exposed to strong winds. Snow-patches dominated by *Salix herbacea* and rich in lichens are of great importance at higher altitudes. *Carex bigelowii* is very common and indicates a general dense winter snow cover in Utaap Kuua. The steppe species, *Carex supina*, is very rare in the area. Like in Eqaluit Ilorliit, saxicolous lichens occur abundantly in Utaap Kuua.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The field work was carried out in Utaap Kuua in August 1998 and in Eqaluit Ilorliit in July 2000. Lichens were collected at numerous sample plots of both localities. In Eqaluit Ilorliit, lichens were studied up to 400 m a. s. l, whereas in Utaap Kuua, they were investigated up to 500 m a. s. l.

The substrate preference, the main plant communities in which lichens occur and the stages of thallus ontogeny (fertile or sterile) were noted for the all collected specimens.

The collected material was studied with Zeiss light microscopes. Selected specimens of, for example, *Leprocaulon* were identified by thin-layer chromatography (TLC). The material is deposited at the Botanical Museum of the University of Copenhagen (C). Nomenclature follows SANTESSON et al. (2004) with some exceptions.

The type of distribution toward oceanity or continentality was estimated for all lichens on the basis of all available information on their total distribution in Greenland.

The oceanity-continentality indices originally defined by K. HANSEN (1971) were somewhat modified as follows: CCO – somewhat continental lichens occurring most frequently in subcontinental and continental areas and more rarely in oceanic areas; CO – lichens with almost equally high frequency in continental and oceanic areas; COO – somewhat oceanic lichens occurring most frequently in oceanic areas and more rarely in continental areas.

The maps and description of Greenland vegetation belts follow BÖCHER et al. (1968), FEILBERG (1984) and JENSEN (1999).

RESULTS

The following list of lichens is based on the author's collection of 235 specimens of lichens, representing 143 taxa. Eighty three taxa were collected in Eqaqut Ilorliit in the Ameralik Fjord area and 120 – in Utaap Kuua, east of Sisimiut.

ANNOTATED LIST OF SPECIES

Abbreviations: 1 – locality in Eqaqut Ilorliit, 2 – locality in Utaap Kuua; ap – specimens with apothecia present, pe – with perithecia, st. – sterile specimens. The climatic preferences of the lichens are stated with the following indices: CCO – somewhat continental; CO – indifferent; COO – somewhat oceanic.

- COO *Acarospora molybdina* (Wahlenb.) A. Massal. – 1. On manured gneissic seashore rocks, together with *Caloplaca alcarum*, *Lecanora contractula*, *L. straminea* and *Rhizocarpon grande*; ap.
- CO *A. peliscypha* Th. Fr. – 2. On gneissic rock manured by birds; ap.
- CO *Alectoria nigricans* (Ach.) Nyl. – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths and fell-fields; st.
- CO *A. ochroleuca* (Hoffm.) Massal. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths and fell-fields; st.
- COO *Arctocetraria andrejevii* (Oxner) Kärnefelt & A. Thell – 2. On moist soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *Arctoparmelia centrifuga* (L.) Hale – 1. On gneissic rock; st.
- CO *A. incurva* (Pers.) Hale – 2. On gneissic rock; st.
- COO *Arthrorhaphis citrinella* (Ach.) Poelt – 2. On bare mineral soil; ap.
- CO *Aspicilia berntii* A. Nordin, Tibell & Owe-Larss. – 1, 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *A. caesiocinerea* (Nyl. ex Malbr.) Arnold – 2. On gneissic rock, together with *Lecidea teselata* and *Rhizocarpon geographicum*; ap.
- COO *Bellemerea alpina* (Sommerf.) Clauzade & Cl. Roux – 2. On gneissic rock; ap.
- CO *Biatora vernalis* (L.) Fr. – 1. On dead mosses; ap.
- CO *Brodoa oroarctica* (Krog) Goward – 1, 2. On gneissic rocks, together with *Pseudephebe minuscula*; st.
- CO *Bryocaulon divergens* (Ach.) Kärnefelt – 2. On soil in fell-field, together with *Alectoria ochroleuca*, *Bryoria chalybeiformis* and *Ochrolechia frigida*; st.
- CO *Bryoria chalybeiformis* (L.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. – 1, 2. On rocks and on soil in dwarf shrub heaths and fell-fields; st.
- CO *B. nitidula* (Th. Fr.) Brodo & D. Hawksw. – 1. On soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *Buellia papillata* (Sommerf.) Tuck. – 2. On dead mosses, together with *Cladonia chlorophaea*; st.
- COO *Caloplaca alcarum* Poelt – 1. On manured gneissic seashore rock, together with *Lecanora contractula*; ap.
- CO *C. jungermanniae* (Vahl) Th. Fr. – 1. On soil rich in humus, together with *C. tetraspora*; ap. *C. tetraspora* (Nyl.) H. Olivier – 1. On soil rich in humus; ap.
- CO *Candelariella aurella* (Hoffm.) Zahlbr. – 2. On old reindeer antler, together with *Lecanora hagenii* var. *fallax*; ap.
- CCO *C. canadensis* H. Magn. – 1, 2. On mineral soil; ap.
- CO *C. vitellina* (Hoffm.) Müll. Arg. – 2. On manured gneissic rock, together with *Physcia dubia* and *Xanthoria candelaria*; ap.
- CO *Cetraria islandica* (L.) Ach. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. nigricans* Nyl. – 2. On soil; st.
- CO *Cetrariella delisei* (Bory ex Schaer.) Kärnefelt & A. Thell – 1, 2. On soil in moist places in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *Cladonia amaurocraea* (Flörke) Schaer. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. arbuscula* (Wallr.) Flot. ssp. *mitis* (Sandst.) Ruoss – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- COO *C. bellidiflora* (Ach.) Schaer. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *C. borealis* S. Stenroos – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. carneola* (Fr.) Fr. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths, together with *C. cyanipes*; ap.
- CO *C. cenotea* (Ach.) Schaer. – 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. chlorophaea* (Flörke ex Sommerf.)

- Spreng. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. coccifera* (L.) Willd. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *C. cornuta* (L.) Hoffm. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- COO *C. crispata* (Ach.) Flot. – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *C. cyanipes* (Sommerf.) Nyl. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- COO *C. ecmocyna* Leight. – 2. On soil in moist places in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. fimbriata* (L.) Fr. – 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *C. gracilis* (L.) Willd. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *C. macroceras* (Delise) Hav. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. macrophylla* (Schaer.) Stenh. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *C. macrophyllodes* Nyl. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- COO *C. phyllophora* Hoffm. – 2. On moist soil rich in humus near fen; st.
- CO *C. pleurota* (Flörke) Schaer. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CCO *C. pocillum* (Ach.) O. J. Rich. – 1. On soil and mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. pyxidata* (L.) Hoffm. – 1, 2. On soil rich in humus; st.
- CO *C. rangiferina* (L.) F. H. Wigg. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. stellaris* (Opiz) Pouzar & Vezda – 1. On soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *C. stygia* (Fr.) Ruoss – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- COO *C. subfurcata* (Nyl.) Arnold – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- COO *C. sulphurina* (Michx.) Fr. – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- COO *C. trassii* Ahti – 1, 2. On soil in moist places in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *C. uncialis* (L.) F. H. Wigg. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *Dimelaena oreina* (Ach.) Norman – 2. On gneissic rock; ap.
- CO *Euopsis pulvinata* (Schaer.) Vain. – 2. On gneissic rock; st.
- CO *Flavocetraria cucullata* (Bellardi) Kärnefelt & A. Thell – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *F. nivalis* (L.) Kärnefelt & A. Thell – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths and fell-fields; st.
- CCO *Lasallia pensylvanica* (Hoffm.) Llano – 1. On rock; ap.
- CO *Lecanora atosulphurea* (Wahlenb.) Ach. – 2. On manured rock composed of sandstone, together with *Melanelia disjuncta*, *Parmelia sulcata* and *Xanthoria candelaria*, ap.
- COO *L. contractula* Nyl. – 1. On manured gneissic seashore rock; ap.
- CO *L. hagenii* (Ach.) Ach. var. *fallax* Hepp – 2. On old reindeer antler; ap.
- CO *L. intricata* (Ach.) Ach. – 1, 2. On gneissic rocks, together with *L. polytropa*; ap.
- CO *L. polytropa* (Ehrh. ex Hoffm.) Rabenh. – 1, 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- COO *L. straminea* Wahlenb. ex Ach. – 1. On manured gneissic seashore rock; ap.
- COO *Lecidea lapicida* (Ach.) Ach. var. *pantherina* Ach. – 2. On gneissic rock, together with *Rhizocarpon geographicum*; ap.
- CO *L. tessellata* Flörke – 2. On gneissic rock; ap.
- COO *Lecidoma demissum* (Rutstr.) Gotth. Schneid. & Hertel – 2. On mineral soil; ap.
- CO *Leprocaulon subalbicans* (I. M. Lamb) I. M. Lamb & A. M. Ward – 1. On mosses.
- CCO *Lobaria scrobiculata* (Scop.) DC. – 2. On manured rock, together with *Bryoria chalybeiformis*, *Parmelia saxatilis* and *P. sulcata*; st.
- CO *Lopadium coralloideum* (Nyl.) Lyngé – 1. On mosses; ap.
- CO *Melanelia commixta* (Nyl.) A. Thell – 2. On siliceous rock; st.
- CO *M. disjuncta* (Erichsen) Essl. – 1, 2. On manured gneissic rocks; st.
- CO *M. hepatizon* (Ach.) A. Thell – 1, 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *Melanohalea infumata* (Nyl.) O. Blanco, A. Crespo, Divakar, Essl., D. Hawksw. & Lumbsch – 2. On manured gneissic rock; st.
- COO *Nephroma arcticum* (L.) Torss. – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CCO *N. expallidum* (Nyl.) Nyl. – 1, 2. On mosses and soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *N. parile* (Ach.) Ach. – 2. On rock; st.

- CO *Ochrolechia frigida* (Sw.) Lyngé – 1, 2. On plant remains, mosses and soil in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- COO *O. tartarea* (L.) A. Massal. – 2. On gneissic rock, together with *Melanelia hepatizon* and *Pseudephebe minuscula*; st.
- CO *Ophioparma ventosa* (L.) Norman – 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *Orphniospora moriopsis* (A. Massal.) D. Hawksw. – 2. On gneissic rocks, together with *Melanelia hepatizon* and *Pseudephebe minuscula*; ap.
- CO *Parmelia omphalodes* (L.) Ach. – 1, 2. On rocks; st.
- CO *P. saxatilis* (L.) Ach. – 1, 2. On rocks; st.
- CO *P. sulcata* Taylor – 1, 2. On manured rocks; st.
- CCO *Parmeliopsis ambigua* (Wulfen) Nyl. – 1. On twig; st.
- CO *Peltigera aphthosa* (L.) Willd. – 1. On mosses and twig in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *P. didactyla* (With.) J. R. Laundon – 1, 2. On soil and mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CCO *P. kristinssonii* Vitik. – 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *P. lepidophora* (Nyl. ex Vain.) Bitter – 1. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *P. leucophlebia* (Nyl.) Gyeln. – 1. On soil among mosses in dwarf shrub heath; ap.
- CO *P. malacea* (Ach.) Funck – 1, 2. On soil and mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *P. polydactylon* (Neck.) Hoffm. – 2. On soil and mosses in dwarf shrub heath; st.
- CO *P. rufescens* (Weiss) Humb. – 1, 2. On soil and mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *P. scabrosa* Th. Fr. – 1, 2. On mosses and soil in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *Pertusaria dactylina* (Ach.) Nyl. – 1, 2. On mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *P. geminipara* (Th. Fr.) C. Knight ex Brodo – 2. On plant remains; st.
- COO *P. oculata* (Dicks.) Th. Fr. – 2. On plant remains in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CCO *Phaeophyscia sciastra* (Ach.) Moberg – 2. On manured rock; st.
- CO *Physcia caesia* (Hoffm.) Fűrnr. – 2. On manured siliceous rocks, together with *Melanohalea infumata*, *Physcia dubia*, *Rhizoplaca melanophthalma*, *Xanthoria candelaria* and *X. elegans*; st.
- CO *P. dubia* (Hoffm.) Lettau – 1, 2. On manured siliceous rocks; st.
- CO *Physconia detersa* (Nyl.) Poelt – 2. On manured rock; st.
- CCO *P. muscigena* (Ach.) Poelt – 2. On mosses and soil; st.
- CO *Porpidia flavicunda* (Ach.) Gowan – 2. On gneissic rock, together with *Lecanora polytropia*; st.
- CO *Protoparmelia badia* (Hoffm.) Hafellner – 2. On manured siliceous rock; ap.
- CO *Pseudephebe minuscula* (Nyl. ex Arnold) Brodo & D. Hawksw. – 1, 2. On siliceous rocks; st.
- CO *Psora rubiformis* (Ach.) Hook. – 2. On mineral soil, together with *Candelariella canadensis*; ap.
- CO *Psoroma hypnorum* (Vahl) Gray – 1. On mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *P. tenue* Henssen var. *boreale* Henssen – 1, 2. On mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CCO *Rhizocarpon eupetraeum* (Nyl.) Arnold – 1. On gneissic rock, together with *Melanelia hepatizon* and *Rhizocarpon geographicum*; ap.
- CO *R. geminatum* Körb. – 2. On manured siliceous rocks; ap.
- CO *R. geographicum* (L.) DC. – 1, 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *R. grande* (Flörke) Arnold – 1, 2. On manured gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *R. inarense* (Vain.) Vain. – 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *R. jemtlandicum* (Malme) Malme – 2. On gneissic rocks; ap.
- CO *R. rittokense* (Hellb.) Th. Fr. – 2. On gneissic rocks; st.
- CO *Rhizoplaca melanophthalma* (DC.) Leuckert & Poelt – 1, 2. On manured siliceous rocks; ap.
- COO *Rinodina archaea* (Ach.) Arnold – 1, 2. On plant remains; ap.
- CO *R. turfacea* (Wahlenb.) Körb. – 2. On plant remains; ap.
- CO *Solorina crocea* (L.) Ach. – 1, 2. On soil near snow-patches; ap.

- CO *Sphaerophorus fragilis* (L.) Pers. – 1, 2. On rocks; st.
- CO *S. globosus* (Huds.) Vain. – 1, 2. On soil and mosses in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *Stereocaulon alpinum* Laurer – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; ap.
- CO *S. arenarium* (Savicz) I. M. Lamb – 2. On gravelly soil; st.
- CO *S. capitellatum* H. Magn. – 2. On soil rich in humus in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *S. glareosum* (Savicz) H. Magn. – 2. On gravelly soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *S. paschale* (L.) Hoffm. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths; st.
- CO *S. vesuvianum* Pers. – 2. On siliceous rock rich in iron; st.
- CO *Thamnolia vermicularis* (Sw.) Schaer. var. *subuliformis* (Ehrh.) Schaer. – 1, 2. On soil in dwarf shrub heaths and fell-fields.
- COO *Trapeliopsis granulosa* (Hoffm.) Lumbsch – 2. On peaty soil; st.
- CO *Umbilicaria arctica* (Ach.) Nyl. – 1, 2. On manured rocks; ap.
- CCO *U. cinereorufescens* (Schaer.) Frey – 1, 2. On rocks; st.
- CCO *U. decussata* (Vill.) Zahlbr. – 1, 2. On manured gneissic rocks, together with *Xanthoria candelaria*; ap.
- COO *U. deusta* (L.) Baumg. – 2. On temporarily moist rock; st.
- COO *U. havaasii* Llano – 2. On rock; st.
- CO *U. lyngei* Schol. – 2. On rock; st.
- CO *U. nylanderiana* (Zahlbr.) H. Magn. – 1, 2. On rocks; ap.
- CO *U. proboscidea* (L.) Schrad. – 2. On gneissic rock; ap.
- CO *U. virginis* Schaer. – 2. On siliceous rock; ap.
- CO *Xanthoria candelaria* (L.) Th. Fr. – 1, 2. On manured gneissic rocks; st.
- CO *X. elegans* (Link) Th. Fr. – 1, 2. On manured siliceous rocks; st.

DISCUSSION

Almost three fourths of the 143 lichens listed above appear to be more or less equally distributed in continental and oceanic areas and accordingly can

be defined as climatically indifferent. These CO-species can be characterized as generally tolerant lichens adapted to a wide range of environmental conditions. About one sixth of the lichens belong to the COO-category and occur most frequently in oceanic areas and more rarely in continental areas. Some of these lichens are supposed to be threatened by the on-going climate change with increased warming (STENDEL et al., 2008), unless they are able to migrate to habitats, in which their particular requirements, for example, for a sufficient moisture supply, can be fulfilled. Species such as *Arctocetraria andrejevii* and *Cladonia ecmocyna*, are often found growing in moist places in dwarf shrub heaths. If these heaths desiccate in the summer period, the lichens might survive near snow-patches, where melt water keeps the soil moist during summer. Only 12 species, less than one tenth of the lichens, have a somewhat continental distribution (CCO). This is somewhat surprising, because the two investigated localities are situated close to the continental zone (JENSEN, 1999). However, species such as *Lobaria scrobiculata*, *Nephroma expallidum* and *Umbilicaria decussata* are typical inland lichens, which also occur commonly in Kangerlussuaq (HANSEN, 2000). Drier climatic conditions during summer will probably accelerate the development of steppe-like vegetation, in particular on sandy soil and loess. Species belonging to the genera *Caloplaca*, *Fulgensia*, *Leptogium*, *Phaeorrhiza*, *Placidium*, *Psora* and *Toninia* will be able to colonize such steppe-like areas along the border of the continental zone in West Greenland. Close attention needs to be paid to a continuous monitoring of the vegetation in this part of Greenland.

K. Hansen's results from South and South West Greenland differ considerably from the above-mentioned outcome. He concludes that about half of the 126 macrolichens studied by him are more or less indifferent climatically, and that 16 and 22 % of the species have a somewhat continental or oceanic distribution, respectively (HANSEN, 1971). The difference can partly be explained by the fact that the intensified lichenological investigation of numerous poorly known areas in Greenland during the past 40 years has resulted in new knowledge as regards the distribution of Greenland lichens (THOMSON, 1984; 1997; HANSEN, 1995; KRISTINSSON et al., 2010). A number of K. Hansen's COO- and CCO-species be-

long in fact to the CO-category of climatically indifferent lichens. In the same way his CC-species have to be classified as CCO-species or CO-species. These necessary changes were already made in the investigation on 214 taxa of lichens from five inland and coastal localities in southernmost West Greenland in 2008 (HANSEN, 2010). The results from the study are in good accordance with those of the present investigation. Among the 214 lichens two thirds belong to the CO-category, while one fifth of the lichens are COO-species and a little more than one tenth – CCO-species. Three species belong to a new OO-category consisting of strictly oceanic lichens. The species of the last category were not found in the present investigation.

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KERPĖS IŠ DVIEJŲ VIDINIŲ VAKARINĖS GRENLANDIJOS VIETŲ BEI JŲ KLIMATINĖS PREFERENCIJOS

Eric Steen Hansen

Santrauka

Pateikiami duomenys apie 143 rūšių kerpes iš dviejų vidinių vakarinės Grenlandijos vietovių. Kerpės suklasifikuotos pagal jų klimatinės preferencijas Grenlandijoje. 83 kerpių taksonai buvo surinkti 2000 m. Eqaľuit Ilorľit vietovėje Ameralik fjordo rajone ir 120 kerpių taksonų surinkti 1998 m. Utaap Kuaa vietovėje, į rytus nuo Sisimiuto. 58 kerpių taksonai aptikti abiejose vietovėse. Beveik trys ketvirčiai iš 143 rūšių kerpių yra daugmaž vienodai paplitusios kontinentinėje ir okeaninėje Grenlandijos dalyse.

Maždaug šeštadalis visų rūšių kerpių yra dažnesnės okeaninėse ir retos kontinentinėse dalyse, ir mažiau nei dešimtadalis dažniau pasitaiko kontinentinėse nei okeaninėse dalyse. Abiejų vietovių klimatas yra okeaninis, arktinių žemumų. Nors abi vietovės yra kiek nutolusios nuo išorinių krantų ir yra arčiau kontinentinės zonos, jose aptinkama nedaug kontinentinio paplitimo kerpių, palyginus su, pvz. Kangerlussuaq vietove, esančia vidiniame kontinentiniame regione pietiniame vakarinės Grenlandijos pakraštyje.