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Fax, Phone and E-mail Numbers

Barbara Murray and Jan-Peter Frahm, together with the editors of *The Bryological Times*, have been compiling this preliminary list of Fax, Phone and E-mail numbers of IAB members. In this list the country numbers are given in brackets, while city/area and personal numbers are separated by a space. Phone numbers are subdivided in 'work' and 'home' numbers. Please note that for *national* calls many countries require you to dial a '0' before the city number (e.g. United Kingdom, Sweden, Finland, Netherlands, Belgium, Australia, Japan, China, etc.). Please send additions and corrections to: Barbara Murray, University of Alaska Museum, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-1200, USA. Fax: (1) 907 4745469, E-mail: FYHERB@ALASKA.BITNET.

How to Make Use of E-mail

In addition to fax and phone numbers, this directory includes also the electronic mail, or E-mail, numbers of members of the IAB. For these E-mail users, BRYONET has been established in Stockholm to function as basis for the exchange of information. However, less than thirty IAB members are accessible by E-mail, which is not many considering the enormous advantages of this method of communication. On the other hand, many bryologists probably could have access to E-mail but presumably do not know how. Therefore a short introduction is given here explaining how E-mail works and what you need to do to promote this extremely fast and inexpensive way of communication.

Electronic mail is a way of sending mail between interconnected computers - in this case large mainframe computers connected by international networks such as BITNET, EARN, INTERNET, etc. It allows you to send messages to other bryologists around the world who are also connected to such a computer. It is effected by a program used like an MS-DOS command and extremely easy to use, even

for inexperienced computer users. To send a message, one has to type just "mail" and the E-mail address. Following the address, the message is written as on a typewriter (with carriage return at the line end) and to mail the message, simply a dot is typed in the last line and finished with carriage return. Within seconds, the message will reach a colleague at the other side of the world. When the addressee logs in next time into the host computer, he will be informed "you have mail" and by typing "mail" the message will be displayed. It can be then deleted or saved.

E-mail is as fast as fax (but is character orientated and only allows you to send text) and the costs are paid by the university.

Most universities in the world (probably all in the western countries of the northern hemisphere) run one or more of such host computers. For access to this computer you need a user's permit (which is a user code and a password) which you will get from the computer centre of your university. What you then need is a terminal for the host computer. This can

be a computer terminal in your department, faculty or in the computer centre, which is available to everyone. It is easier to use a personal computer (any make) which is connected to a university host computer. The connection is possible:

- through a network cable. Usually the buildings at the campus are connected by cable and a branch-line can be installed to your office. Byte transfer is very fast using a network card (e.g. Ethernet) or is sent at a lower transmission rate by a communication program.
- by phone. This allows access to the host also from remote places, buildings which are not situated at the campus, field stations, your home or a motel. In this case, a modem is required to connect to the phone line.

As well as E-mail messages, text files also can be transferred in this way, manuscripts, data files or even scanned picture files, and also programs. It should not be necessary any longer to copy these files to disk and mail them. Within seconds, they can be transferred electronically. Jan-Peter Frahm

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