

V. HERBARIA, GARDENS, ORGANIZATIONS*(continued from page 492)*

University herbaria type specimen collection databases are available on the World-Wide Web at: <http://www.herbaria.harvard.edu>

Leiden on the World-Wide Web — To show that we are with the time, the Bulletin has set a first step on the WWW. Dr. P.H. Hovenkamp (L) gradually is putting the bibliographies of the last issues (and this one, too) on the web so that you can more easily consult *and* browse. We can be found on:

<http://rulrhb.leidenuniv.nl/www/pubs/fmbull/biblio.html>

Dutch Type Registration Project — The first steps have been taken in the preparation of CD-ROM treatments of Flora Malesiana families: in cooperation with ETI (Amsterdam), Dr. J.W.A. Ridder-Numan and Dr. I. de Kort (L) hope to finish the *Leguminosae* in 2.5 years time; Mr. A. Schuiteman (L) will put the Malesian genera of the *Orchidaceae* on disk, while Dr. E.M. Bakker (U) will treat the *Annonaceae* on a world-wide basis.

Mr. L.P.M. Willemse (L) is supervising a 2-year project to register in a database the plant type specimens present in the four major herbaria of the Netherlands: AMD, L, U, and WAG. The estimated 57,000 sheets (46,000 in L) will be scanned-in also for easy reference: perhaps as CD-ROM or on the Internet. The project is funded by NWO, the Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research.

Plant taxonomy training course — From November 11–December 13 the Regional training course in Plant taxonomy, sponsored by UNESCO-MAB, MacArthur Foundation, LIPI, and the Rijksherbarium/Hortus Botanicus Leiden was held in Bogor. Nineteen students from Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam participated in this course, concentrating on methods and approaches to the preparation of Floras for biosphere reserves and other protected areas in Southeast Asia.

Centennial Royal Forest Department of Thailand — One of the activities organised in 1996 to commemorate the centennial of the Royal Forest Department was the Flora of Thailand Symposium in Phuket in September. Some 140 botanists participated in this very successful and lively symposium, many of them also active in the Flora Malesiana network. In the course of the meeting we were informed about the progress of other nearby Flora projects such as Nepal and the Flore du Laos, du Cambodge et du Viêtnam as well as more general topics relating to plants from southern China, Vietnam and the Malay Peninsula. Central to the meeting though were reports on the ecology, biogeography and systematics of a number of families in Thailand itself and a report on the progress of the Flora to date. On the last day an excursion was organised to see *Kerriodoxa elegans*, a palm only found in Phuket and the neighbouring mainland, and an excursion to the spectacular Phangnga Bay, somewhat dampened by a tropical downpour but enjoyable nevertheless. During the symposium the Board of the Foundation Flora Malesiana also met, mainly to discuss new fund raising strategies. A more detailed report will come in the next issue.