



1. INTRODUCTION

Kosovo mosses are poorly studied in relation to other countries of Southeast Europe. A few studies to be mentioned are those of Martinić (1980; 2006) for Sharr Mountain National Park and the Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park. Recently, Pantović and Sabovljević (2017) provide a summary of Kosovo mosses, based on literature sources, reporting 303 species, of which 227 for the Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park. In the present study additions to the moss flora of Bjeshkët e Nemuna will be presented.

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

A total of 1140 moss samples were collected in about 20 different sites (indicated in the map) and various ecological substrates were investigated during field trips carried out in 2015 and 2019. The identification was carried out mainly in the Department of Biology (Faculty of Natural Sciences, University of Tirana) and in the Biology laboratory (Faculty of Education, University of Prishtina). Nomenclature of the species follows Hodgetts and Lockhart (2020).

4. RESULTS

In the present study, 130 mosses are reported for the Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park, 13 are new records for Kosovo and 44 for Bjeshkët e Nemuna Park. The following species are new for Kosovo: *Calliergonella lindbergii*, *Campyliadelphus chrysophyllus*, *Cyrtomnium hymenophylloides*, *Dialytrichia mucronata*, *Dicranella varia*, *Grimmia anodon*, *Grimmia donniana*, *Hypnum andoi*, *Pleuridium acuminatum*, *Polytrichum strictum*, *Schistidium helveticum*, *Schistidium rivulare*, *Sphagnum centrale*. Furthermore, the following species have conservation value in the Checklist and Country Status of European Bryophytes (Hodgetts and Lockhart, 2020): *Brachythecium geheebii* (VU) and *Encalypta affinis*

Preliminary data on the moss flora of the Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park (Kosovo)

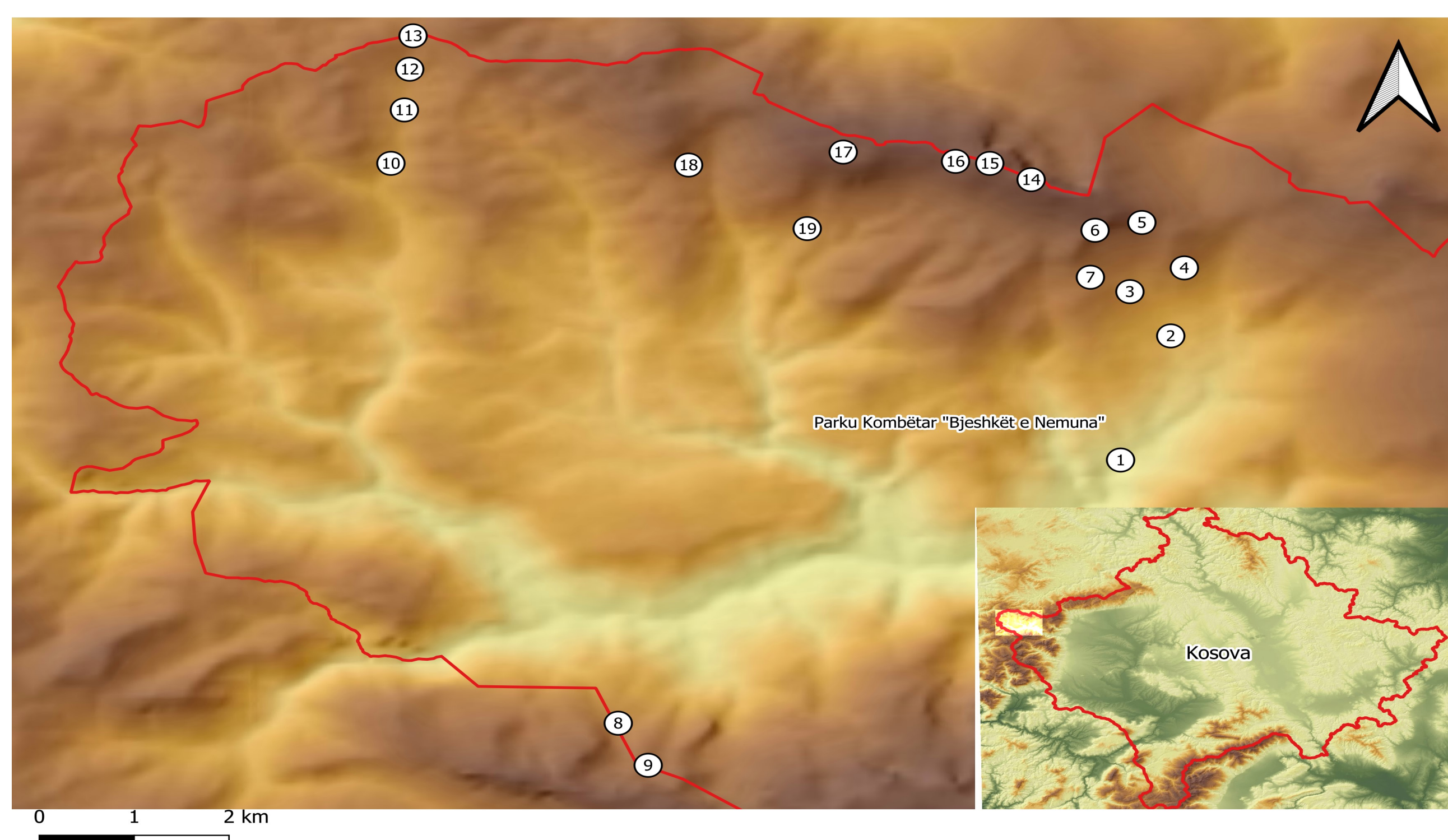
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3. STUDY AREA — BJESHKËT E NEMUNA

The Bjeshkët e Nemuna is one of the most attractive and beautiful mountain massifs in Europe, it is divided among three countries (Albania, Kosovo and Montenegro). As for Kosovo, Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park has an area of 63,027 ha, and the altitude varies from 500 to 2656 m. It is a very important area for the biodiversity.



(DD). Other species found on the Bjeshkët e Nemuna NP have conservation value locally in the Balkan context. Based on Hodgetts and Lockhart (2020) EN, CR and VU categories are considered for all Balkan countries and the following species could be mentioned for Kosovo as well: *Dicranum tauricum* (VU), *Distichium inclinatum* (VU), *Encalypta ciliata* (VU), *Grimmia muehlenbeckii* (VU), *Kiaeria starkei* (EN), *Palustriella decipiens* (VU), *Paraleucobryum longifolium* (VU), *Polytrichum strictum* (VU), *Racomitrium macounii* subsp. *alpinum* (VU), *Schistidium rivulare* (CR, EN) and *Syntrichia norvegica* (VU).

5. CONCLUSIONS

Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park have a rich moss flora, which however is not yet fully explored, and with species of conservation interest. The new records bring to 271 the number of moss species for the Bjeshkët e Nemuna National Park and 359 the number of moss species in Kosovo.

LITERATURE

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