

FROM THE EDITORS

Again we are very happy with the large number of notes and manuscripts we received for this third spring issue. Please continue to send us items and manuscripts!

Prof. Aprilani stood down as Chairman of the Foundation Flora Malesian. He is heartily thanked for acting as Chairman during the past four years; we are all glad that he stays on the Board and continues his huge support for the case of FM. Dr. Barlow and Prof. Lucas both resigned from the Board and are also heartily thanked for their tremendous support for the case of FM.

The time the present spring issue appears actually is summer time. We are very sorry for the delay in publishing, which is partly due to the official opening of the Van Steenis building by Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands (for a report see below).

1995 was the year of the successful Third Flora Malesiana Symposium. Our colleagues at Kew are heartily thanked for the splendid organisation and the stimulating programme. We are convinced that it has given an extra incentive to the ever high spirit in our collaborative network and to the ongoing taxonomic work. Some people may call the present progress 'glacial' (Whitmore, T. 1996. Kew Bull. 51: 421), but Prof. Aprilani, when standing down as chairman of the Foundation Flora Malesiana, stated that we can be proud of what has been achieved so far. He nevertheless urged us to work harder to complete FM and to seek next funding and increase the number of taxonomists. He noted the overall decline in experienced taxonomists but was encouraged by the number of young ones at the FM Symposium.

Another notable occasion in 1995 has been the production in co-operation with ETI (Expert-center for Taxonomic Identification) of a demonstration CD-ROM on *Platynerium* as a tryout of presenting FM information in multimedia format. We hope that this initiative to make use of the possibilities the multimedia format provides especially for developing identification tools, will get follow-up.

The views expressed in the Flora Malesiana Bulletin do not necessarily reflect those of the Herbarium Bogoriense, Bogor, the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, or the Rijksherbarium/Hortus Botanicus, Leiden.