IV. PROGRESS IN MALESIAN BOTANY

(addition to pages 2980-2986)

Institutes are abbreviated according to the Index Herbariorum list

Annonaceae. Dr. P. S. A s h t o n (A) has agreed to start a revision of this family for the Flora Malesiana.

Araceae. Dr. Josef B o g n e r (M) is completing work on the philodendroids of Borneo. He found that Bucephalandra was mis-described and illustrated with parietal instead of basal placentation. As a result he reduced Microcasia to it. See also the Bibliography.

As US, Dr. Dan N i c o l s o n wrote up the family for A.C. Smith's Flora of Fiji (in press).

Aristolochiaceae. At L, Dr. D i n g H o u continued work for his Flora Malesiana revision and completed a first survey which yielded unexpected interesting results.

Bombacaceae. Professor E. S o e p a d m o (KLU) will undertake the revision of this family for the Flora Malesiana.

Boraginaceae. Dr. H. R i e d l (W) has agreed to revise this family for the Flora Malesiana. Cynoglossum is to be tackled by Peter F. S t e v e n s (A).

Commelinaceae. At Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, India, Dr. R. S. R a o is pursuing his work on the family, recently studying Belosynapsis.

Compositae. At L, Miss J. Th. K o s t e r completed her MS on the Heliantheae of New Guinea, the 6th in the series. She now works on the Senecioneae.

Convolvulaceae. At BRI, R. W. J o h n s o n revised Operculina for Australia, supplemented with study of plants grown in the glasshouse.

Cyperaceae. At L, Dr. H. P. N o o t e b o o m completed Carex and Uncinia for the Flora Malesiana.

Elaeagnaceae. Students at L established for Malesia only 2 species: Elaeagnus conferta and E. triflora.

Ericaceae. At E, Dr. G. A r g e n t is working on the family with emphasis on horticultural aspects. At A, Peter F. S t e v e n s is shaping up ideas on their evolution, with emphasis on Malesia.

Ferns. At L, Dr. E. H e n n i p m a n, together with Mrs. Dr. T. S e n from Kalyani, India, continued their investigation of the fine structure of spores in Polypodiaceae. Student W. J. R a v e n s b e r g concluded his revision of Drymoglossum and Saxiglossum, which must be incorporated into Pyrrosia. Other students are working on Belvisia and Platycerium.

At CGE, Mrs. Barbara S. P a r r i s Croxall prepared a Flora Malesiana account of Doodia (Blechnaceae).

Flacourtiaceae. At CANB, L. A. C r a v e n has prepared a MS on Homalium in Papuasia, 11 sp. (formerly 3).

Geraniaceae. At L, Dr. J. F. V e l d k a m p and Mr. A. M o e r m a n made a new revision of Geranium for Flora Malesiana, elaborating the many new collections from the Papuan Alps, resulting in a spectacular increase of species. See also the Bibliography.

Gesneriaceae. At E, Mr. B. L. B u r t t made good progress in Boea, Paraboea, and allied genera. His revision of Monophyllaea was published.

Gramineae. At L, Dr. J. F. V e l d k a m p slowed down his work on Poa to scrutinize grasses for Dr. P. van Royen's alpine Flora of New Guinea. As a result, Ancistagrostis was merged with Deyeuxia under the latter, and Monostachya was put under Danthonia.

Leguminosae. At L, Mr. R. G e e s i n k continued work on Derris and Millettia. His key to the SE. Asian genera was further revised and issued. He is also working on a review of the Tephrosieae at generic level, for the Proceedings of the Kew Legume Conference, in cooperation with Mrs. T. Baretta-Kuipers at Utrecht for wood anatomy.

At CANB, Dr. A. K a n i s finished a MS on Serianthes in Papuasia.

At P, J. E. V i d a l and S. H u l T h o l made a numerical study of the tribe Caesalpinieae, for publication in Advances of Legume Systematics. They completed the Phaseoleae for the Flore du Cambodge, Laos et Vietnam, and embarked on a similar revision for the Flora of Thailand. The Caesalpiniaceae for the Flore du CLV by K. L a r s e n and J. E. V i d a l have been completed; so have the Mimosaceae by I. N i e l s e n (AAH), due for publication in 1979.

Students at L contributed their share: Miss M. B r e s s e r on Phylacium; Mr. S. d e n H e n g s t is still engaged on Dioclea, Dysolobium, Luzonia, Macropsychanthus and Mastersia of the tribe Phaseoleae; Miss M. A. Th. K a t h m a n n is working on Teramnus, Mrs. J. R i d d e r - N u m a n n on Spatholobus. Miss L. M. R. N a n h o e on Inocarpus, which has 2 known sp. in Malesia and one more (sub?)sp. in New Guinea.

Linaceae. At L, student Mr. R. K o o l revised Ixonanthes. Hopefully the work can be extended towards a Flora Malesiana revision.

Melastomataceae. At L, Dr. J. F. V e l d k a m p and his students published their monograph of Diplectria.

Mr. J. F. M a x w e l l of Singapore University is completing his work on Malesian Dissochaeta, which will serve as his thesis before long.

Meliaceae. Dr. D. M a b b e r l e y of Oxford expects his Chisocheton monograph to be published very soon; there are 51 species. He has now the Malesian species of Dysoxylum well in hand, working on the family for the Tree Flora of Malaya first, thereafter to complete Dysoxylum for its whole area.

His student, Caroline P a n n e l l, who spent some time in Malaya to look at Aglaia in the field, is now finishing a D.Phil. thesis on its taxonomy and ecology.

Musaceae. Dr. G. A r g e n t, Edinburgh, who has earlier made a revision of the genus Musa in New Guinea, has agreed to elaborate the genus for Flora Malesiana.

Myrtaceae. At CANB, T. G. H a r t l e y and L. A. C r a v e n continue work on the Papuasian species of Syzygium (Eugenia).

Olacaceae. At L, Dr. H. S l e u m e r took up work on the family for the Flora Malesiana.

Oleaceae. At Serdang, Dr. Ruth K i e w revised the Malayan species of Chionanthus, to be published in The Malaysian Forester. Work was started on the Sarawak species.

Orchidaceae. Now that Dr. E. F. d e V o g e l has honorably retired from the seedlings battlefield, he is preparing himself to conquer this huge family, at the Rijksherbarium.

At BISH, Dr. P. v a n R o y e n, with help of Paul K o r e s, is finishing a study on Corybas in the eastern part of its area, for publication in the Bishop Museum Bulletin.

Palmae. Dr. John D r a n s f i e l d of Kew is working up an account of the palms of G. Mulu National Park. So far over 120 taxa have been found, i.e. over one third of the Sarawak palm flora, with many novelties

His MS of the rattan manual for Malaya is in the press; a precursory paper is due out soon in The Malaysian Forester.

Work on Korthalsia is continuing. And, together with Dr. H. E. M o o r e (BH), on a correlation of the 1st and 2nd editions of Martius, Historia Naturalis Palmarum, Blume's Rumphia and Griffith's Palms of British India.

Pandanaceae. At KLU, Dr. B. C. S t o n e is assiduously working on his FM-revision. A precursory paper on Pandanus subg. Coronata and Acrostigma was published late last year in Federation Museums Journal 23 n.s. (National Museum, Jl. Damansara, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia). It gives keys, novelties, typification, specimens, notes, and colour photographs. To follow are subg. Rykia, Lophostigma and Kurzia, Pandanus and Addenda, then Freycinetia and Sararanga.

His colleague Dr. K i e w Bong Heang has recovered fruits of Pandanus helicopus from the stomachs of large turtles which wander up and downstream the Perak River.

Polygalaceae. At L, Mr. R. v a n d e r M e ij d e n is seeing the end of his revision of Xanthophyllum, which during 1978 involved the labelling of 3477 numbered and 279 unnumbered collections, or about three times that number of sheets.

Rosaceae. Slowly but steadily, mostly on Saturday mornings, Professor C. K a l k m a n (L) is making his way through Malesian Rubus.

Rubiaceae. At L, B. A. Krukoff Botanist Dr. C. E. R i d s d a l e concluded his Flora Malesiana MS of Mitragyna and Uncaria. A precursory paper on the Cinchoneae is in the press. Work on generic delimitation is continued.

A student, Mr. M. E. J a n s e n, is revising Dolicholobium and Kajewskiella.

Rutaceae. At CANB, T. G. H a r t l e y is continuing his revisionary work on the Euodia complex. He published his revision of Tetractomia (6 sp.), reducing Terminthodia.

At KLU, Dr. B. C. S t o n e has published 40 pages in the issue named under Pandanaceae, on Glycosmis, and on some Bornean novelties in the Aurantioideae.

Sapindaceae. Owing to various other jobs, which befell on Dr. P. W. L e e n h o u t s (L), the situation is much the same as last year, but student R. G. v a n d e n B e r g produced a paper on the pollen morphology of Cubilia, Litchi, Otonephelium and Pometia in Blumea 24 (2).

At BRI, S. T. R e y n o l d s has completed a review of the Australian species, except Dodonaea. This major work will be published in parts in Austrobaileya.

Saxifragaceae. At L, students found that Astilbe rivularis does not occur in Malesia, where two species are distinguished, that Deutzia has but one species in Luzon, and that in Dichroa can be distinguished the wide-spread D. febrifuga and D. philippinensis, endemic in the Philippines.

Theaceae. Dr. W. R. B a r k e r (AD) has submitted the MS of a revision of the Papuasian species, Eurya excepted, to Brunonia.

Students at L scrutinized Eurya from Mt. Wilhelm, New Guinea, and sure enough found 2 or 3 undescribed taxa.

Vitaceae. December 1978 Mr. Mohd. Abdul L a t i f f, Botany Department, Kebangsaan University (National University), Kuala Lumpur, attained the degree of D.Sc. at Reading University, England, on a thesis 'A systematic study of Malesian Vitaceae', under supervision of Prof. D.M. Moore. It covers the various morphological and anatomical aspects of the family and a revision of the Malay Peninsular taxa (53 sp. in all). In addition there is a complete revision of the genus Pterisanthes. We hope that the author will have the facilities to pursue work on the family for the whole of Malesia.

Winteraceae. At L, Dr. W. V i n k continued work on the Bubbia-Belliolum complex from New Caledonia in connection with the new genus Takhtajania from Madagascar.

Zingiberaceae. At E, Ms. R. M. S m i t h, who published an account of Alpinia sect. Pycnanthus in New Guinea, is now working on synoptic keys to the genera to replace the tentative keys of 1972.

At KLU, Ms. Dr. K a m Yee Kiew is studying Kaempferia.