REVIEW

A.J.M. LEEUWENBERG: A revision of Tabernaemontana. The Old World species. Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, 1991. xii + 213 pp., illus. Paperback. Price £ 19.50. ISBN 0-947-64330-3.

This monograph is a fine example of the thorough work we may expect from Wageningen in general, from its author in special. What present-day botanist gets the opportunity to study the material of his group from about a hundred herbaria all over the world and more than half the number of species in nature!

Each species gets: nomenclature, typification and literature; an extensive description about 1 page long; short paragraphs on Distribution and Ecology; a citation of (part of) the specimens studied, including the precise locality and the herbaria; sometimes one or a few note(s); full-page drawing and map.

The present is the first volume including the 55 species from Africa, Asia, Australia and the Pacific. A second volume will give the American species, about the same number. In the first volume the general chapters are few and short, mainly one page on geography, a key to the ten genera of the Tabernaemontaneae, and three keys to the species of Africa, of Madagascar and neighbouring islands, and to those of Asia, Australia and the Pacific. We hope that the second volume will give more, and more extensive, general chapters on morphology, systematics, maybe geography, to give just a few examples.

Summarizing, and as far as can be judged from just turning over the pages, a valuable monograph. Our congratulations to the author.

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