

FAMILY NEWS***Pteridophytes and allies***

Dr. D. Darnaedi (BO) and an M.Sc. student are carrying out a fern floristic study in the Gunung Halimun National Park with the aim to write a popular field guide.

Cytological work on dryopteroid ferns in the Gedeh Pangrango National Park has been carried out by Dr. D. Darnaedi (BO) and an M. Sc. student. Preliminary studies demonstrated the polyploidy occurring there.

Polypodiaceae — Dr. P.H. Hovenkamp (L) has handed in the manuscript for Flora Malesiana, partly based on the precursor Dr. H.P. Nootboom (L) has prepared for the microsoroid genera. The latter will be published in *Blumea*.

Pteridaceae — Dr. H. Schneider (L) has started a revision of the *Taenitioideae* and the *Cheilantheoideae* for the Flora Malesiana. The first is represented by 7 genera (c. 34 spp.), the second by 5 genera (c. 25 spp.).

Angiosperms

Apocynaceae — Work is well under progress for Flora Malesiana. Out of the 41 native genera to be included in the account 24 have been completed and all but two are earmarked for completion in the next 5 years or so. The genera currently being revised are *Alyxia* by Dr. D.J. Middleton (L), *Cerbera* by Dr. A.J.M. Leeuwenberg (WAG), and *Epi gynum* and *Trachelospermum* by Mr. Y.-P. Yang (WAG).

Mr. Hendrian (Kebun Raya, Bogor) has obtained a grant from the Foreign Office of the Leiden University to revise *Rauvolfia*.

Mr. J. Kuijt and Dr. R.W.J.M. van der Ham (L) completed a pollen morphological study of *Alstonia*. Four distinct pollen types could be recognized, which reflects the classification by Mr. K. Sidiyasa (L) fairly well.

The latter is almost finished with the revision of *Alstonia*. There will be 43 recognized species (16 in Malesia), of which 5 appear to be undescribed. Most varieties previously described have been put into synonymy.

Dr. L.G. Saw (KEP) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Aquifoliaceae — Ms. S. Andrews (K) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Bombacaceae — Ms. Julia (KEP) is revising *Neesia* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 4.

Compositae — Mr. S. Hidayat (Kebun Raya, Bogor) is studying *Sonchus* for Indonesia. He is especially interested in traditional medicinal uses of the family in Indonesia, about which he hopes to publish a book in Bahasa Indonesia, titled '*Asteraceae yang berpotensi obat*'.

Cucurbitaceae — Dr. W.J.J.O. de Wilde and Dr. B.E.E. de Wilde-Duyfjes (L) have started the revision for the Flora Malesiana. In the past year they verified the BO collections during their sabbatical leave.

Ms. Rugayah (BO) revises the largest genus, *Trichosanthes*, for her Ph.D.

Cunoniaceae — Dr. H. Keng (SING) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Dipterocarpaceae — Mr. Sutjipto (BO) finished his M.Sc. degree on *Hopea* in Irian Jaya under the guidance of Drs. E. Guhardja, M.A. Rifai, and E.A. Widjaja.

Euphorbiaceae — Ms. S. Bollendorf (L) has started to revise *Mallotus* sect. *Polyadenii* in cooperation with Mr. J.W.F. Slik (L) under supervision of Dr. P.C. van Welzen (L).

Dr. S. Dressler finished the revision of the Philippine species of *Cleistanthus*. He has taken the post of Curator of the herbarium Senckenbergianum in Frankfurt a/M, Germany. E-mail: sdressle@sngkw.uni-frankfurt.de. He is now working on New World *Marcgraviaceae*.

Ms. P. Hoffmann (formerly B, K, now L) started work in January 1997 under a 1-year visitor's grant from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) to finish her studies on *Antidesma* for the Flora Malesiana and Flora of Thailand.

Dr. P.C. van Welzen (L) has revised the *Lasiococcinae* with *Homonoia* (2 spp.), *Lasiococca* (3), and *Spathiostemon*. He also finished the revision of *Wetria* (3, 1 new), and has embarked on *Clonostylus* and *Ricinus*.

Together with Dr. H.-J. Esser (TCD) and Ms. T. Djawarningsih (BO) a phylogeny of the Malesian *Hippomaneae* was made in order to find the best generic delimitations.

Fagaceae — Ms. Julia (KEP) is revising *Castanopsis* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Gramineae — Ms. R. Arpan (BO) studied the bamboo flora of the Bukit Barisan National Park, Sumatra, while Mr. M.T. Lasut (BO) worked on the bamboo flora in the Bogani Nani Wartabone National Park, formerly the Dumoga Bone National Park, in N. Celebes. Both hope to get a M.Sc. degree under the guidance of Drs. E. Guhardja, M.A. Rifai, and E.A. Widjaja.

Hernandiaceae — Dr. L.G. Saw (KEP) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Lauraceae — Ms. A. Noorsiha (KEP) is revising *Artocarpus* (*Moraceae*) and *Cinnamomum* (*Lauraceae*) for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 8.

Leguminosae — Dr. F.A.C.B. Adema (L) has started on the *Millettieae* with *Aganope* (2 spp.), *Endosamara* (1), and *Sarcodium* (1) done. He now has embarked on the thankless task of disentangling the *Derris/Millettia/Pongamia* complex.

In cooperation with ETI (Expert Centre for Taxonomic Identification, Amsterdam) a team of Adema, Dr. J.W.A. Ridder-Numan, Dr. I. de Kort, and Dr. M.T.M. Bosman is preparing a CD-ROM for the Malesian representatives of the family.

Dr. Ding Hou (L) finished a draft of the genera *Abrus*, *Sesbania*, and the complicated *Vigna* for the Flora Malesiana. He is also making a treatment of the *Caesalpinioideae* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Melastomataceae — Ms. S. Bodegom (L) finished a revision of a most peculiar group of *Medinilla* restricted to Papua New Guinea, which have lateral appendages ('pseudo-stipules') at the base of the apparent petiole. There are 15 taxa, of which 2 had been described previously without the authors being aware of these pseudo-stipules, although they may be fairly large and purple-coloured. Such appendages were only known from *Astronidium miraculum-dei* (of a different subfamily!) from the nearby Solomons.

Mr. K. Meyer (MJG) is revising *Melastoma*, c. 30 spp. with c. 200 names.

Meliaceae — Dr. D.J. Mabberley (L, NSW) is preparing an account for 'Kubitzki'. Together with Dr. M. Large (MPN) and Dr. J. Braggins (AKU) work on the sexual habits of *Dysoxylum* is being carried out and monographic work on the genus is being completed with the help of Ms. A. Sing (OXF).

Dr. C.M. Pannell (OXF) is revising *Aglaia* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Moraceae — The proceedings of the Fifth international symposium on Fig biology, 1994, Bergen, Norway, have been published in *J. Biogeogr.* 23 (1996) 405–607.

Mr. K.M. Kochummen (KEP) is revising *Ficus* for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 4.

Ms. A. Noorsiha (KEP) is revising *Artocarpus* for Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 4.

Myristicaceae — Dr. W.J.J.O. de Wilde (L) is practically ready with the huge (c. 350 spp.) Flora Malesiana manuscript and will submit a revision for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Myrsinaceae — Dr. C.-M. Hu (IBSC) with a visitor's grant from the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) will study the family for a year in L. He estimates the presence in Malesia of 16 genera with c. 500 species. He started with the revision of *Ardisia* with 280 described species, beginning with the subgenera *Akosmos*, *Pimelandra*, and *Stylardisia*.

Oleaceae — Dr. R. Kiew (UPM) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Orchidaceae — Dr. E.F. de Vogel and Mr. A. Schuiteman (L) jointly work on a *database containing all names of Orchidaceae occurring in Southeast Asia*. The database now contains over 24,500 records. Synonyms are included, together with cross references to proper names and currently accepted names. The inclusion of types is in progress, and ready for about two third of all records. Distribution in Malesia is split out to the major islands and island groups as well as to state. This database is constantly updated with new literature, and will form the backbone of a series of CD-ROMs on Malesian *Orchidaceae* which is now in the planning stage. Mr. Schuiteman and Dr. de Vogel produced a demonstration CD-ROM containing 48 species with 200 illustrations in colour and black-and-white, and an interactive synoptical key. This drew much attention during the 1997 European Orchid Congress in Geneva, Switzerland.

Dr. de Vogel continues his work on *Coelogyne* sect. *Moniliformes*.

From November 1995 onwards, Ms. B. Gravendeel (L) has been doing a Ph.D. research on three sections of *Coelogyne*. In the beginning of 1997 she finished the taxonomic part of sect. *Speciosae*. The number of its taxa was reduced to 16. Phylogenetic analyses are being made of these and the taxa of sect. *Fuliginosae* and *Tomentosae* based on morphological and anatomical data. From May 1997 onwards a study will be made of molecular data at the University of Amsterdam under the guidance of Dr. K. Bachmann. For 1998 collecting trips are planned to Peninsular Malaysia (e.g. to the Cameron Highlands, Taman Negara National Park, if possible, and Pulau Tioman) and Sumatra (Gunung Leuser National Park and surroundings of Bukittinggi).

Mr. P. Pelsner (L) has finished a revision of *Coelogyne* sect. *Fuliginosae* under the guidance of Ms. B. Gravendeel.

Mr. A. Schuiteman (L) is writing a book on highland orchids of New Guinea, which will contain a selection of the more common and/or interesting species occurring above c. 1500 m altitude in Papua New Guinea and Irian Jaya.

Palmae — Dr. A. Barfod (AAU) continues his work on a revision of *Licuala*. The joint work of Barfod and Dr. J. Dransfield (K) on the palms of Thailand continues.

Mr. A. Damborg (AAU) works on *Livistona* using DNA analysis.

Dr. L.G. Saw (FRIM) is continuing his revision of *Licuala* for Borneo.

Pandanaceae — Mr. A.L. Suebu (Lorentz Park, Irian Jaya; temporarily in L) is studying Irian Jaya species of *Pandanus* under the guidance of Dr. E.F. de Vogel.

Polygalaceae — Mr. R.C.K. Chung (KEP) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 6.

Proteaceae — Mr. R.C.K. Chung (KEP) is revising *Helicia* and *Heliciopsis* for the Tree Flora Sabah and Sarawak vol. 3.

Rubiaceae — Mr. R. Azmi (WWF-Malaysia, SAN) is revising *Ceriscoides* for Sabah under the supervision of Dr. K.M. Wong and Dr. A.L. Lim. There appear to be two species in Sabah.

Mr. C. Tange (AAU) is continuing his work on the Malesian *Rondeletieae* for a Ph.D. thesis.

Dr. D.D. Tirvengadam (P) has about finished an overview of the *Gardenieae*.

Rutaceae — Dr. D.J. Mabberley (L, NSW) has prepared an account of the *Aurantioideae* for the Flora of Australia. This necessitated a complete overhaul of the genera of the *Citreae*, which has repercussions for the Flora Malesiana, and a new classification of cultivated taxa of *Citrus*.

Sabiaceae — Dr. L.G. Saw (KEP) is revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Santalaceae — Ms. J. Macklin (TCD) is revising the family for her Ph.D.

Sapotaceae — Messrs. P.P.K. Chai, P.C. Yii, A.P. Abang Mohtar, A. Julaihi, M. Mohizah & S. Teo (SAR), Ms. A. Noorsiha (KEP), and Mr. J.T. Pereira (SAN) are revising the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak.

Saxifragaceae — Dr. L.G. Saw (FRIM) is revising *Polyosma* region by region. Finished are the Malay Peninsula and Borneo, nearly done are the Philippines, and next will be New Guinea with an unknown amount of taxa.

Styracaceae — Dr. P. Fritsch (CAS) is studying systematics and evolution with particular emphasis on the biogeography and molecular phylogenetics.

Theaceae — Ms. L.M. Prince (NCU) is studying *Gordonia*.

Tiliaceae — Mr. R.C.K. Chung (KEP) is continuing his Ph.D. studies on the taxonomy and anatomy of the Malaysian species of *Grewia* and *Microcos* and the revision of the family for the Tree Flora of Sabah and Sarawak vol. 4.

Verbenaceae — Dr. D.J. Mabberley (L, NSW) is coordinating revision of the family for the Flora Malesiana and is actively seeking funding for this work. His last Oxford research student, Mr. R. de Kok, is submitting his Ph.D. thesis in Oxford. It will include a full treatment of *Faradaya* and *Hosea* as well as the predominantly New Caledonian *Oxera*. A paper on *Rothea* (*Clerodendrum*, p.p.) with Dr. D. Steane (HO) is in press, as well as the molecular work of the latter's thesis on *Clerodendrum* s.l.

Zingiberaceae — Ms. R.J. Searle (AAU & RNG) has revised *Kaempferia* and initiated a revision of *Scaphoclamys*.

Dr. K. Larsen (AAU) is working on a checklist for *Zingiberaceae* for the Malesian region as a base for revision of the family for Flora Malesiana and a revision of *Boesenbergia*. Several new species of *Zingiber* and *Boesenbergia* are being described.

Ms. I. Theilade (AAU) is continuing work on *Zingiber* for Flora Malesiana.