

Bryophyte Collection of University of Pécs (JPU): the digital database

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Fig. 1. a) the cabinet used for storing the capsules b) a case with capsules from the Core Collection c) a specimen of the Pannonhalma Collection fixed on sheet d) the oldest specimen in the JPU (*Metzgeria furcata* from 1838).

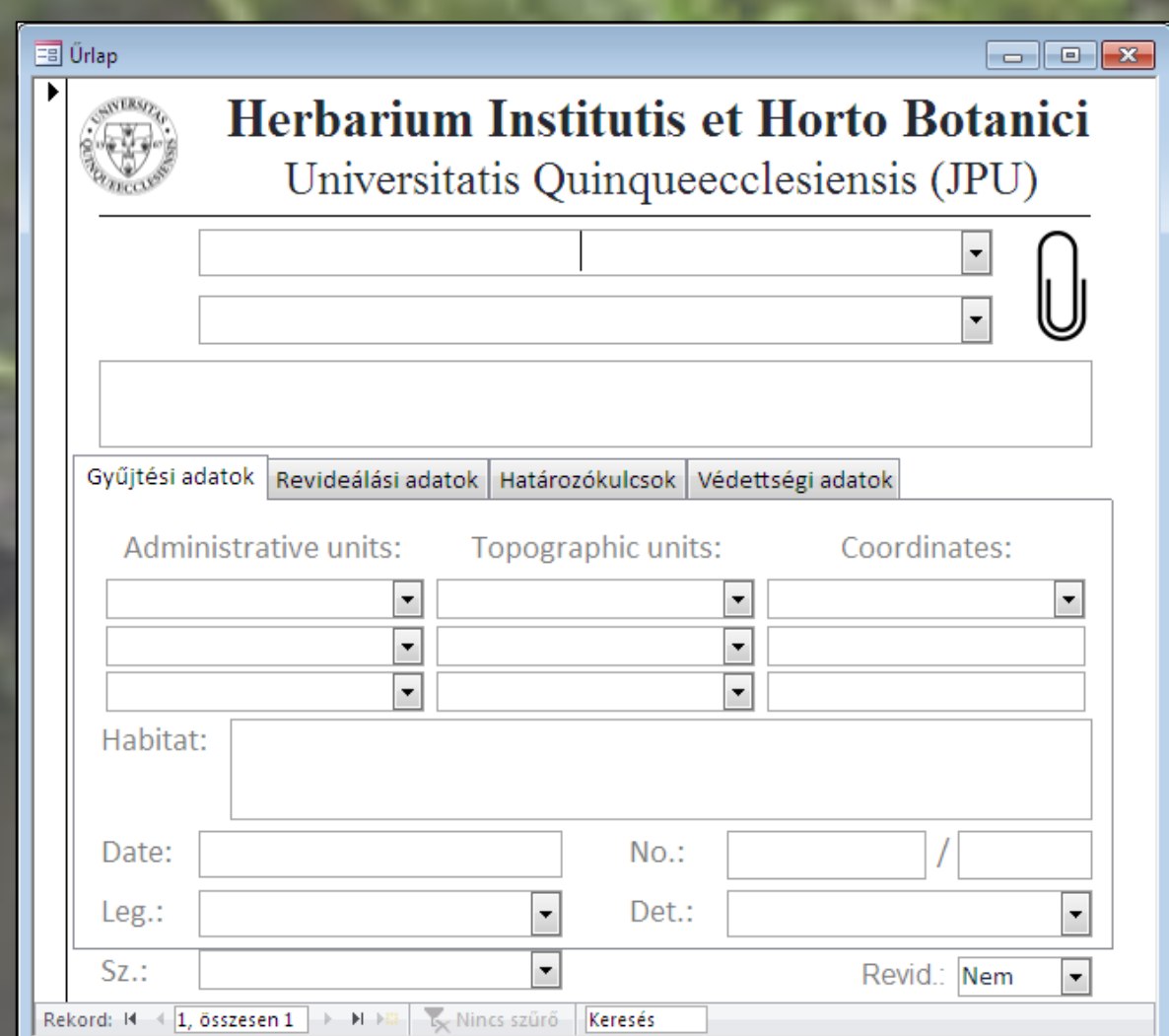


Fig. 2. The interface of the digital database.

The Herbarium of the University of Pécs (JPU) is considered to be one of the most important plant collections in Hungary. Its botanical information will be much more useful, when they are easily, quickly and widely become available. For this reason, based on the international examples, our aim was to construct a digital database, which facilitates the handling of data in an organized fashion, also providing an online version. Thanks to student's work, numerous families of vascular plants are already digitalized and are accessible electronically.

Aside from the Core Collection, the Pannonhalma Collection, the collections of Majer Móric and Nendtvich Tamás contains bryophytes. The specimens are dried, sometimes pressed and are stored in capsules made from paper or fixed on sheets (**Fig. 1**). There are more than 1500 samples in our moss collection, their processing started in 2014. At present, 78% is digitalized, however hundreds of specimens are waiting for ordering. The database was created with Microsoft Office Access, on the interface, the following fields can be filled: species name (Latin), family name (Latin), catalog number, place of occurrence (administrative area, geographical data, coordinates), habitat, date of collection (year/month/day), substrate, name of collector and determiner (**Fig. 2**). We can mark the reconsideration as well, with writing the correct name of the species, the date of revision and the name of reviewer.

The largest part of the digitalized capsule records (687) belongs to the Core Collection, the Pannonhalma Collection has 292 samples, in the collection of Majer Móric there are 177 and the collection of Nendtvich contains only 8 records (**Fig. 3**). The thematic collections are already digitalized.

Ever since the herbarium was established, the growth was wavering, but continuous. Thanks to the collectors, we have specimens in the collections from 12 countries (**Fig. 4**). Nevertheless, the growth abated at the beginning of the 1970s to an extent that not a single capsule was added to the herbarium for 40 years. Fortunately, in the recent past it replenished quickly, so more than 600 capsules have been placed in the collection in the last 5 years (**Fig. 5**).

Tihanyi Jenő, Ucherkovich Gábor, Gaál Miklós and Péntzes Antal played an important role in the founding of the Core Collection, but a considerable part (about 50%) have belonged to the greatest collector of JPU, Vöröss László Zsigmond. With his contribution the herbarium have acquired the Pannonhalma Collection, which was mainly established by Piers Vilmos and Ernst Bauer. In the past few years the most recent contributors to the collection have mainly been Csiky János, along with Kovács Dániel, Deme Judit and Peter Erzberger (**Fig. 6**).

Although, the collection is relatively tiny but it is growing apace. In connection with the actual research, there are a large amount of specimens of some genera and species (e.g. *Campylopus* spp. and *Buxbaumia* spp.) stored in the JPU. Unfortunately, the limited storing capacity causes serious problems, so further developments are required in this context.

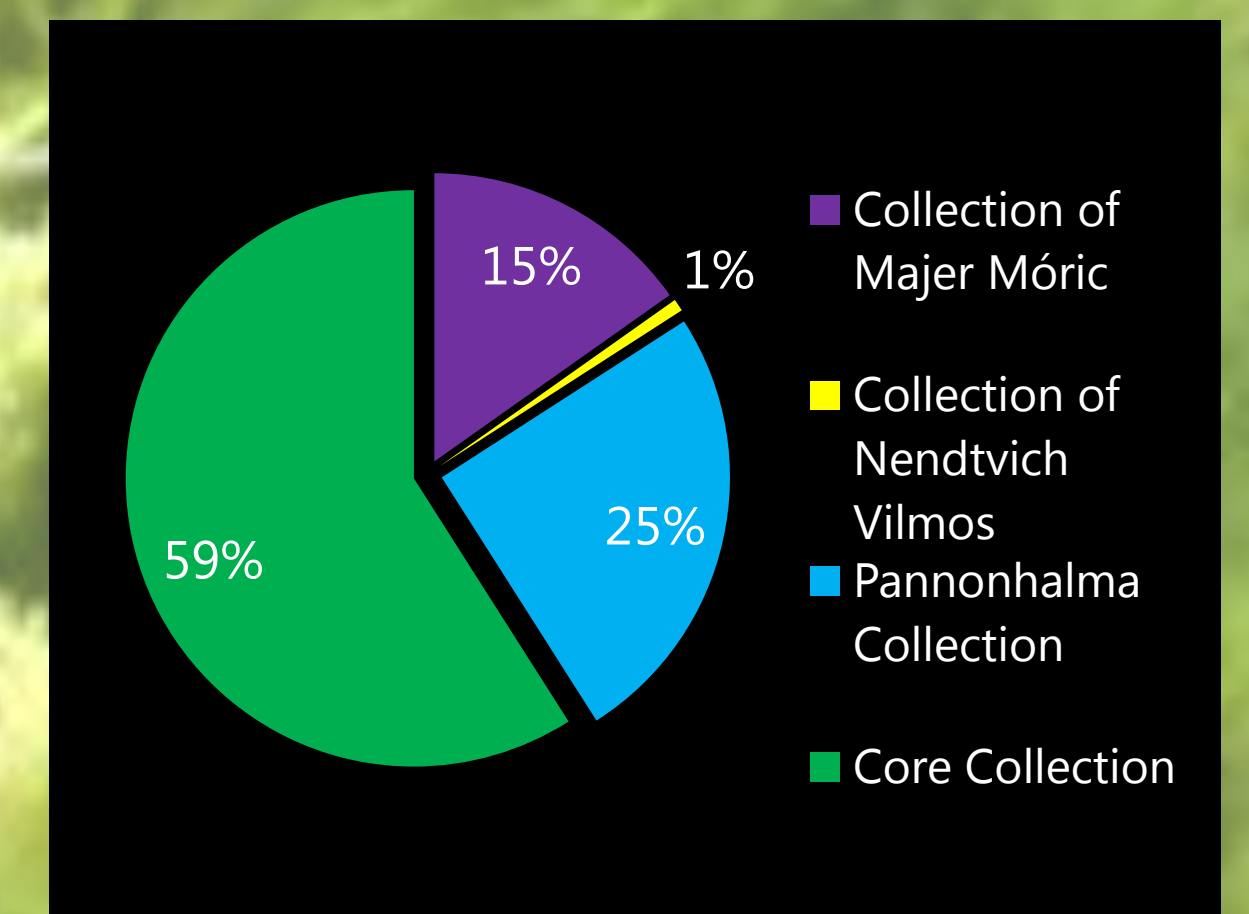


Fig. 3. Proportion of bryophyte samples in the JPU among the different collections.

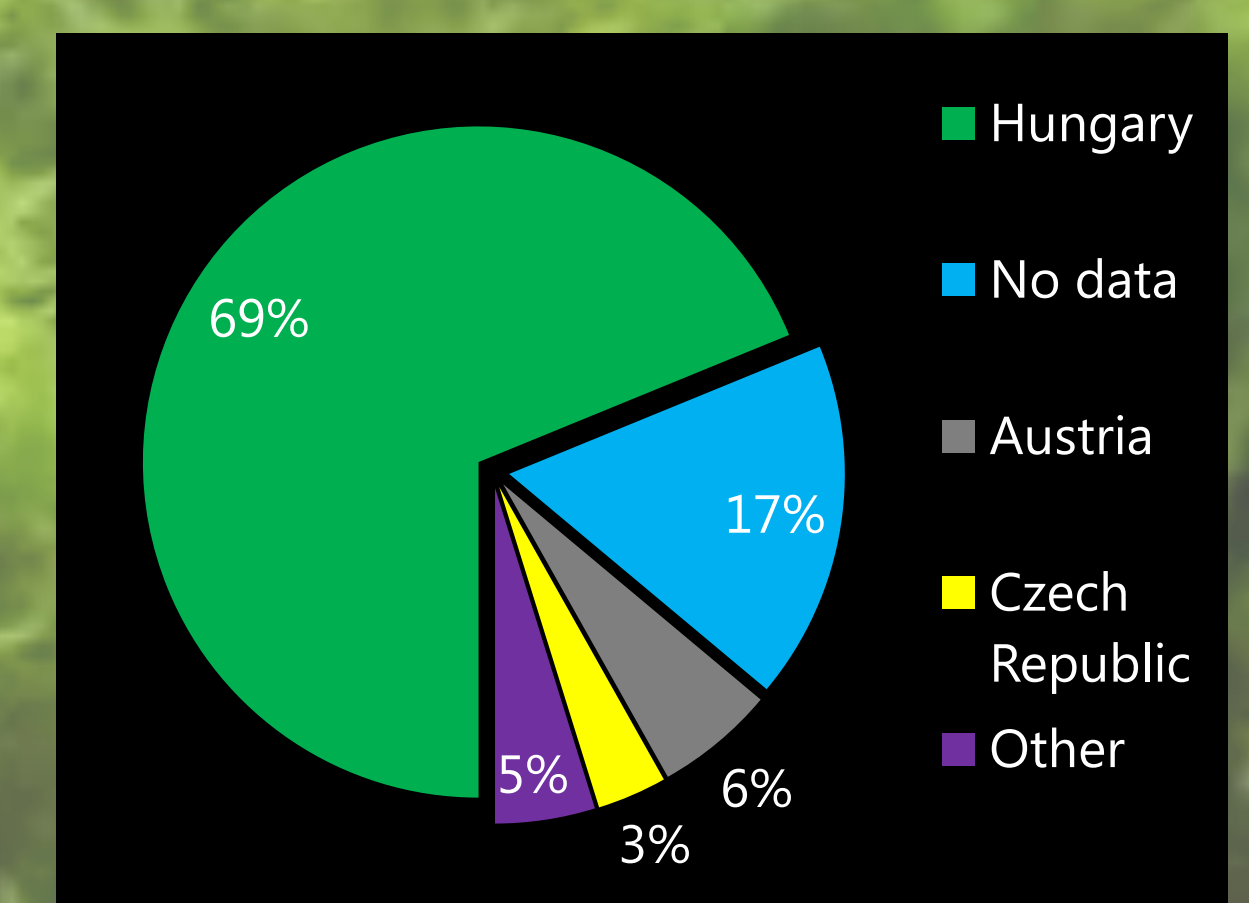


Fig. 4. Distribution of bryophyte samples in the JPU breakdown by location (country).

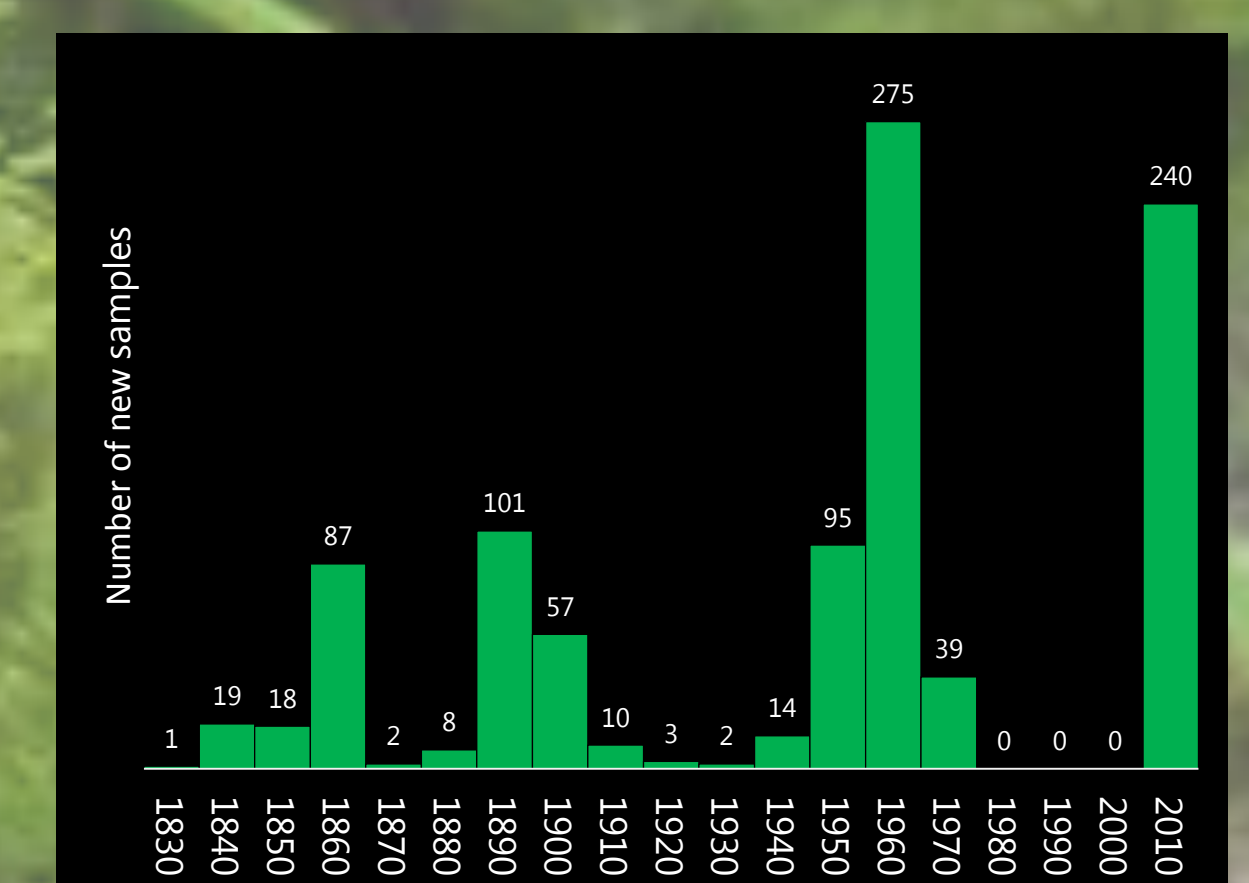


Fig. 5. Accretion of the moss collection of the JPU in decennial dissociation.

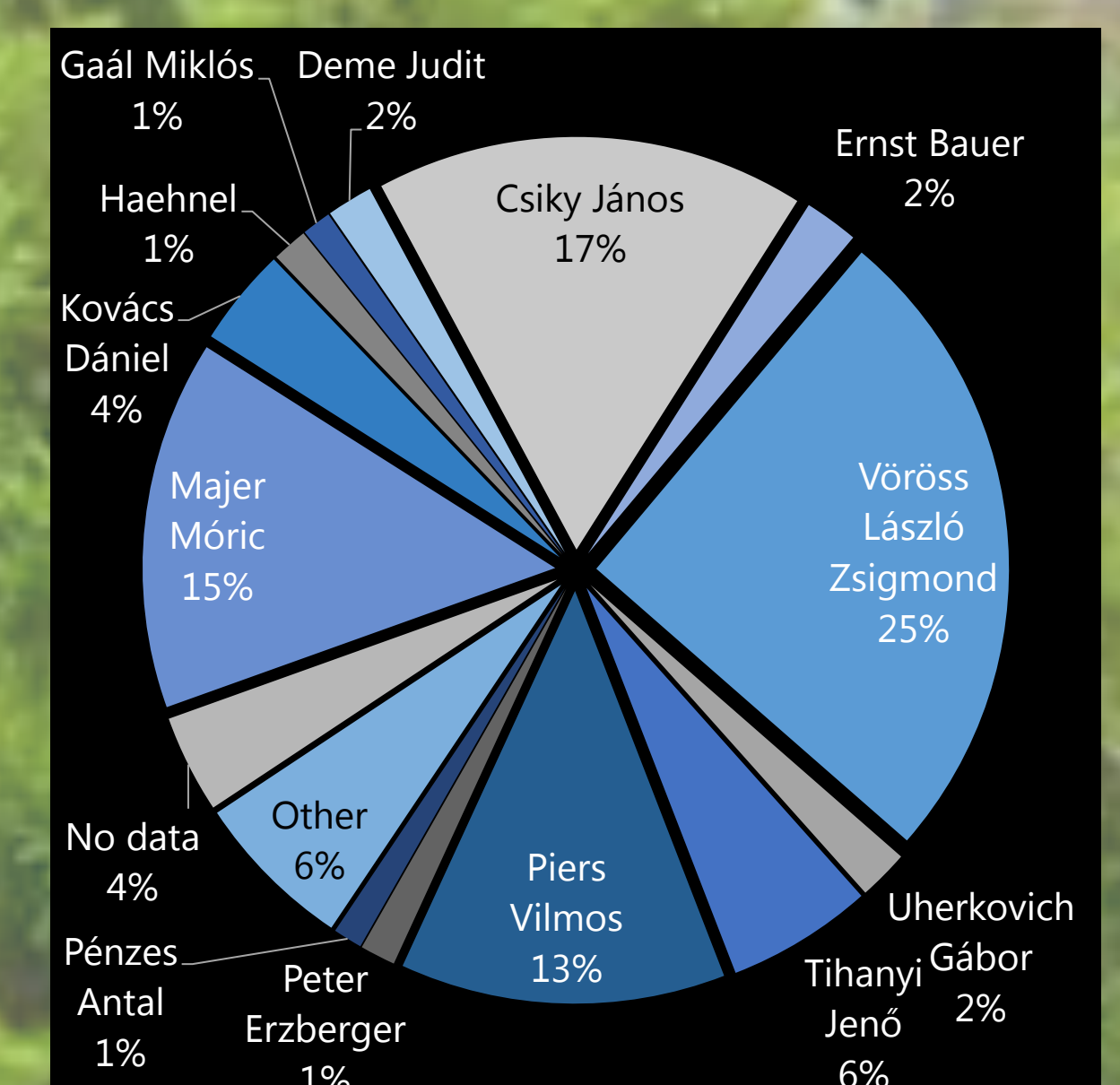


Fig. 6. Collectors of the bryophyte collection.

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