ABSTRACT

The main aim of this thesis is to give a brief overview of the genus *Riccia*. It belongs to the same taxonomic group as the genus Ricciocarpos Corda, family *Ricciaceae* (order Marchantiales, department Marchantiophyta). Both genera have a simple endosporophile and they do not possess elaters.

The genus Riccia has a wide ecological valency. The representatives of the genus, who are adapted to life in drier areas, are able to grow on bare, sunny, clay soil. Other species can be found on wet places with high water occurrence or even directly in the aquatic environment.

The genus has a worldwide distribution. The most abundant diversity is in subtropical areas with high environment variety which directly influences the diversity of this species. Representatives of this genus are able to survive extreme conditions and can very easily adapt to new conditions. They are also defined by great morphology plasticity. There are still problems to correctly distinguish some species from each other because of this reason.

There are 13 species in the Czech Republic, three of them are easily interchangeable. Part of the thesis is therefore focused on the comparison of the species *R. fluitans* and *R. rhenana* from the Ricciella section. The former is typically found on the surface of the water. However, when found outside of an aquatic environment, it might resemble *R. rhenana*, which is mainly terrestrial form. The third species *R. stenophylla* has not been found in the Czech Republic yet, but it is possible that it will be discovered here in the future.

Keywords: liverworts, variability, morphology, ecology, species distribution