

XIII. THE RE-ORGANISATION OF THE AGARICALES COLLECTIONS IN THE HERBARIUM BOGORIENSE (BO)

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From a mycological viewpoint the diversity of Indonesian mushrooms is barely known. Some visiting mycologists and plant pathologists have studied the Indonesian mycota since 1844, but only about 1400 specimens collected from the many areas of Indonesia are now present in the Herbarium Bogoriense (BO). Moreover, very little information about the taxa they represent is available because of the poor descriptions of basidiome morphology, micromorphology, and ecology. They are hardly adequate specimens for mycological research.

There were several reasons which have caused this paucity in the research of fungal taxonomy:

- 1) lack of inventory;
- 2) absence of human resources;
- 3) too few collections.

In order to augment this unsatisfactory condition of the fungal collections, particularly of the Agaricales, I initiated a re-organisation of the BO collections.

To increase the quality of the collections I have also begun to collect mushrooms in several different areas of Java and Bali. The goal of this research is to improve the knowledge of Indonesian fungi, for after almost 60 years there has been little progress. From 1997 investigations, aimed primarily at mushrooms, were conducted at a number of underexplored sites as well as at well-known and historically important mycological collecting areas. Although these studies as yet are only preliminary, quite a few new collections of good quality could be added to the Herbarium Bogoriense (BO).

In 2000 under the supervision of Dr. E. Horak the specimens were sorted, identified, and re-arranged according to the requirements of modern management.

As a result, c. 1400 old collections and c. 1500 new ones are present in BO. They are arranged in alphabetical order based on the genera and species, and are kept in appropriate collection boxes.

It is hoped that this first effort will attract other Indonesians to study this subject seriously. With additional studies it is expected that the surface of the diversity of mushrooms can be scratched, so that some data can be contributed to the general survey of biodiversity in Indonesia.

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