

IV. PROGRESS IN MALESIAN BOTANY
(continued from p. 147)

GENERAL

Check Lists of Indonesian Trees under editorship of Dr. T.C. WHITMORE (OXF) and Dr. I.G.M. TANTRA (Forest Dept., Bali). In April 1986 the list for Sumatra was ready to be printed. The lists for Celebes and Nusa Tenggara were in the typing stage. Manuscripts for the Moluccas, Borneo and New Guinea are virtually complete. The project has prematurely ended, however, due to a drop of 40% in the Indonesian development budget. It is to be hoped that this is temporarily so and that the pieces can be picked up again in the future.

FUNGI

Dr. W. JÜLICH (L) studied mycorrhiza fungi of Dipterocarpaceae. He discovered that a Riessia sp. is a symbiont of some species of Hopea and Shorea. The genus was until now only known from three rare saprotrophic or parasitic species of Europe, North America and Brazil, none of which forms mycorrhiza. A publication on mycorrhiza fungi of Borneo was made.

Dr. M. RIFAI (BO) continued his studies on Sporisorium.

ALGAE

Dr. A.C. PODZORSKI (Landskrona) hopes to have a book on the diatoms of Palawan published in 1986.

Mr. E. VERHEIJ (L) started a study on the Indonesian Corallinaceae of the coral reefs in the Spermonde Archipelago near Ujung Pandang.

BRYOPHYTA

Mr. A.D.H. MOHAMAD (UKMB) has just completed his studies for a M.Sc. on the taxonomy and ecology of Malaysian montane mosses.

Dr. A. TOUW (L) finished monographies of Pseudoracelopus, Racelopus and Racelopodopsis of Asia. All species have been brought to a new section of Pogonatum. Another revision was made for Rhizogonium of Asia and the Pacific and a begin was made with the species for Australia and New Zealand.

Together with Dr. T. KOPONEN (H) and Dr. D.H. NORRIS (HSC) the Rhizogoniaceae of West Melanesia were revised.

Together with Dr. R. OCHYRA (KRAM) an article on the Asian species of Neckeropsis and Sciaromium was prepared.

PTERIDOPHYTES

Dr. A. A. BIDIN (UKMB) worked on the fern flora of P. Langkawi.

Ms. M.T.M. BOSMAN (L) continued her studies on Microsorium and allies.

Dr. R.E. HOLTUM (K) (at 91 years!) continuing his work on Tectaria (ca. 100 spp. of which 20 undescribed) and allied genera (Hemigramma, Quercifilix and Stenosemia) has begun to write a taxonomic account of the group for the Flora Malesiana to be finished by the end of 1986. In preparation for the Kew Bulletin are papers on Dryopsis gen. nov. (type: Aspidium apiciflorum Wall. ex Mett.) (jointly with Mr. P.J. EDWARDS, K), which occurs mainly in mainland Asia with 3 species in Malesia, and on Triplophyllum gen. nov. (type: Aspidium protensum Sw.), which ranges from S. America to Madagascar. A key to the genera of the Old World, incl. Madagascar, will be published elsewhere.

Mr. P.H. HOVENKAMP (L) obtained his Ph.D. on 15 May 1986 on a monograph of Pyrrosia. He extended his research on the morphology of the rhizomes of this genus to those of a number of other Polypodiaceae.

Dr. K. IWATSUKI (TI) continued his research of the Hymenophyllaceae and published an enumeration of the Asian species exclusive those of Malesia. A list of the latter is currently under preparation.

Ms. F.M. JARRETT (K) edited the 5th Supplement of the Index Filicium covering the years 1961—1975. See Bibliography.

Dr. R.J. JOHNS (Univ. of Technology, Lae) spent ca. 5 months in Europe to study Asplenium spores for his forthcoming revision of the genus and allied ones in New Guinea.

Mr. G.J. DE JONCHEERE (L) continued his work on Belvisia.

Ms. G. RODL-LINDER (German Embassy, Manila, Philippines) is studying Philippine representatives of Schellolepis (= Goniophlebium) under the guidance of Dr. E. HENNIPMAN (U).

Dr. M.C. ROOS (U) obtained his Ph.D. (cum laude) on 13 December 1985 with a thesis on the phylogenetic systematics of the Drynarioideae and revisions of Aglaomorpha and Drynaria, with 16 spp. each. Several genera previously distinguished by Copeland were reduced to Aglaomorpha.

Ms. G.A. VAN UFFELEN (L) continued her research on the sporogenesis of the Polypodiaceae. She is looking for a nice palaeobotanist who can provide her with fossil spore bearing fronds of the family or of its close relatives. A paper on the spore morphology in Pyrrosia and a short one on synaptospory in that genus were completed.

ANGIOSPERMS

Alseuosmiaceae. Dr. C.G.G.J. VAN STEENIS' (L) revision of the family has been published in *Flora Malesiana I*, 10/2.

Amaranthaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

Anacardiaceae have been revised by M. HOFF (ORSTOM) for the Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendences. The illustrations are in preparation.

Dr. A.J.G.H. KOSTERMANS (BO) is revising Mangifera. IUCN/WWF has provided a grant to Mr. J.-M. BOMPARD, Montpellier, France, to do field studies on wild species in Kalimantan. The first three months of research suggested that at least 20 species occur in Kalimantan alone (vs. the 10 mentioned in the *Flora Malesiana*), of which 6 seem to be undescribed. Trees have been marked and it is the intention, if funds can be obtained from FAO, to collect complete herbarium material as well as seeds, for germination and cultivation in the Bogor Botanical Garden. A similar research is intended for Sabah and Sarawak.

Annonaceae. Mr. K. M. SALLEH (UKMS) finished a comparative chemotaxonomic study on the Malayan tribes and genera.

Araliaceae. Dr. D.G. FRODIN (formerly of UPNG) hopes to continue his revision of Schefflera. He estimates ca. 190 spp. for Papuasias, of which ca. 40 in the Star Mts. region alone.

The family is being revised by Mr. P. LOWRY (MO) for Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendences.

Basellaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

Bignoniaceae have been published by T. SANTISUK (BKF) in the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam 22 (1985).

Burseraceae. Mr. P.J. SEGAAR (L) has received the biennial Lam Award of the Rijksherbarium for his Master's thesis on the discrepancy between the two pollen types of Scutinanthe. The species S. brunnea Thw. has a type unknown for the family.

Caryophyllaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

During the Training course on research methodology in plant taxonomy in BO (1985) Ms. M. RAHAYU, N. UTAMI (BO) and Mr. M. DJAJADISASTRA (UNPAD, Bandung) revised Stellaria (7 spp.) on the Bogor material.

Celastraceae. A revision of Cassine for India, Sri Lanka and Malesia has been made by Dr. A.J.G.H. KOSTERMANS.

Chenopodiaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

Chloranthaceae. Dr. B. VERDCOURT's (K) revision of the family has been published in Flora Malesiana I, 10/2.

Chrysobalanaceae. Dr. G.T. PRANCE's (NY) revision of the family will appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Cruciferae. Dr. B. JONSELL (S) anticipated to have finished the revision of the family this year. It will then appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Ctenolophonaceae. Mr. A.M.N. VAN HOOREN & Dr. H.P. NOOTEBOOM's (L) revision of the family will appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Cunoniaceae are being revised by Dr. R.D. HOOGLAND (L and P) for Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendences. Cunonia is finished and Weinmannia well-advanced. The revision of Cunonia for the Flora Malesiana is also about finished.

Dilleniaceae have been revised by Dr. J.M. VEILLON (ORSTOM) for the Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendences. Illustrations are being prepared.

Dipterocarpaceae have been revised by Dr. T. SMITINAND (BKF) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam. The manuscript is translated, completed and prepared for printing by Dr. J.E. VIDAL (P).

The second half of 1985 experienced a general flowering in Malaya.

Dr. A.J.G.H. KOSTERMANS (BO) reported that the single tree of the new Shorea discovered in Leuweung Sancang, Java (see 9/1, 12, 44), is still there, looking healthy, but has not yet flowered.

He also wrote that Vatica scaphifolia is present in the recently opened Bukit Suharto Protection Forest, near Samarinda. One tree was abundantly in fruit, from which it became quite clear that it certainly is not the possibly extinct V. javanica to which Ashton reduced it. Fruits have been taken to France by Dr. G. MAURY-LECHON (P) for cultivation experiments.

In Taxon 34 (1985) 426—435 he has argued that the African and American representatives of this family do not belong there but are either Tiliaceae or a family very close to the latter, differing only in the valvate, not imbricate calyx lobes.

Elaeagnaceae. Dr. J.F. VELDKAMP's (L) revision of the family has been published in Flora Malesiana I, 10/2.

Euphorbiaceae. The subfamilies Acalyphoideae, Crotonoideae, and Euphorbioideae have been revised for the Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendences by

Mr. G. MCPHERSON (MO) and will be published by the end of this year. The Phyllanthoideae mainly revised by Mr. M. SCHMID (P) will constitute a second volume.

Gramineae. Just as Ms. L. DUISTERMAAT (L) handed in her treatment of Oryza a thesis by Mr. G. SECOND on some important species was published, which forced her to reconsider parts of her own work. It will be published in Blumea.

Ms. M. RAHAYU (BO) continued her revision of the Malesian species of Cyrtococcum.

Mssrs. R. DE KONING, M.S.M. SOSEF and Dr. J.F. VELDKAMP (L) have published a survey of the delimitation of the genera allied to Rottboellia. It has been concluded that Coelorachis, Hackelochloa, Heteropholis, Mnesithea, Ratzeburgia and Rottboellia formosa cannot be distinguished at the generic or infra-generic level. The correct name for the resulting genus is Mnesithea. Its type species, M. laevis, and Heteropholis cochinchinensis have turned out to be conspecific, but appear to be two vicariant subspecies. A new species of Rottboellia from the Philippines is described.

Dr. J.F. VELDKAMP (L) is working up Mr. G.J. BAALJENS' M.Sc. thesis on Malesian Sporobolus for publication.

Ms. Dr. E.A. WIDJAJA (BO) continues her research on the Malesian Bambusoideae.

Ixonanthaceae. Mr. R. KOOL's (formerly of L) revision of the family will appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Juglandaceae have been revised by Dr. P.H. HỒ (P) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam and will probably be published in 1987.

Lauraceae. Dr. A.J.G.H. KOSTERMANS (BO) has finished his revision of Cinnamomum which will be published in two parts, one in the Jubilee issue of the Bull. Bot. Surv. Ind., the second the Bull. Nat. Mus. Tsukuba Bot. Gard.

Leguminosae. Ms. A. BUIJSEN (L) has started again on her studies in Fordia.

Dr. DING HOU (L) has finished revisions of the caesalpinoid genera Copai-fera, Intsia, Endertia, Leucostegane, and Saraca and is now engaged with Crudia.

Dr. R. GEESINK (L) elaborated the major part of the family for the Flora of Hawai'i He made an extensive key to the genera, brief diagnoses of 75 taxa; the remaining 20 taxa will be treated by other specialists.

On request of the editors of 'Advances in legume systematics, vol. 3' he and Dr. M. ZANDEE (ITB, Leiden) wrote a general introduction to the phylogenetic taxonomy with examples taken from the family and his own studies.

During the Training course on research methodology in plant taxonomy in BO (1985) Geesink supervised various studies done on Aeschynomene (7 spp.) by Ms. T. DJARWANINGSIH (BO), Mr. A. ACHMAD (UNHAS, Ujung Pandang), Mr. M. NATASAPUTRA (IPB, Bogor) and Mr. B. SUNARNO (BO) and on Rhynchosia by Ms. RUGAYAH, S. SUNARTI, Dr. J.J. AFRIASTINI (BO) and Mr. PURNOMO (UGM, Yogyakarta). After the course some participants will continue on their own with Alysicarpus (ca. 7 spp., Djarwaningsih), Dalbergia (ca. 30 spp., Mr. B. Sunarno), Derris s.s. (ca. 15 spp., Rugayah), Paraderris (ca. 5 spp., Ms. S. Sunarti), Phaseolinae (Mr. H. WIRIADINATA, BO).

Ms. Dr. H.C. FORTUNE HOPKINS (UPNG) will continue her studies on Parkia.

Dr. I. NIELSEN's (AAU) revision of the Mimosoideae will hopefully be ready for inclusion in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Twelve tribes of the Papilionoideae have been revised by Ms. P. DY PHON (P), Mr. N.V. THUÂN (P) and Mr. C. NIYOMDHAM (BKF) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam: Abreae, Aeschynomeneae, Crotalarieae, Desmodieae (except Desmodium), Euchresteeae, Galegeae, Indigofereae, Psoraleae, Robinieae, Sophoreae, Trifolieae, and Vicieae. They will be published as fasc. 23 in 1986.

Linaceae. Mr. A.M.N. VAN HOOREN & Dr. H.P. NOOTEBOOM's (L) revision of the family will appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Magnoliaceae. Dr. H.P. NOOTEBOOM (L) continued his research on Magnolia. It is envisaged that the family will be finished in 1986, so that it can be included in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987. He also revised the family for Kubitzki's 'Families and genera of vascular plants' and for Whitmore's Checklist of Indonesian trees.

Malpighiaceae. Dr. P. SIRIRUGSA (Prince of Songkla University, Haad Yai, Thailand) is finishing a manuscript of the family for the Flora of Thailand in AAU.

Melastomataceae. Mr. C. HANSEN (C) is presently preparing a revision of Phyllagathis in continuation of his studies in the Sonerileae and Oxysporeae. He urgently asks anybody contemplating to work in these tribes to contact him, for over the years he has amassed extensive basic material: various notes, drawings of floral parts of a large number of specimens, many SEM photos of seeds, pollen, hair types, photos of type material, a complete name and literature index and a comprehensive one on specimens. Mr. HANSEN willingly cooperates whenever it is practical!

Mr. J.C. REGALADO Jr. (MICH) under the supervision of Dr. J. BEAMAN has started a revisional study of the species of Medinilla of Borneo for his Ph.D. We wish him success and perseverance in this large, complex genus.

Menispermaceae. Dr. H. BANZINGER (Chiangmai) collected the family in Nepal, Thailand and Sumatra.

Mr. L.L. FORMAN's (K) revision of the family has been published in Flora Malesiana I, 10/2.

Monimiaceae. Dr. W.R. PHILIPSON's (CHR) revision of the family has been published in Flora Malesiana I, 10/2.

Moraceae. Mr. F. LAMBERT (Dept. Zool., Aberdeen) studied Ficus from Malaya.

Myristicaceae. Dr. W.J.J.O. DE WILDE (L) has published his account of Horsfieldia. He is continuing with his work on Myristica.

Mr. R. SCHOUTEN (L) has finished his revision of Gymnacranthera with 7 species, of which 2 new: one from Borneo, the other from Celebes.

Myrsinaceae. Ir. B. SUNARNO (BO) will revise Labisia (ca. 6 spp.) under the supervision of Dr. R. GEESINK (L).

Dr. H.O. SLEUMER (L) has published his revision of Rapanea in New Guinea. Revisions of Embelia, Grenacheria and Maesa will be published in early 1987. For these genera indices of collectors are available on demand. A revision of Disco-calyx has begun.

Nyctaginaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

Oncothecaceae have been revised by Dr. J.M. VEILLON and Dr. Ph. MORAT (ORSTOM) for the Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendances and will be published in 1987.

Orchidaceae. Ms. W. VAN DER BURG (L) broke off her studies on Nephelaphyllum as she obtained a job elsewhere.

Mr. A. LAMB (Tenom, Sabah) is studying the family for Borneo.

Mr. J. SIMMONDS (AD) is studying the orchids described in Nova Guinea by J.J. SMITH.

Mr. J.J. VERMEULEN (L) has finished his revision of the African species of Bulbophyllum for his Ph.D. thesis, which will be published in the second issue of a new journal of the Rijksherbarium: 'Orchid Monographs'. He is now studying the species of Borneo, as from 22 May 1986 he will be working for a year at the Orchid Centre in Sabah.

Dr. E.F. DE VOGEL (L) has published a revision of Acryopsis (6 spp.) together with Ms. M.E. MINDERHOUD, and a revision of Bracisepalum, Chelonistele, Entomophobia, Geesinkorchis and Nabalua (19 spp.) in the first issue of the Orchid Monographs. He is plodding along in Coelogyne sect. Tomentosa.

Together with Mr. J.J. VERMEULEN (L) he prepared an account of Bulbophyllum echinolabium collected alive by him in Celebes in 1979 and now flowering in K and L with spectacular flowers up to 30 cm in diameter!

During the Training course on research methodology in plant taxonomy in BO (1985) De Vogel coached Mssrs. U.W. MAHYAR (BO) and A. BASUKRIADI (Univ. Indonesia, Jakarta) in their studies on the BO material of the small-flowered species of Coelogyne sect. Tomentosa. Ms. T. HEDYATI (UNSUD, Purwokerto) and D. SULISTIARINI (BO) similarly studied Dilochia as a companion to an earlier attempt by Ms. J.J.M. VAN DER GRIJN and H.J. HAAGSMAN (L) on the L material. (see p. 143).

After the course Mahyar proceeded to revise the BO material of Renanthera (ca. 15 spp.) and Sulistiarini that of Luisia (ca. 8 spp.) under the supervision of De Vogel.

A new journal under De Vogel's editorship, Orchid Monographs, has started (see Research).

Due to all these activities his own revision of Pholidota was temporized. Mr. J.J. VERMEULEN provided 30 plates, one for each species. Together with Dr. G. SEIDENFADEN (C) De Vogel revised the species occurring in Thailand.

Palmae. Mr. J.P. MOGEA (BO) continued his studies on Arenca (ca. 25 spp.).

Ms. N. UTAMI (BO) studied Metroxylon (3 spp., 18 vars.). They are being supervised by Dr. J. DRANSFIELD (K).

Pandanaceae. The treatment by Dr. B.C. STONE (PH) of the family for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam has been published. He has also made some further progress in the revision of the family for the Flora Malesiana. In Pandanus the subgenera Acrostigma, Coronata and Rykia have been revised so that precursors have been published. Recent papers have also been published by Stone and K.-L. HUYNH (NEU) on highland pandans from Papua New Guinea (Mr. D. DONOGHUE collections), a supplement to the precursor on subgen. Acrostigma, as well as shorter papers on Pacific pandans.

In Freycinetia about half the sections have now been revised but no precursors have as yet been published. Mr. P. COX has studied the modes of pollination, sexuality and fruit production in this genus, and more recently also in Pandanus and Sararanga. It is hoped that more of this work will be done in the near future and that also forest under-storey pandans will be included.

See also the note for PH under Herbaria.

Phytolaccaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

Polygalaceae. Dr. R. VAN DER MEIJDEN's (L) revision of the family will appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Portulaccaceae have been revised by Dr. K. LARSEN (AAU) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam to be published in 1987. He will also revise the family for the Flora of Thailand.

Proteaceae are revised by Dr. P.H. HÔ (P) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam.

Rhizophoraceae. Mr. K.M. KOCHUMMEN (KEP) is working up the family for the final volume of the Tree Flora of Malaya.

Rosaceae. Dr. C. KALKMAN (L) is nearly finished with his revision of Rubus subgen. Micranthobatus, the last group to be treated for Malesia. He has started a phylogenetic history of the family and is reformatting previous accounts for a final version of the family for the Flora Malesiana.

Rubiaceae. Mr. O. GIDEON (LAE) is revising Mussaenda for New Guinea. For this he visited MEL, K, L (spending several months there), and some American herbaria in 1985.

Mr. M.E. JANSEN (L) had to abandon, at least temporarily, his research on Rubiaceae for his Ph.D. thesis, as he was fortunate to obtain paid employment elsewhere.

Dr. C.E. RIDSDALE (L) finished the descriptions of the Philippine species of Neonauclea.

Mr. K.M. WONG (KEP) has completed his studies on the Timonius-complex in the Malay Peninsula and spent several weeks in June 1985 at K to study several other genera of the family as well.

Rutaceae. After a decade of interrupted studies a provisional synopsis of Glycosmis has been published by Dr. B.C. STONE (PH) (Proc. Ac. Nat. Sc. Philad. 137/2 (1985) 1—27). Reprints are available, and comments welcomed by the author.

A revision of Evodiella will be published by J.F. VELDKAMP & R.J. ROUWENHORST (L).

Sabiaceae. Dr. C.F. VAN BEUSEKOM & Mr. Th.P.M. VAN DER WATER's (L) revision of the family will appear in Flora Malesiana vol. 10, 3, expected in 1987.

Sapindaceae. Mr. F.A.C.B. ADEMA (L) has started a revision of Cupaniopsis for his Ph.D. thesis.

Ms. J.J. AFRIASTINI (BO) has revised Ganophyllum and Jagera (both together with Dr. P.W. LEENHOUTS (L).

Mr. R.W.J.M. VAN DER HAM (L) has started to study the pollen morphology of the Nephelieae.

Ms. T. JASPARS-SCHRADER (L) has started a study on the distribution pattern of Alectryon for the Pacific Plant Areas project. After that she will revise some genera of the Cupanieae.

Dr. P.W. LEENHOUTS (L) has finished his revision of Alectryon (10 spp., 3 new). He is now wrestling with the delimitation of the ca. 50 pantropical genera of the Cupanieae. It is not impossible that Alectryon and some related genera as well as the tribes Nephelieae and Schleichereae (ca. 20 genera) will have to be considered part of it.

Mr. P.C. VAN WELZEN (L) after a stint in the Dutch army was glad to return to Guioa for his Ph.D. thesis.

Sphenostemonaceae. Dr. C.G.G.J. VAN STEENIS' (L) revision of the family has been published in Flora Malesiana I, 10/2.

Stemonaceae. Dr. W.R. PHILIPSON (CHR) has agreed to revise the family for the Flora Malesiana.

Sterculiaceae have been revised by Dr. Ph. MORAT (ORSTOM) and will be published in 1987 in the Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendances.

Thymelaeaceae are revised by Dr. P.H. HỒ (P) for the Flore du Cambodge, du Laos et du Vietnam.

Ms. C.S. TAWAN (UPMS, presently at RNG) is carrying out systematic studies on the Gonystyloideae of Malesia.

Tiliaceae are being revised by Ms. C. TIREL (P) for the Flore de la Nouvelle-Calédonie et Dépendances.

Urticaceae. Mr. L.G. SAW (KEP) is working up the family for the final volume of the Tree Flora of Malaya.

Vitaceae. Dr. A. LATIFF (UKMB) visited BO and Europe in 1985 to study the family in L, K, P, and is nearing his completion of the manuscript for the Flora Malesiana.

Winteraceae. Dr. W. VINK (L) is critically examining the New Caledonian species of Zygogynum s.l. He also revised the family for Kubitzki's 'Families and genera of vascular plants'.

PHYTOGEOGRAPHY

Mssrs. R. DE KONING and M.S.M. SOSEF (L) completed a report on the phytogeographical position of Celebes, an analysis of the distributions of all species and genera so far treated in the Flora Malesiana. The importance of Wallace's Line was confirmed, but the dual origin of the island as recently suggested by geologists has not been corroborated. Floristic affinity is greatest with the Moluccas, Philippines and Lesser Sunda Islands. Their supervisor, Dr. M.M.J. VAN BALGOOY, presented the paper 'A plant geographical analysis of Sulawesi' based on this report during the recent ICSEB congress in Brighton.

ETHNOBOTANY

Ms. W. AVÉ (L) handed in a 80-page report entitled 'Small-scale utilization of rattan by the Semai in West Malaysia' based on her fieldwork between May 1982 and February 1983 supervised by Dr. M.M.J. VAN BALGOOY. It contains many interesting observations. Fear is expressed for disappearance of rattan, which still plays an important role in the life of the Semai because of commercial exploitation. Parts of the report have been selected for articles to be published in the journals *Principes* and *Economic Botany*.