

II. PROGRESS IN MALESIAN BOTANY

*(continued from vol. 12 page 24)***Pteridophytes and allies**

Pteridophytes — The revision of the microsoroid *Polypodiaceae* by Dr. H.P. Nootboom (3 genera, 59 species, 1 new taxon, many new combinations) will appear in the forthcoming issue of *Blumea*, vol. 42: 261–395.

Angiosperms

Annonaceae — Mr. J. Mols (L) under the guidance of Dr. P.J.A. Keßler will revise *Phaeanthus*, after which a DNA analysis is planned to be undertaken at K (together with Dr. P.C. Bygrave).

Apocynaceae — Mr. K. Sidiyasa (L) has nearly finished his revision of *Alstonia*. He accepts 43 species (16 for Malesia) in 5 sections. A cladistic (phylogeny) analysis partially based also on wood anatomy has produced a satisfactory single cladogram which shows the relations between the sections and their species and according to which sect. *Winchia* had to be reduced to *Alstonia* s.s.

Asclepiadaceae — Ms. T. Livshultz (BH) intends to revise *Dischidia* for her PhD thesis and to prepare a phylogenetic reconstruction using both morphological and molecular data. She would like to elucidate the evolution and homology of the different flask-shaped leaves ('ascidia') found within the genus. The historical biogeography will also be analyzed.

Caryophyllaceae — Dr. K. Larsen (AAU) has almost finished the manuscript on the family. The first draft has been given to the editor in April 1997.

Compositae — Ms. Sri S. Tjitrosoedirdjo (SEAMEO-BIOTROP) is revising the family for Sumatra. An inventory of herbarium material has been made: 11 tribes, 65 genera, 114 species, of which at least 3 new. She is now working on the keys, diagnoses, and nomenclature. In 1996 she did some fieldwork in Sumatra (Lampung, Riau), where she found *Sphagneticola trilobata* (*Wedelia trilobata*) to be weedy and common. *Ageratum houstonianum* was found in the highlands of Gisting, Lampung (the only previous record was from Berastagi). *Porophyllum ruderale* was found in Riau (previous records were from Lampung & South Sumatra). A trip to Jambi in summer 1997 was delayed because smoke from forest fires made the airport inaccessible.

Connaraceae — Ms. M.W.K. Goh (SINU) is revising the family for the Angiosperm Flora of Singapore.

Cucurbitaceae — Dr. B.E.E. de Wilde-Duyfjes (L) has started revising *Hodgsonia*.

Euphorbiaceae — Dr. W. Stuppy (L) from 1 July 1997, under a 10-months visitor's grant from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO), is to revise the genera of the *Aleuritideae*. Together with Dr. P.C. van Welzen (L) a phylogenetic analysis of *Aleurites* (2 spp.), *Reutealis* (1), and *Vernicia* (3) has already been carried out;

the manuscript has been submitted to the *Ann. Missouri Bot. Gard.* Next he will turn his attention to the generic delimitations in the *Acalyphaeae* which includes *Mallotus* and *Macaranga* and numerous satellite genera.

Dr. P. C. van Welzen (L) finished the revision of *Clonostylus* (1 species, 1 specimen) and *Ricinus*. The results were used to elucidate the phylogeny of the *Lasiococcinae*. The latter (*Homonoia*, *Lasiococcia*, and *Spathiostemon*) appear to be a natural group of which *Ricinus* (which also has fascicled stamens) is no part, the fascicled stamens are a parallel development in both groups. Presently, the subtribe *Doryxylinae* is under revision (*Doryxylon*, *Melanolepis*, *Sumbaviopsis*, and *Thyrsanthera*, in total 5 species). The results will be used in a phylogenetic analysis with *Chrozophora* and *Chondrostylis*, which will be revised too.

In cooperation with some participants of the Bogor course a revision of the *Manihot* species introduced in Malesia has been made (2 spp.)

Fagaceae — Ms. P.W.L. Tan (SINU) is revising the family for the Angiosperm Flora of Singapore.

Hamamelidaceae — Dr. S.J. Lee (South Korea, temporarily at L) is studying the wood anatomy.

Lauraceae — Ms. D. Arifianai (BO, now MO) will study the species of *Endiandra* from Borneo.

Myristicaceae — Dr. B.E.E. de Wilde-Duyfjes (L) assists in completing the final manuscript/computer version of the revision for the Flora Malesiana.

Palmae — Dr. J. Dransfield (K) is preparing an account of the rattans of Brunei for the Forestry Department, Brunei Darussalam. As well as a traditional hard-copy version, he is, together with colleagues D.W. Kirkup, Ms. S. Barrow, H. Sanderson, and C. Abrahams, preparing a CD-ROM complete with an interactive key and numerous images. It is hoped to extend the interactive key to cover all Bornean rattans and perhaps more.

Rubiaceae — Mr. C. Tange (AAU) is continuing his work on the Malesian *Rondeletieae*.

Subscribe to listserver on the Internet:

listserv@anbg.gov.au with as message 'subscribe rubiaceae-l yourname' ('yourname' is, e.g., John Doe). Managed by C.F. Puttock (CANB): chrisp@pi.csiro.au Homepage is <http://www.anbg.gov.au/projects/rubiaceae/> where there are a number of searchable indices, e.g. one for Flora Malesiana.

Saxifragaceae — Dr. L.G. Saw (FRIM) has about finished his research on Bornean *Polyosma*. There are c. 10 new species.

Urticaceae — I am seeking expressions of interest, from potential contributors, in preparing an account of the *Urticaceae* for the 'Flora Malesiana' project. If there is sufficient interest, then I will organize a workshop on this family during the 'Fourth International Flora Malesiana Symposium', Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (19–25 July 1997). If

you are interested, and particularly, if you will be able to attend the above Symposium, please contact me as soon as possible. It would also be useful if you could specify your area of interest. — B.J. Conn, Royal Botanic Gardens, Birdwood Avenue, Sydney, N.S.W. 2000, Australia. e-mail: barry@rbgsyd.gov.au

Zingiberaceae — Dr. A. Poulsen (AAU) will start a revision of *Etilingera* for Malaysia.

Since Dr. R. Smith retired from E in 1993, the herbarium and living collections of the family have been curated by Dr. M. Newman. Research is no longer carried out by a staff member, but as requests for cooperation continue to come in, three students have been appointed now to do some research, supervised by Dr. Q. Cronk and M.F. Newman:

For her MSc degree Ms. M. Ardiyani (BO) will do a 3-month study of the infrageneric groupings of *Curcuma* using morphological and molecular techniques.

Mr. C. Ngamriabsakul (Walailak University, Nakhon Si Thammarat) is examining the phylogeny and biogeography of *Roscoea* for an MSc using ITS sequences and morphology.

Ms. A. Rangsiruji (Srinakarinwirot University, Bangkok) started her PhD studies in 1996 using ITS sequencing data to examine Smith's infrageneric classification of the genus *Alpinia*.