

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS MOSSES

Mosses are one of the three groups of plants known as the bryophytes. These plants are the oldest relatives of the first land plants and hold clues about plant evolution and the conquest of land. Although bryophytes are small plants, they are not as simple as you might think and they are present in almost all environments. Reproducing via spores and not containing true vascular tissue, mosses exhibit a wide range of diversity. This diversity can be observed throughout the Southern Illinois region. Southern Illinois possesses unique geographical features from rolling hills to sandstone bluffs. This area lies between two major waterways, the Mississippi River to the west and the Ohio River to the east. Due to these characteristics Southern Illinois boasts a beautiful representation of moss species.



Anomodon attenuatus



Anomodon rostratus



Atrichum angustatum



Aulacomnium heterostichum



Brachythecium sp.



Brachythecium sp.



Bryoandersonia illecebra



Bryum argenteum



Clmadium americanum



Dicranaceae



Dicranum fulvum



Ditrichum pallidum



Entodon seductrix



Fissidens sp.



Grimmia sp.



Hedwigia ciliata



Hypnum curvifolium



Leskia sp.



Physcomitrium pyriforme



Plagiomnium cuspidatum



Polytrichum commune



Polytrichum ohioense



Thuidium delicatulum

