

IX. LIST OF BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES TO PUBLICATION DATES
OF TAXONOMIC LITERATURE OF IMPORTANCE TO MALAYSIAN
TAXONOMY.

In the past half century much efforts have been made to establish the exact publication dates of several important books, serials, and other issues. An admirable attempt towards assembling these data is the "Journal of the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History" of which 13 parts have appeared (1936-43). A disadvantage of this journal to the botanist is that it has many pages devoted to zoological publications. Besides, it is exceedingly expensive.

Many data are found in the Journal of Botany, the Kew Bulletin and the Journal of the Arnold Arboretum mainly composed by Barnhart, Britten, Fernald, Jackson, Marshall, Merrill, Kuntze, Sherborn, Sprague, Stearn, Wiltshire, Woodward.

It is for the individual taxonomist difficult and it demands much time to unearth certain notes, comments or references, concerning dates of publication which is necessitated by the principle of priority of the International Rules of Botanical Nomenclature.

These data lie hidden in a large number of journals and books, and are sometimes casually mentioned in texts dealing with other subjects. An international organization ought to coordinate and supervise the assembling of such data, and it belongs properly to the interests of the Standing Committee for Urgent Botanical Needs of the International Congress. The botanist ought to have a small book at his disposal in which all references additional to Pritzel's basic work have been compiled. This would offer substantial help and save much time. For the librarian additional slips ought to be printed to be pasted opposite the title page in the books themselves. On these slips ought to be printed the outcome of the bibliographic research: volumes, parts, pages, plates, dates of issue as far as ascertained. In a book consisting of more than one volume the same slip could be pasted inside all volumes.

In order to draw attention to this point, and at the same time to provide the collaborators of Flora Malesiana with the data I have assembled for my private use, I have listed my main references below.

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