

III. EXPEDITIONS AND OTHER FIELDWORK

(continued from vol. 12 page 12)

Malay Peninsula — On April 5, 1979, Mr. N. Klazenga (L), together with Mr. Z. Ibrahim (KLU), made 21 mass collections of mosses (especially of *Dicranoloma*) in the Genting Highlands. The first set will be deposited in KLU, the remainder will be distributed from L.

Lesser Sunda Islands — *Timor* — A botanical trip to Besipae, Kabupaten Timor Tengah Selatan and Oemasi in Kabupaten Kupang was made by Messrs. Hamzah and T. Uji (BO) between 10 and 30 March, 1996. They collected 129 species of 9 families of plants.

Borneo (Kalimantan, Brunei, Sarawak, Sabah)

Sarawak — Messrs. R.M.A.P. Haegens and N. Klazenga (L) joined an expedition of KUCH organized by its staff member Mr. Julaihi Abdullah. Areas visited were: Melana Protected Forest, 11–20 April 1997, and Gunung Mulu National Park, 21 April–2 May. The Melana Protected Forest is currently being logged over. May 4: a few collections of *Baccaurea* were made in the Semengoh Forest Reserve. Klazenga (L) made c. 400 moss collections (especially of *Dicranoloma*), Haegens c. 255, and Abdullah c. 160. First sets will be deposited in KUCH, the remainder will be distributed from L.

Sabah — Between 8–10 May 1997, Messrs. R.M.A.P. Haegens and N. Klazenga (L) visited the Mount Kinabalu National Park together with Mr. P. Miun (SAN) and

Mr. J. Gisil from the Kinabalu Herbarium. About 260 field collections of mosses were made. Between 12–22 May they joined an expedition to Batu Punggul and Batu Urun organized by Dr. R. Kiew (UPM) and Mr. A.L. Lamb of the Agricultural Research Center Tenom, supported by the staff of SAN. Kiew is making an inventarization of the limestone hills in Sabah. During this trip Mr. N. Klazenga (L) made c. 200 moss collections, Kiew c. 150, and Haegens c. 80. First sets will be deposited in SAN, the remainder will be distributed from L.

New Guinea (Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea)

Irian Jaya — Kew's Irian Jaya project (see Fl. Males. Bull. 11/4: 229–230; 11/7: 479–480), funded by the John D. & Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, is now 'winding down'. Ms. J. Marsden's 12-month period of employment with the project came to an end on 30 June 1997. Four reports for limited circulation among interested institutions and individuals have been generated:

Coode, M.J.E., S.C. Hinchcliffe & J. Marsden. *Checklist of the flowering plants of N.E. Kepala Burung (Vogelkop), Irian Jaya, Indonesia.*

Johns, R.J. 1997. *Background papers for the study of the flora and vegetation of the N.E. Kepala Burung (Vogelkop).*

Johns, R.J., P.J. Edwards & D. Kowalska. 1997. *A checklist of the fern allies, ferns and gymnosperms of the N.E. Kepala Burung (Vogelkop), Irian Jaya, Indonesia.*

Marsden, J. *Gazetteer of place names in the N.E. Kepala Burung (Vogelkop), Irian Jaya, Indonesia.*

The Checklists and Gazetteer are still in a very preliminary state, but at present are better than nothing!

The flowering plant checklist was generated from the specimen database at the heart of the project, and consists of an alphabetic list of taxa by family, genus, and species with specimens. Specimens collected under the auspices of the MacArthur grant can be distinguished by a different typography.

The Checklist by Johns et al. is fuller, giving literature citations and notes. Accounts are in preparation for a similar, more detailed treatment for *Gramineae* and *Rubiaceae*.

Copies of the database are to be distributed to BO, GH, L, and MAN. We know there are big gaps in the database – particularly, blocks of BW numbers seem to be missing – but it is a start and could be combined with others to make an eventual Irian Jaya-wide data base.

The final phase of this project will be the informal training for 6 months after September 1997, of Mr. R. Maturbongs (Cenderawasih University, Manokwari) at Kew; he will attend an intensive English language course and, by undertaking projects with Dr. J. Dransfield, will build on his existing studies of rattans in Irian Jaya.

From April 1995 to October 1996 Ms. W. Avé (L) carried out ethnobotanical research for her PhD in Ayawasi, Bird's Head, Irian Jaya. In collaboration with Mesrss. C.E. Ridsdale, M. Polak, and E.F. de Vogel c. 2000 collections with data on uses were made that still await further analysis.

In August 1997 an expedition was made to the Yapen Tengah Nature Reserve, Yapen Island by Dr. T. Partomihardjo, A. Ruskandi, E. A. Widjaja (BO), Sudaryanti, and Suparno (Museum Zoologicum Bogoriense). TP and AR studied the ecology of various plots, EAW did the botanical exploration, while the zoologists went bird-watching and collecting. From the area of the Ambaidiru and Kontiunai Villages 382 specimens were collected.

ISIR Programme — During the past year the collections made by various collectors in the central Bird's Head Peninsula in 1995–1996 have been intensively studied and of course there were many very interesting ones. Some species previously known from a few specimens only, turned out to be quite common in the research area, e. g., *Neonau-
clea vinkiorum* and *Macaranga suwo*. New species were found in the genera *Bikkia*, *Canarium*, *Codiaeum*, *Glochidion*, *Hymenandra*, *Myristica*, and *Octamyrtus*. The new *Hymenandra* causes a considerable range extension as the genus was hitherto not known east of Borneo. No doubt more novelties are to be expected when more specialists have studied the material. — M. Polak (polak@rulrhb.leidenuniv.nl)

Papua New Guinea — Dr. C. Lumer (UPNG) and her students are currently sampling the phenology of the Motupore Island flora.