

REVIEW

A. S. GEORGE (Ed.): Flora of Australia. Volume 35. Brunoniaceae, Goodeniaceae. Australian Government Publishing Service, Canberra, 1992. xviii + 351 pp., illus. Paperback. Price Aus.\$ 39.95. ISBN 0-664-14454-8. (Also cloth-bound, Aus.\$ 59.95. ISBN 0-664-14553-6.)

The Goodeniaceae is a fascinating family, nearly exclusively Australian. It comprises 11 genera with some 400 species. Most of the genera are small to medium; the largest genera are *Scaevola* with nearly 100 species and *Goodenia* with 178 Australian species. The closely allied Brunoniaceae is monotypic, strictly Australian.

By now the format of this series is well known. To its special attractions belong the fine colour photographs, especially in a family like the present one. Furthermore, it is illustrated with simple but clear habit pen-drawings, drawings and photographs of indumentum types, hairs, and seeds, and for every species a small map with the distribution within Australia. These maps, and the citation of up to five representative specimens per species, are insufficient to give an impression of rarity or commonness. Mention of the number of collections studied would do already.

After these positive points it is a pity that only skimming through the text is already sufficient to find several unnecessary imperfections; to mention only a few:

p. 18. On the strength of a character of the indumentum of the corolla the first couplet of the key to the species of *Lechenaultia* divides the genus into two groups. The second of these groups is section *Lechenaultia*, sp. 17–26. Sp. 24, *L. linarioides*, however, as to the indumentum character rightly included in section *Lechenaultia*, is in the key wrongly included in the first group and, accordingly, cannot be identified.

p. 101. *Scaevola* section *Enantiophyllum* is here ascribed to Miquel. Actually, this name is not even mentioned at the place given. The correct citation is Benth. & Hook., Gen. Pl. 2 (1876) 540. Furthermore, there is a note under the section: "A section of c. 10 species that are not well distinguished and may be only 1 very variable species ... the Australian representative of this complex is, however, treated here as a separate species." Accordingly, the species is named *S. enantiophylla* F. Muell. Unlike this, the note under the species reads: "The only species in the genus with opposite leaves." As this is the main character of section *Enantiophyllum* this means that this section is considered monotypic. And in that case the correct name of the species is *S. oppositifolia* R. Br.

p. 187/188. Note under sp. 36, *Goodenia perryi*: "Similar to *G. incana* which, however, has hairs on the outside of the corolla."; in the description of the same: "Corolla with few short hairs inside." Contrary to this the description of sp. 37, *G. incana*, reads also: "Corolla ... glabrous or with few short hairs inside." So what is the difference?

Nevertheless, this volume offers a valuable contribution to our knowledge, and an almost comprehensive survey of this interesting family, covering all its genera.

P. W. LEENHOUTS