

VIII. REPORT OF WORK ON FERNS CARRIED OUT AT BOGOR 1957-1958

I spent the period from Oct. 8, 1957, to March 27, 1958, at Bogor, Indonesia. During that period I worked regularly in the Herbarium Bogoriense.

The main part of my work consisted of a complete rearrangement of the fern herbarium, which consists of some 20,000-30,000 specimens.

The herbarium was last rearranged completely about 20 years ago, according to a scheme which did not conform to present ideas on fern classification, so that closely related genera (and often also closely related species) were widely separated in the herbarium, and a large number of species did not bear the generic name now acceptable. Two attempts had been made in recent years to rearrange the herbarium on a more satisfactory basis, but neither attempt had proceeded very far, and the result only added to the confusion.

I arranged the genera in groups which are convenient and also as natural as I can make them at present, and placed every species in the genus to which in my opinion it belongs.

The result will be that species of any genus, being now together, could conveniently be sent on loan for study.

In addition to this work, I gave approximate identifications to large numbers of specimens of undistributed collections, so that a set of specimens could be mounted for inclusion in the Bogor Herbarium and the rest distributed for purposes of exchange.

I also began a study of the family Cyatheaceae, and in this connexion made a field study of the species growing in the mountain forest at Tjibodas. I made a similar study of the ferns of Cyatheaceae in the neighbourhood of Pajakumbuh in Sumatra, during a short visit there in Jan. 1958.

I gathered young plants of ferns of many kinds, both at Tjibodas and Pajakumbuh, and sent them alive to Kew for cultivation. Many are now growing well, and are available for future study in connexion with my work for Flora Malesiana.

After leaving Bogor, I spent a short time in Malaya, with a visit to Kuching in Sarawak, and at both places I also collected living fern plants and dispatched them by air to Kew.

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