

## REVIEWS

N.G. WALSH & T.J. ENTWISLE (eds.): **Flora of Victoria. Volume 3. Dicotyledons, Winteraceae to Myrtaceae.** Inkata Press, Melbourne, Sydney, 1996. xi + 1093 pp., illus. ISBN 0-409-30852-8. Price: £ 130. (Books may be ordered from: Customer Services Department, Heinemann Publishers Oxford, P.O. Box 382, Oxford OX2 3 RU, United Kingdom).

This is the third volume in a series of four, and the second that deals entirely with taxonomic treatments, covering the first part of the Dicotyledons from *Winteraceae* to *Myrtaceae*. The book is beautifully executed along the lines already discussed and praised in the review of the second volume [J.F. Veldkamp, *Blumea* 42 (1): 259–260]. The present volume includes 16 colour plates and line drawings showing useful details of most species. Distribution maps of all species are included. A glossary (partly illustrated), a list of references, and an index concludes the volume.

This well printed book should find its way to all people interested in the flora of Australia, and that of Victoria especially.

F. ADEMA

TAKASI YAMAZAKI: **A revision of the genus *Rhododendron* in Japan, Taiwan, Korea and Sakhalin.** Tsumura Laboratory, Tokyo, 1996. v + 179 pp., 2 col. plates, illus. ISBN 4-924-876-02-1, P1045P5000E. Price: ¥ 6,000 (incl. postage, surface mail; extra charge for airmail: ¥ 600).

This book contains a monograph of the genus *Rhododendron* (Ericaceae) in Japan, Taiwan, Korea, and Sakhalin. It gives accepted names and synonyms, full descriptions of species or varieties, distribution data, and long lists of specimens examined. All species are illustrated by photographs and distribution maps; four species are illustrated also by colour plates. Keys to the subgenera and, under the subgenera, to the sections, series, and species, make identification possible. For the keys the indented format is used, and usually, because of the low number of taxa, without any trouble. However, in the large subgenus *Sciadorhodion* this format, by the rhythmic repeat of the same letters and the interspersing of figures, may be rather confusing.

The genus *Rhododendron* is not described; instead a discussion of taxonomic characters is given. The book treats 67 species, 18 natural hybrids, and 3 artificial hybrids. Twenty-six species are divided into 2 to 5 varieties, one species has 2 subspecies. The total number of varieties is 63. For only seven species, with together 24 varieties, keys to the varieties are given. If species are divided into varieties, no species description is given; instead one or all varieties are described along the lines species are described.

Apart from these minor minus points the book is a fine example of a classical taxonomic treatment. It should find its way to all *Rhododendron*-fanciers.

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