

SAMUEL DOODY (1656-1706)

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This is one in a series of articles about prominent British and Irish field-bryologists of the past. The author would be very pleased to learn of any information which supplements its content.

A Social and Biographical History of British and Irish Field-bryologists is also available on-line at <http://britishbryologicalsociety.org.uk/>

Bryological career

Doody's particular botanical interests lay in mosses, fungi, and other non-flowering plants, and he advised John Ray about them for Ray's *Historia Plantarum* (Volume 2, 1686). The appendix to the second edition of Ray's *Synopsis* (1696) also contains a long list of plants that Doody had found.

Doody also knew and assisted Buddle, Plukenet, Petiver and Sloane, and was a member of the Temple Coffee House Botanical Club.

Doody prepared a draft for a publication that he intended about mosses; this lies in the Sloane manuscripts at the British Library (reference: Sloane, 2315). Some of his plants are in the Sloane herbarium at the Natural History Museum.

Family background and biography

Samuel Doody was born at Stafford on May 28th, 1656, the son of John Doody and his second wife Ann (or Anne, *née* Nicklin, 1633/34). Ann was a daughter of John Nicklin and Ann (*née* Kendall), and was born at Eccleshall, Staffordshire. John Doody's first wife was Jane Collier (born c.1625), daughter of Francis Collier and Ann (*née* Crompton).

John Doody was born at Hanchurch, Staffordshire in about 1621, and became an apothecary in Staffordshire and later moved to London, where he had a shop in the Strand. John and Ann had a second son, Joseph, who was born in Stafford in 1658. Joseph became a malster in Stafford.

Samuel followed his father into trade as an apothecary, and succeeded him in the business in about 1696. Samuel also worked as a gardener at the physic garden in Chelsea from the 1690s until his death.

Doody never married, and died in November 1706. He was buried at Hampstead, Middlesex.