FRULLANIACEAE (HEPATICAE)

TYPIFICATION OF FRULLANIA SYLVESTRIS

When Sim described Frullania sylvestris in Trans. Roy. Soc. S. Afr. 15:40 (1926), no specimens were cited. In the only subsequent work dealing with this species, Arnell, Hepaticae of S. Afr. 138 (1963), no type was designated or any specimens cited, although the distribution is cited as ".....Knysna. Natal, several localities."

In the main collection of Sim's specimens, which is housed at PRE, there is only one specimen of this species, Sim s.n. in PRE Cryptogamic Herbarium

(Hepaticae) 1740, annotated as follows in Sim's own hand:

"Frullania sylvestris Sim Giants Castle, Natal. 5000' Sept 1903, T.R. Sim."

I conclude that Sim's description was probably based on this specimen, and consequently regard it as the holotype.

P. Vorster