

CONNECTION OF UKRAINIAN BRYOLOGICAL GENERATIONS (LARYSA YAKIVNA PARTYKA 1932–2022)

S. V. GAPON, S. O. NYPORKO, V. V. PROTOPOPOVA, M. F. BOIKO,
V. V. VIRCHENKO and S. Y. KONDRATYUK*

M. H. Kholodny Institute of Botany, Tereshchenkivska str. 2, 01004 Kiev, Ukraine;

**ksya_net@ukr.net; (corresponding author)*

Gapon, S. V., Nyporko, S. O., Protopopova, V. V., Boiko, M. F., Virchenko, V. V. and Kondratyuk, S. Y. (2022): Connection of Ukrainian bryological generations (Larysa Yakivna Partyka 1932–2022). – *Studia bot. hung.* 53(1): 105–108.



L. P. Partyka in Kyiv, in 2012

On March 21, 2022, Larysa Yakivna Partyka, an expert on Ukrainian bryoflora, Candidate of Biological Sciences, Senior Researcher of M. H. Kholodny Institute of Botany of National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine died at age of 91.

Larysa Yakivna Partyka was born on January 22, 1932 in the village of Zavalijky, Volochysk district, Khmelnytsk oblast in teachers' family. She graduated from Volochysk Secondary School in 1951. From 1951 to 1956, she studied at the Biological and Soil Science Faculty of T. H. Shevchenko Kyiv State University. She specialized in the Department of Lower Plants, the head of which was an Academician of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR D. K., Zerov, but her other teachers i.e. Profs. A. M. Oxner and O. V. Topachevsky. were also famous scientists, who were all direct students of the Academician, O. V. Fomin, and so the founders of Kyiv bryological, lichenological and algological scientific schools (which are components of famous Kyiv cryptogamic school of Acad. O. V. Fomin). Due to Larysa Ya. Partyka's luck to be able to work with D. K. Zerov later colleagues of the Institute did also have a chance to learn many details about founders of Kyiv cryptogamic school. L. Ya. Partyka became a real connection within the generations of the scientists.

After her higher educational studies, Larysa Yakivna worked at the Odesa City Trust of Green Construction for three years. In 1959, she moved to Kyiv, and from then on, her entire working life was connected with the Institute of Botany of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR (now it is the M. H. Kholodny Institute of Botany, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine).

In the beginning, she worked as a senior laboratory assistant in the Department of Spores Plants but later she took a PhD course in the same department under the supervision of D.K. Zerov. In 1966, she defended her dissertation "Bryoflora of the main ridge of the Crimean Mountains". From 1965 to 1982, she worked as a junior researcher, and from 1982 to 1989, as a senior researcher at the Department of Mycology and Bryology. Later she worked at the Laboratory of Lichenology and Bryology at the same Institute. After retiring, Larysa continued to work at the Institute for a long time, identifying moss collections of previous years and preparing articles and monographs for publication.

L. Ya. Partyka is the author and co-author of more than 80 scientific publications. She paid the greatest attention to the study of the bryoflora of the mountainous regions of the country – the Crimean and the Ukrainian Carpathian bryoflorae. As mentioned, Larysa Yakivna began researching the bryophytes of Crimea during her post-graduate studies (1963–64) but she continued this work between 1983 and 85. Based on her results, a series of articles, a dissertation and a monograph "Bryoflora of Crimea" (2005) were prepared. In the last work, a synopsis of the bryoflora of the Crimea was compiled, which includes 312 species, 75 of which are listed for the first time for the Crimea, including 9 – new for

Ukraine, and one species, *Anoetangium handelii* Schiffn., turned out to be a new for Europe. In separate articles, new and rare taxa for the region are presented; the question of the origin of the Crimean bryoflora, in particular its connection with the Caucasian flora of mosses, is discussed; bryophytes of protected territories, i.e.: the Crimean reserve, Karadag reserve, “Cape Martyan”, Yaltynsky reserve, etc. are especially analysed.

After completing the study of the bryoflora of the Carpathians (from 1966 to 1970), which was conducted together with D. K. Zerov, the monograph “Mosses of the Ukrainian Carpathians” was published (1975). This was the first work in Ukraine dedicated to a comprehensive study of all groups of bryophytes of a certain region including the history of the study of bryophytes of this territory, the determination of the species composition of bryophytes (653 species) with their ecological, coenotic and phytogeographical characteristics, while the main stages of the formation of bryoflora are also outlined.

Larysa Yakivna had been working not only with D. K. Zerov for many years, but also with other Ukrainian bryologists, such as G. F. Bachurina, K. O. Ulychna, or M. F. Bojko. Due to these collaborations numerous important publications were prepared-. Together with G. F. Bachurina she wrote a short handbook “Liverworts and mosses of Ukraine and adjacent territories” (1979), generalising articles on the bryoflora of Ukrainian Polissia and the bryological herbarium of the M. H. Kholodny Institute of Botany.

L. Ya. Partyka is the compiler and, in fact, the co-author of the fourth edition of “Flora of mosses of Ukraine” (2003), which G. F. Bachuryna and V. M. Melnychuk had not completed. In co-authorship with K. O. Ulychna, L. Ya. Partyka wrote an article on the rare species of bryoflora of Ukraine and the need for their protection, which later formed the basis of the bryological part of the second and third editions of the “Red Book of Ukraine” (1996, 2009).

L. Ya. Partyka willingly participated in expeditions, long-distance business trips, from which she always brought collections of mosses to replenish the herbarium of the institute or new bryological literature. She visited Georgia, Tajikistan, Western Siberia, the Kola Peninsula and repeatedly returned to the Botanical Institute in Leningrad (now Sankt-Peterburg).

The combination of special knowledge with general botanical erudition, her talent and enthusiasm to teach students and followers characterize L. Ya. Partyka as a mature scientist. She was an opponent in the defence of a numerous doctoral dissertations and candidate theses, wrote many abstract, article and book reviews. She was a consultant on the issues of floristic and phytogeographic studies of bryophytes of Ukraine, particularly concerning the mountainous regions and on the research of the biodiversity and protection of bryophytes in the protected areas up until her last years.

Larysa Yakivna was always kind and friendly and willing to help everyone who turned for her support. Her social life was busy, she loved spending time with friends, invite them to her home and serving them home-made delicious dishes. She used to donate hand-made crafts – such as flowers, decorations, napkins, etc. and had outstanding talent for needlework such as sewing, knitting, preparing embroideries. She often visited exhibitions, museums, theatrical performances with her colleagues. However, her favourite hobby remained the books, and she kept reading a lot even after her retirement.

Unfortunately, by losing L. Ya. Partyka, the Ukrainian bryologists did also lose the connection with the generation of the creators of famous Ukrainian cryptogamic scientific school, which is one of the oldest scientific schools of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.