

FAMILY NEWS***Acanthaceae***

Dr. R. SCOTLAND (OXF) has been awarded a Royal Society Research fellowship to monograph Strobilanthes. As many species flower only every 3 or 5 or 12 years. *If anyone is aware of a species coming in flower, please immediately warn him* (phone +865-275059, fax (0)865-275074, or write to Dept. of Plant Sciences, University of Oxford, South Parks Rd, Oxford OX1 3RB, Great Britain).

Aceraceae

Ms. A. NOORSIHA (KEP) revised *Acer* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Anacardiaceae

Mr. K.M. KOCHUMMEN (FRIM) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Annonaceae

Ms. E.C.H. VAN HEUSDEN (formerly of U, L, now in AAU) is revising *Sageraea* and *Stelechocarpus*.

Apocynaceae

Mr. KADE SIDYASA has embarked on a PhD study of the systematics and wood anatomy of the genus *Alstonia* at the Rijksherbarium/Hortus Botanicus, Leiden.

Araceae

See above paper by ALISTAIR HAY.

Areaceae

Mr. L.G. SAW (KEP) is continuing his study on the taxonomy and ecology of Malayan *Licuala*.

Bombacaceae

Under the guidance of Prof. E. SOEPADMO (FRIM) Mrs. SALMA IDRIS (MARDI) and Miss TUNKU KHALKAUSAR, T.F. (FRIM) are revising *Durio* and *Coelostegia*, respectively. Jointly the three botanists will prepare the manuscripts for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak and Flora Malesiana. Ms. I. SALMA is working for her Ph.D. - thesis at the University of Agriculture Malaysia under the supervision of Dr. R. KIEW.

Burseraceae

Mr. K.M. KOCHUMMEN (FRIM) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Caprifoliaceae

Dr. N.W. HATON (KLU) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Casuarinaceae

Ms. R.A.S. PUNGGGA (SAR) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Celastraceae

Mr. K.M. KOCHUMMEN (FRIM) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Cornaceae

Mr. R.C.K. CHUNG (KEP) revised *Mastixia* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Daphniphyllaceae

Dr. T.-C. HUANG (TAI) is continuing his study for the Flora Malesiana.

Erythroxylaceae

Mr. RICHARD C.K. CHUNG (FRIM) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Euphorbiaceae

Now that the treatment of the Sapindaceae has been finished, Leiden has chosen the Euphorbiaceae as its new target family, closely cooperating with the RBG Kew where much work has been done already by AIRY SHAW. Dr. P.C. VAN WELZEN is getting a working team together. The first two issues of the Euphorbiaceae Newsletter have been circulated.

Myricaceae, Opiliaceae & Sarcospermaceae

Ms. NOORSIHA AYOP (FRIM) is revising and preparing the manuscripts for the first two families and for *Sarcosperma* of the latter family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Oxalidaceae

Mr. R.C.K. CHUNG (KEP) is revising *Sarcotheca* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Poaceae

Dr. J.F. VELDKAMP (L) has finished the Eragrostoideae and has now embarked on the Paniceae. It has been observed that various exotic species have more or less recently been introduced in the area, e.g. *Sporobolus tenuissimus* from Africa and America has now been seen from Medan, Bogor, Purwodadi, and Malang. This species resembles *Eragrostis tenella* (*E. amabilis*) very much and often grows mixed with it. *Sporobolus indicus* var. *africanus* is vegetation-forming along roads in the Highlands of Papua New Guinea. *Lepturus radicans* from Africa has been found in a lawn in Kuala Lumpur. It may be one of the exotic species reportedly introduced to stabilize road-sides around that town. *Pennisetum polystachion* has become such a pest that several workshops have been dedicated to it. However, all these and perhaps (many) others, maybe well-known to local botanists, are virtually absent in the herbaria. Dr. VELDKAMP would be most obliged for information and material.

Rubiaceae

Dr. C. E. RIDSDALE (L) received a Mercer scholarship to visit the Gray Herbarium/Arnold Arboretum (fall 1993, summer 1994) to compile a checklist of the Rubiaceae for Borneo.