

**VIII. THE CEBU STATE COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE HERBARIUM, LAHUG,
CEBU CITY, THE PHILIPPINES**

I. E. BUOT JR.

Herbarium, Agricultural Biology Laboratory,
CSCST-College of Agriculture, Lahug,
Cebu City 6000, The Philippines

Recognizing the vital role that a herbarium plays in instruction, research, and public service, the Cebu State College of Science and Technology College of Agriculture (CSCST-CA) in Lahug, Cebu City, the Philippines, founded a herbarium in June 1987. It is a very humble scientific project of the Agricultural Biology Laboratory of the College, and it is the second in the entire region, the USC Herbarium being the first (Seidenschwarz, 1990).

The 4 year old CSCST-CA Herbarium started with very few specimens collected by the author from Cabra Islet, Lubang Island, Occidental Mindoro, which he had made as part of his M.Sc. degree at the University of the Philippines at Los Baños (UPLB) (see also Buot, 1988). Since 1987 the Herbarium has steadily increased its collections through the help of Ecology and Biology students.

At last count in October 1991 the CSCST-CA Herbarium had more than 3,000 botanical specimens in its four sections: Spermatophyta, Pteridophyta, Bryophyta, and Thallophyta.

The Spermatophyta is the largest section by far with more than 2,000 specimens. These are composed of weeds associated with lowland and upland agriculture at both low and high elevations. Others are collections from upland forests, islands, and mangrove forests.

Many specimens of the Pteridophyta section were collected from the high mountains of the Province of Benguet, Northern Luzon, acquired through exchange with UPLB.

The Bryophyta section has mosses and liverworts from Man Mantalongon, Dalaguete, Cebu, and from Benguet.

The Thallophyta section contains mainly algae and fungi. The latter include species that are economically important to agriculture.

Aside from those made by the author major collectors who have contributed to the CSCST-CA herbarium are: Ms. A. B. ADLAO, Dr. N. O. AGUILAR, Ms. V. O. GAMBOA, Mr. A. C. GESTA, Mr. S. V. MEJIA, Mr. F. M. TATOY, and Mr. D. B. TOLENTINO.

At present the Botanical Society of the College is actively involved in the collections and it is setting aside a humble amount to support deserving student researches, both taxonomic and ecological.

The major goal of the CSCST-CA Herbarium is to document the vegetation, especially the rapidly disappearing ones of the entire Central Visayas region and its vicinities. Special attention is paid to the vegetation of the College Campus (Jacalan & Buot, 1988; Tatoy & Baclayon, 1990), the remains of the Tabunan Forest (Reas, 1991), and the forest of Dalaguete (Gesta, 1990; Tautu-an, 1990). The Herbarium also studies the island vegetations, e.g. Camotes Island (Cebu) (Bojos, 1990; Espina, 1990; Morata, 1990) and Sipawaii Island (Negros Occidental) (Tribunalo, 1991), and the vegetation of stressed ecosystems, weeds, and fungal flora (Tatoy, 1991).

The Herbarium welcomes specimens from individuals or from other herbaria both in the Philippines and abroad. Specimens for exchange are also most welcome.

LITERATURE

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