

## REVIEWS

RAFAËL GOVAERTS, DAVID G. FRODIN & TERENCE D. PENNINGTON: **World checklist and bibliography of Sapotaceae**. Scientific Publications Department, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 2002. xi + 361 pp., illus. ISBN 1-900347-94-6. Price: GBP 57.50.

The Sapotaceae are a medium-sized family with, in the tropics, a world-wide distribution. Because of the variability of several characters its taxonomy at genus and species level is rather complicated and hence its nomenclature sometimes confusing. Producing a checklist for such a family is a brave, major undertaking. The principal authors, Govaerts and Frodin, were assisted in the first place by Pennington (system, genera, Neotropics) and furthermore by W. Vink (Leiden, for Malesia) and L. W. Jessup (Indooroopilly, for Australia).

As the title indicates the main body of the book (p. 25–337) is a checklist of names. Accepted names are given with author citation, publication place, distribution and synonyms. Genera are provided with some notes. With synonyms only author citation is given together with reference to the accepted name of which it is synonymous. The checklist is preceded by some general chapters and a selected bibliography. It is followed by lists of dubious and excluded taxa. Throughout the book several (unnumbered) pen and ink drawings are inserted.

The present volume on Sapotaceae should be useful for all taxonomists working on this family.

FRITS ADEMA

P.J.A. KEßLER: **A field guide to the important tree species of the Berau Region**. Berau Forest Management Project, Jakarta, 2000. x + 195 pp., illus. ISBN 979-96381-0-0. Price: unknown. Ibid.: **Pedoman lapangan mengenal jenis-jenis pohon penting daerah Berau**. [Alih bahasa: Jenny A. Kartawinata.] ISBN 979-96381-1-9. Price: unknown. To be ordered from: Berau Forest Management Project, Gedung Manggala Wanabakti, Jl. Jend. Gatot Subroto, Jakarta 10270, Indonesia.

An area as large and diverse as Indonesia has a comparable large and diverse flora. Writing a Flora for such an area is time consuming and results in a series of books that is impossible to take into the field. Even for the island of Borneo (where Berau is situated) a printed Flora comprises many volumes, which take a long time to produce. For practical work in flora inventory, ecology and nature conservation, more local Floras and field guides are very much in demand. The present field guide for the important trees of the Berau area is a good example of what is needed.

Keßler's field guide offers descriptions and drawings of all species discussed. It includes keys to the most speciose groups of which the Dipterocarpaceae are by far the most important. Most of the material used in making descriptions and drawings has been collected in the Berau area. Notes on uses of (groups of) species are included.

The English and Bahasa Indonesia versions are exactly the same but for the 'paper' used in printing. The English edition is printed on a kind of plastic, rather white and shiny, the Bahasa one on less plastic-like material, less shiny and, for most pages, more yellowish.

For all people working on and with tree species in the Berau Region of Borneo the book should be very useful.

FRITS ADEMA