



The Plant Press



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Botany Profile TL-2 Speaks Volumes

By Laurence J. Dorr and Dan H. Nicolson

TL-2 is a deceptively simple abbreviation for a multi-volume publication that is enormously valuable to systematic botanists (and zoologists) and a publication whose scope has few parallels in natural history. Its full title, *Taxonomic Literature: A selective guide to botanical publications and collections with dates, commentaries and types* (second edition), also is understated and does not adequately convey the full measure of what these volumes deliver. Simply put TL-2 is a guide to the literature of systematic botany published between 1753 and 1940. When completed later this year TL-2 will comprise 15 volumes published over the course of 32 years. There will be a total of 11,318 pages devoted to biographical and bibliographical analyses of 37,600 titles published by 9,072 authors. The publication is one of several projects supported by the International Association for Plant Taxonomy (IAPT) and one which from its inception has been closely tied to the Smithsonian Institution, especially the U.S. National Herbarium.

TL-2 deals, as far as publications are concerned, with books, pamphlets, series, and other bibliographically independent and limited entities, but not with open-ended periodical or serial publications. Although the temporal coverage is more or less defined by the years 1753 and 1940, there is a special emphasis on the period between 1870 and 1914, a period in which descriptive plant taxonomy reached its zenith and for which no comprehensive bibliography is available. The beginning date corresponds with

the starting date for most plant scientific names, viz. the *Species Plantarum* (1 May 1753) of Linnaeus. (Critical earlier works by pre-Linnaean authors are included in TL-2 so that one can interpret Linnaean protologues). The ending date, 1940, is more arbitrarily defined and corresponds to the date when changes in publication and distribution made most botanical titles widely available. Inasmuch as the intent is to provide information on titles of interest to botanists there are no restrictions on language. The majority of publications analyzed are in German, English, French and Latin, but publications in languages that are less commonly utilized such as Catalan and Romansh also are included.

Entries in TL-2 are organized by author. In addition to a brief biography and a proposed form of citation for the author's surname, information is conveyed as to where an author's herbarium and types are deposited. This is followed by references to this author that can be found in standard reference works and then journal articles or books about the author and his (or her) works. Eponymy, if any, is cited. Typically this takes the form of plant generic names (or geographic place names) based on the author's surname. Following these materials the author's publications are included as numbered entries arranged in chronological order. This is the heart of TL-2. The full title of a book (or off print) is given with a suggested short-title and abbreviation of short-title for use in taxonomic publications. If a book was published in parts, the paging of parts and their dates are given. If plates are present their numbering and

dates are provided. Libraries where copies of books were seen by the authors of TL-2 are stated. (Over 100 libraries were consulted for this project). Finally, references and reviews of the book are noted. This information is often invaluable in resolving the complicated publication histories of books that have appeared in parts over time or in multiple editions sometimes also issued in different languages.

TL-2 is an indispensable tool for the practicing taxonomist. Every taxonomist, without exception, who attempts to identify a work whose title may be less than precise, determine the date that a given work was published (essential for establishing priority of names, a concept that has been utilized in botanical nomenclature since Linnaeus), or determine the authorship of a work (and hence the authorship of a name) must consult TL-2. TL-2 saves researchers time; it allows for standard citations of authors, titles, and dates of publication (important for sharing information via computer files); and since it is a guide it saves librarians time in locating which major institutions hold copies of the work in question and researchers time in answering questions regarding the nature of important works held by a select few libraries.

TL-2 is frequently the starting point for investigators (historians and biologists) interested in understanding important expeditions or the development of scientific ideas. On a more practical

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Pedro Acevedo traveled throughout Brazil (8/10 – 9/16) to conduct a general botanical surveys, to study Sapindaceae collections at several herbaria, and to give two presentations; and to Puerto Maldonado, Peru (9/17 – 9/24) to attend the Organization for Flora Neotropica meetings held in conjunction with the 12th Peruvian National Botanical Congress.

Walter Adey traveled to Kennett Square, Pennsylvania (7/2 – 7/3) to confer with construction staff of the ATS Energy Project at Muddy Run; to Lancaster, Pennsylvania (7/15 – 7/16; 8/13 – 8/15) to visit the ATS test site and collect and establish seed algae; to Richmond, Virginia (7/17 – 7/18) to present a talk at a biofuels conference of the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; to Fayetteville, Arkansas (8/5 – 8/8) to visit the Mississippi Watershed ATS test site and make a presentation at the University of Arkansas; to eastern Maine (8/25 – 9/9) to collect infralittoral seaweeds in the Grand Manan Channel and to make a presentation at the Humboldt Institute; and to Virginia Beach, Virginia (9/10 – 9/11) to make a presentation at the Virginia Water Environment Association and make a presentation at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science.

Laurence Dorr traveled to Cambridge, Massachusetts and Bronx, New York (8/30

– 9/5) to conduct library work associated with correcting the proof for *Taxonomic Literature* and herbarium work on Malvales at the Harvard University Herbaria and New York Botanical Garden.

Robert Faden traveled to Richmond, Virginia (7/22) to examine Commelinaceae herbarium specimens.

Maria Faust traveled to Ft. Pierce, Florida (7/20 – 7/23) to investigate the biodiversity of oceanic dinoflagellates in the Gulf Stream off shore of the Indian River estuary, Florida.

Christian Feuillet traveled to French Guiana (9/12 – 10/2) to collect Asteraceae and Passifloraceae DNA.

Vicki Funk traveled to Vancouver, Canada (7/26 – 8/9) to present a talk at the Botany 2008 meeting and attend a council meeting of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists; and to Vienna, Austria (6/30 – 7/4; 8/23 – 8/28) to work on a Compositae book due to be completed by 1 November.

Vinita Gowda traveled to Milwaukee, Wisconsin (8/2 – 8/3) to present a poster at the Ecology and Evolution of Plant-Pollinator Interactions conference; and to Copenhagen, Denmark (8/9 – 8/15) to present a talk at the Monocots IV meeting.

Danica Harbaugh traveled to Vancouver, Canada (7/26 – 7/31) to attend the Botany 2008 meeting.

Robert Ireland traveled to Concepcion, Chile (4/1 – 6/30) to identify Chilean moss collections at the University of Concepcion, and to conduct field work.

Carol Kelloff traveled to Vancouver, Canada (7/25 – 7/31) to present a talk at the Botany 2008 meeting and to chair the Botanical Society of America Historical Section meeting.

W. John Kress traveled to Copenhagen, Denmark (8/9 – 9/3) to present a talk at the Monocots IV meeting.

Gary Krupnick traveled to Chattanooga, Tennessee (7/13 – 7/17) to present a talk at the Society for Conservation Biology meeting.

Mark Littler and **Diane Littler** traveled to Belize City, Belize (8/27 – 9/18) to conduct field research.

Sue Lutz, **Jin-Mei Lu**, and **Xinwei Xu** traveled to northeastern US and southeastern Quebec (9/3 – 9/11) to collect population samples and voucher specimens to support research on the biogeography of

Zizania spp. (wild rice) and *Adiantum* spp. (maidenhair ferns).

Paul Peterson traveled to throughout North Carolina and Tennessee (7/26 – 8/3) to collect grasses and population samples of *Calamagrostis*; to Copenhagen, Denmark (8/11 – 8/16) to present a talk at the Monocots IV meeting; and throughout Mexico (9/1 – 10/5) to collect grasses.

Karen Redden traveled to Georgetown, Guyana (9/3 – 11/1) to collect plants for the Biological Diversity of the Guiana Shield program in the area just south of the Conservation International concession in southern Guyana.

Harold Robinson traveled to Vancouver, Canada (7/26 – 7/31) to attend the Botany 2008 meeting.

Robert Soreng traveled to Norway and Sweden (7/15 – 8/10) to visit several herbaria, collected grasses and to obtain DNA samples of species; and to Copenhagen, Denmark (8/11 – 8/16) to present a talk at the Monocots IV meeting.

Laurence Skog traveled to Vancouver, Canada (7/19 – 8/1) to attend the Botany 2008 meeting.

Alice Tangerini traveled to Ithaca, New York (7/19 – 7/26) to participate in the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators meeting held at Ithaca College and Cornell University.

Alain Touwaide and **Emanuela Appetiti** traveled to Austin, Texas (8/10 – 8/13) to delivered a paper at the XIIIth Colloquium Hippocraticum meeting; to Mexico City, Mexico (9/6 – 9/14) to present papers at the 41st Congress of the International Society for the History of Medicine; to Rome, Italy (9/18 – 9/23) to do research at the National Library; to Crete, Greece (9/24 – 9/26) to deliver a paper at the Biomedical Sciences in Archaeology Congress; to Nicosia, Cyprus (9/27 – 9/30) to present a paper at the Medicine in the Ancient Mediterranean World conference; and to Taormina, Sicily, Italy (10/01 – 10/06) to deliver a paper at the 6th Conference of the International Association for the History of Nephrology.

Warren Wagner traveled to Ft. Collins, Colorado (7/9 – 7/13) to attend a graduate student qualifying exam at Colorado State University; to Honolulu, Hawaii (7/21 – 7/25) to attend a meeting

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Chair of Botany

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Honoring the Botanical Work of José Cuatrecasas

The José Cuatrecasas Botanical Endowment is entering its second decade! I would like to reflect briefly on the accomplishments made with this invaluable resource, and announce a significant addition to the endowment this year by the Cuatrecasas Family Foundation of San Diego.

In 1996 the Department of Botany announced the establishment of the Cuatrecasas fund based on a donation from his family and a number of others. This endowment honors the lifelong botanical work of Dr. José Cuatrecasas (1903-1996), a pioneering botanist. His research, especially in the family Asteraceae, was devoted to classification, biogeography, exploration, and ecology.

The Cuatrecasas fund is used to support three primary activities: research travel awards, the José Cuatrecasas Medal for Excellence in Tropical Botany, and lectures and symposia such as the Smithsonian Botanical Symposium. The research awards support projects that emulate the spirit of the research of Cuatrecasas. Selections are made annually through a competition open to all botanists, but are especially focused on students and young professionals conducting research in Andean South America and other tropical areas. The fellowships provide funding for researchers to be in residence for their work and use the collections of the U.S. National Herbarium and to conduct related field studies. We initiated the travel awards three years ago and to date we have already had nearly 20 Cuatrecasas Fellows. The fellowship awards not only have allowed botanists to improve the quality of their research and interactions with our staff, but will have a lasting influence on their developing careers and increase the capacity of botanical research in South America. We are establishing a tracking system to check on previous awardees to monitor what they have done since their visit to work at the U.S. National Herbarium.

One of the first Cuatrecasas Fellowships was awarded to Mauricio Diazgranados, who has just advanced to PhD candidate status at St. Louis University. Diazgranados' thesis project is on phylogenetic and biogeographic relationships within the Espeletiiinae, the same group Cuatrecasas studied. His research led him to develop a strong interest in the Cuatrecasas archive materials (photography, journals and collections). He has worked very hard recently with his wife Diana and Vicki Funk on an archive project, ultimately developing a web site for Cuatrecasas' collection trips, itineraries, and images. I am very impressed with their work and I hope you will be too when it goes live in 2009.

The José Cuatrecasas Medal for Excellence in Tropical Botany was initiated in 2001. Established out of the Department's enduring respect and admiration for Don José, it is presented annually to a botanist and scholar of international stature who has contributed

significantly to advancing the field of tropical botany. The award serves to keep vibrant the accomplishments and memory of this outstanding scientist. To date eight botanists have received the medal given at the springtime Smithsonian Botanical Symposium: Rogers McVaugh (2001), P. Barry Tomlinson (2002), John Beaman (2003), David Mabberley (2004), Jerzy Rzedowski and Graciela Calderón de Rzedowski (2005), Sherwin Carlquist (2006), and Mireya Correa (2008).

The Cuatrecasas Endowment has also provided support for the Smithsonian Botanical Symposium, which brings together the regional plant systematics community to address a botanical topic of current significance. The symposium is held each spring at the National Museum of Natural History. Seven symposia have been held since 2001, when then Chair John Kress initiated the annual symposium with support from many staff members and volunteers of the Department. The Cuatrecasas Family Foundation, United States Botanic Garden, National Museum of Natural History, and National Tropical Botanical Garden also provide critical support for the symposium. The topics of the symposia have covered a variety of topics including the future of floras, Linnaean taxonomy in the 21st century, island evolution, and most recently, co-evolution.

I am also extremely happy to report that the long-awaited magnum opus on the subtribe Espeletiiinae by Cuatrecasas will go to the printer before the end of 2008. In 1996, during my first term as Department Chair, I promised Don José just before he passed away that we would finalize the manuscript that was the culmination of his life's work. So it is with great pleasure to announce that the Department has worked together to deliver on that promise. This massive work would otherwise have resided in the archives and not advanced our knowledge and understanding of this important group of the Andes. It turned out to be a bit more time-consuming than anticipated, and we owe thanks to a number of people in the Department who helped finish the manuscript—especially Marjorie Knowles and Harold Robinson, who spent years assembling the manuscript and editing it to a publishable form; Christian Feuillet, who performed a final edit of the manuscript; and Alice Tangerini, who finalized the hundreds of illustrations and photographic plates to insure the highest quality. It has been a long wait, but I find this personally satisfying as it fits so well with the Smithsonian's mission to increase and diffuse knowledge.

As the Cuatrecasas Endowment goes into its second decade we are delighted to acknowledge a generous new gift in 2008 from the Cuatrecasas Family Foundation that has increased the annual payout of the fund by nearly 35%, allowing us to continue with the initiatives that have become the hallmark of this fund—increase the growing number of Cuatrecasas Fellows, and investigate new avenues to further research and collaboration in the subjects that Don José loved.

Chair

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Wagner



Staff Research & Activities

On August 10, **Pedro Acevedo** traveled to Manaus, Brazil, and a few days later to São Gabriel da Cachoeira (Amazonas State), to meet with Charles Zartman and Rinaldo S. Fernandes of the Escola Agrotecnica Federal. Acevedo presented two talks, one on "Sapindaceae of the Neotropics" and another on "Botanical Collections and the Writing of Scientific Papers." He traveled to the Upper Içana River, a tributary of the middle Rio Negro, in order to do a general botanical survey of the area and to provide botanical training to local students in the village of Tunuí. He was stationed at the FUNAI facilities, where he carried out daily collecting trips along the Içana river, its tributaries and the Tunuí hills. After the expedition, Acevedo spent some time studying the Sapindaceae collections housed at the Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazônia (INPA) herbarium in Manaus, and from there to the Universidade Federal da Bahia (UFBA) and Universidade Estadual de Feira de Santana (HUEFS) herbaria, both in eastern Bahia. While in Bahia, Acevedo visited the area of Chapada Diamantina along with Nadia Roque to collect Sapindaceae and to identify prospective areas for further studies in the region.

In July, **Robert Faden** traveled to Richmond, Virginia, with Botany intern **Daniel J. Layton** to examine *Commelina* herbarium specimens at the Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, which includes the herbarium of Virginia Commonwealth University, and the University of Richmond in connection with Layton's senior honor's project at the College of William and Mary. The project, which was first proposed by Faden to Layton's advisor, Martha A. Case, was to try to determine whether the introduced weed *Commelina caroliniana*, which ranges from Florida to Texas and North Carolina but has also been collected in Baltimore, might occur in Virginia. Part of the project consisted of visiting as many herbaria in Virginia as possible in order to determine whether specimens of *C. caroliniana* from Virginia might have been overlooked or misnamed. In the end

Layton concluded that *C. caroliniana* has not been collected previously in Virginia. Time was insufficient to do field work where the plant is most likely to be found, namely in southeastern Virginia.

Christian Feuillet and Amy Rossman (U.S. Department of Agriculture) traveled to French Guiana in September to look for fungi and DNA of Asteraceae and Passifloraceae. The field work took place mostly near the Kaw Mountains and Sinnamary and the mining compound at Citron. Feuillet identified the Aristolochiaceae, Boraginaceae, Gesneriaceae, and Passifloraceae collections of Herbar de Guyane (CAY).

Mark Littler and **Diane Littler** were asked to critique the environmental sciences program for the Indian River Lagoon conducted by the Conservation Center for Lake Okeechobee, Kissimmee and Indian Rivers and Everglades Education. The organization runs educational and training programs for an estimated 17,000 students and visitors per year for the Indian River Lagoon. The Littlers highlighted interesting phenomena and recommended several non-destructive collecting methods to demonstrate IRL seagrass and water column biota, which ranks among the richest in the continental United States.

Laurence Skog was honored by having a new species of Gesneriaceae named after him. *Moussonia larryskogii*, a species from Oaxaca and Veracruz, Mexico, was described by Angélica Ramírez-Roa in a paper in *Revista Mexicana de Biodiversidad* (78: 257-264; 2007). This species joins two other eponyms *Chirita skogiana* Z.Y. Li and *Camellia skogiana* C.X. Ye.

Alice Tangerini participated in the Guild of Natural Science Illustrators meeting held at Ithaca College and Cornell University in Ithaca, New York. Tangerini's drawings were shown as part of a presentation on reconstruction techniques used in paleobiology by NMNH illustrator Mary Parrish, as examples of reconstructing flattened objects to a more naturalistic appearance. Parrish and Tangerini share the same difficulties in their illustrations in having to make their subjects appear lifelike although the material they work from is either desiccated or fossilized. Tangerini's graphite drawing of *Sampera*

coriacea was displayed at the GNSI Annual Members Exhibit held at Cornell University. Tangerini also donated three of her 1970 equine etchings for the GNSI Annual Auction.

Awards & Grants

Alice Tangerini was nominated for and accepted a position on the Board of Directors for the American Society of Botanical Artists in August 2008 and has offered to work as an editor for the ASBA Members' Gallery website.

At the 41st Congress of the International Society for the History of Medicine in Mexico City, **Alain Touwaide** was elected Vice-President of the Society. In Sicily, Italy, he was awarded the Medal for Outstanding Contribution to Science by the Rector of the University of Messina.

Based on voting among members of American Society of Plant Taxonomists, **Warren Wagner** became President Elect of ASPT in September and will assume the President's role after the meeting in 2009 in Snowbird, Utah. At the Botany 2008 meetings in Vancouver, Canada, Wagner was awarded the Botanical Society of America Merit Award, the highest honor given by the society. It is given in recognition of outstanding contributions to the science of botany.

IAPT Honors Nicolson with Named Fund

Dan H. Nicolson has been honored by the International Association for Plant Taxonomy (IAPT) by having the first ever IAPT endowment for research awards named after him. Nicolson is being recognized for contributing to IAPT and its mission in numerous ways for over five decades. Once successfully established, one Nicolson Fund Award will be made each year. The Nicolson Fund is intended to support research that emphasizes nomenclatural and herbarium work.

During his career Nicolson has become widely known for his systematic work on the tropical plant family Araceae, but is especially well regarded as one of the foremost specialists on botanical nomenclature. His expertise has been widely

Visitors

sought for decades throughout the botanical community. Nicolson has contributed directly to IAPT in many forms over a period of decades, especially in the area of nomenclature: he has served on the Editorial Committee of the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (1981-2007), the General Committee (1981-2000), the Spermatophyta Committee (1975-1987; 2001-date), Committee on Typification of Generic Names (1978-1981), Committee on Orthography (1981-1987), Vice-President, Bureau of Nomenclature (1987), President, Bureau of Nomenclature (1999), President of Nomenclature Section (2005), and the Nomenclature Editor of *Taxon* (1979-1999). He also has served extensively as an IAPT officer including Vice President (1985-1993) and President (1993-1999). His recent outstanding contribution to our knowledge of the Forsters and the botany of the 2nd Cook Expedition was recognized by receiving the IAPT Staffeu Medal for 2004.

Over his long career, Nicolson has taken on thousands of nomenclatural problems from colleagues worldwide. His thoroughness, friendliness, and balanced personality have always been appreciated and have allowed real progress to be made.

Travel

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on global warming and to conduct work on the Marquesas Flora project; and to Vancouver, Canada (7/25 – 8/4) to present a talk and attend an American Society of Plant Taxonomists council meeting at the Botany 2008 meeting.

Jun Wen traveled to Seaford, Delaware (8/2 – 8/3) to collect wild rice; to Quebec, Canada (8/6 – 8/12) to collect wild rice and other disjunct plants; to New Haven, Connecticut (8/27) to attend a graduate committee meeting; to Highlands, North Carolina (8/30 – 9/4) to collect Asian-North American disjunct plants; and to China (9/7 – 10/10) to conduct a herbarium and field study on *Panax* and related genera in Araliaceae.

Kenneth Wurdack traveled to Vancouver, Canada (7/24 – 8/1) to attend the Botany 2008 meeting; and to Georgetown, Guyana (9/5 – 10/27) to collect plants for the Biological Diversity of the Guiana Shield program in the area just south of the Conservation International concession in southern Guyana.

Lei Xie, Chinese Academy of Sciences; *Clematis* (Ranunculaceae), *Circaea* and *Fuchsia* (Onagraceae) (1/1/07-12/31/08).

Yunjuan Zuo, Beijing Institute of Botany, China; *Panax* (Araliaceae) (5/7/07-9/6/08).

Blanca Leon, Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Lima, Peru; Peruvian *Tillandsia* (Bromeliaceae) and flora (10/18/07-10/18/09).

Marina Cortes, Columbia University; *Heliconia* (2/1-12/20).

Lu Jin-Mei, Kunming Institute of Botany, China; *Adiantum* (Adiantaceae) (2/1/08-1/31/09).

Rong Li, Kunming Institute of Botany, China; Asian *Schefflera* (Araliaceae) (2/15/08- 2/14/09).

Silvia Nicolè, University of Padova-Agripolis, Legnaro, Italy; Plant DNA barcoding (3/3-9/30).

Konstantyn Romaschenko, National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Kiev; Poaceae, Stipeae (4/25-7/25).

Joseph Brider, University of Hawaii, Manoa; Pacific Island plants (5/27-7/27).

Alexandra Schellenger, Smith College; Collections management (5/27-8/15).

Cecily Marroquin, New Mexico State University; *Historia Plantarum* collection (6/16-8/15).

Mauricio Diazgranados, St. Louis University and Missouri Botanical Garden; *Espeletia* clade (Compositae) (6/27-7/5).

Athena Tellis, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology; Senior project on *Magnolia* (6/30/08-2/28/09).

Emily Butler, University of Wisconsin; *Dryopteris* (Dryopteridaceae) (7/1-9/1).

Gisela Sancho, Museo de La Plata, Argentina; *Gochnatia* clade (Compositae) (7/1-7/12).

Nadia Roque, Federal University of Bahia, Brazil; *Gochnatia* clade (Compositae) (7/1-9/1).

Heroen Verbruggen, Ghent University, Belgium; Phycology systematics (7/6-8/20).

Andrew Woo, Washington University; San Jacinto project (7/7-7/18).

Alexander Krings, North Carolina State University; *Dichantherium* (Poaceae) (7/10).

Christine Kuan, ARTstor Digital Library, New York; *Historia Plantarum* collection and PLANT Website (7/10-7/11).

Amanda Saville, North Carolina State University; *Dichantherium* (Poaceae) (7/10-7/11).

Cynthia Skema, Cornell University; *Dombeya* (Sterculiaceae) (7/14-7/16).

Janelle Burke, Cornell University; Tropical Polygonaceae (7/15).

Roberta Cohen, Brookings Institution; *Historia Plantarum* collection (7/16).

Polly Nayak, Independent researcher; *Historia Plantarum* collection (7/16).

Diane Pollock, Los Angeles County Department of Education; Specimen processing techniques (7/17).

Mary McKenna and 18 students, University of Virginia Blandy Field Station; Herbarium tour, plant conservation (7/18).

Frank Almeda, Marcela Alvear, and **Jose David Garcia**, California Academy of Sciences; Melastomataceae, Flora of Colombia Checklist (7/21-7/26).

Kathy Duggleby, and **Judith and William Gammonley**, Earthwatch Institute; Pacific Island ethnobotany (7/21-7/25).

Eva Gonzales, Appalachian State University; *Trillium* (Melanthiaceae) (7/22).

Reilly Keane, Potomac High School, Virginia; Organizing and categorizing plant DNA (7/23-8/8).

Sukhonthip Bunwong, Khon Kaen University, Thailand; *Vernonia* (Compositae) (8/1-8/17).

Chris Briand, Pat DiBello, Mike Folkoff, Steve Gehrlich, Sam Geleta, Ron Gutberlet, and **Mark Holland**, Salisbury University; *Historia Plantarum* collection (8/7).

Pilar Catalan, University of Zaragoza, Spain; Poaceae (8/18-8/24).

Glen Cooper, Brigham Young University; *Historia Plantarum* collection (8/20).

Continued on page 7

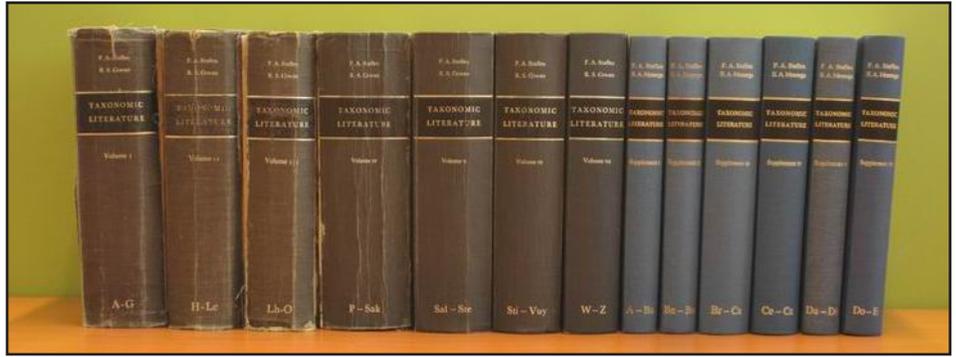
Profile

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basis, TL-2 is a standard adopted by the Taxonomic Database Working Group (TDWG), an organization sanctioned by the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) devoted to establishing international collaboration among biological database projects so as to promote the wider and more effective dissemination of information about the world's heritage of biological organisms for the benefit of the world at large. TL-2 also invariably is listed by botanical (and biological) journals as the standard by which author's names and titles should be abbreviated.

The genesis of TL-2 goes back over 50 years. In the 1950s, the Dutch botanist Frans A. Stafleu (1921-1997) began a card index of plant taxonomic literature in support of work toward a revision of the fourth edition of the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (1952) and the verification of generic names cited therein. This card file expanded rapidly when the IAPT committed to preparing an *Index Nominum Genericorum* (an index to generic names of plants and fungi, and their types). In 1964, Grady Webster (1927-2005) an American botanist visiting Stafleu in Utrecht, The Netherlands, complained that it was unfair of Stafleu to have so much useful information confined to his office. At that point in time, the best guide to plant taxonomic literature was the second edition of Pritzl's *Thesaurus Literaturae Botanicae* (1872-1877). Webster's comment inspired Stafleu to write and publish a modest volume entitled *Taxonomic Literature* (TL) (1967) based on his card file. Almost immediately, there was international pressure to publish an enlarged and more detailed second edition. In 1973, Stafleu committed to such a project.

In beginning his revision of TL, Stafleu received an offer of assistance from Richard S. Cowan (1921-1997) who had just stepped down after eight years as Director of the National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, and who was hoping to return to systematic research in the U.S. National Herbarium. Initially Cowan thought only to assist Stafleu with research in libraries in the United States, but he soon became a full partner when he recognized that the enterprise had such great value for the discipline of plant



taxonomy. Their research consisted in assembling an archive of photocopies that includes annotated title pages, and biographical and bibliographical references from selected journals. This archive (769 linear feet of documents) is deposited now in the Library of the New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, New York. (As a point of comparison the Washington Monument is a mere 555 linear feet tall!). Cowan was principally responsible for surveying the libraries of Washington, D.C. and vicinity, especially those of the Smithsonian Institution, the United States Department of Agriculture (Beltsville, Maryland), and the Library of Congress. Together, Cowan and Stafleu also spent significant periods of time working in the libraries of the New York Botanical Garden and the Missouri Botanical Garden.

The first of the seven volumes of TL-2, a volume treating authors with surnames A-G, was completed without external grant support and published in 1976. This lack of support limited the range of libraries that could be surveyed. The utility of the work was manifest and once National Science Foundation (NSF) support was forthcoming, the depth of coverage of volumes two to seven (authors with surnames H-Z) was substantially improved. Stafleu and Cowan continued to collect materials pertaining to authors with surnames A-G while researching volumes two to seven and when volume seven was published in 1988 it was already decided to rectify the shortcomings of volume one by publishing supplements to the first volume. By the time volume seven was published Cowan had retired and moved to Australia. He chose not to play a role in preparing any of the supplements.

Stafleu recruited Erik A. Mennega (1923-1998) to assist him in preparing the supplements to TL-2. Mennega, who was then retired, had been a plant taxonomist at the Botanic Gardens of the Univer-

sity of Utrecht. Together he and Stafleu researched and wrote supplements one through six (authors with surnames A-E), which were published from 1992 to 2000, the last two posthumously. Sadly, in a span of less than three month's time the principals in the original project (Stafleu and Cowan) and supplements (Stafleu and Mennega) all died. Norbert Kilian and Ralf Hand, both at the Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum in Berlin, assumed responsibility for bringing manuscripts for supplements five and six to completion. The project may have ended here except that in 2000 Dan H. Nicolson contemplating useful projects to pursue in retirement decided to finish the supplements. He recruited Laurence J. Dorr to help him.

Initially Nicolson utilized the TL-2 archive in the New York Botanical Garden to construct the outline of what became the final two supplements. Once the data on some 600 authors were assembled, Dorr became more fully vested in the project in late 2005, and proceeded to use all of the electronic catalogues and databases that have been created in recent years to flesh out these treatments and develop targeted lists of books and offprints to examine in selected libraries. (This was a radical departure from using photocopy machines). Much of the final work involved using resources in Washington, D.C., including the Smithsonian Institution Libraries, Library of Congress, National Agricultural Library, and Dumbarton Oaks. Numerous trips to the New York Botanical Garden and the Harvard University Botany libraries in Cambridge also were required, as was a trip to London to consult rarer items in the libraries of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and the Natural History Museum in London.

A manuscript for the supplement treating authors F-Frer was submitted to the editor in December 2007, first and second

proof were corrected and returned in April 2008, and the volume was published in late July 2008. Manuscript for the final supplement treating authors Fres-G was submitted in January 2008, the first proof was corrected and returned in September 2008, and second and third proofs were checked in October 2008. We have every expectation that the final volume of this monumental work will be published before the end of the calendar year.

Visitors

Continued from page 5

Marcia Gregorio and **Jorge Tamashiro**, Universidade Estadual de Campinas, Brazil; Fabaceae and woody dicotyledons of extra-Amazonian Brazil (8/21).

Brett MacMillan, McDaniel College; Examine herbarium cases (8/21).

Blair D. Orr, Michigan Technological University; Madagascar deforestation (9/24)

Fernando Alzate, Intituto do Biologia, Universidad de Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia; Cuatrecasas Fellowship (9/26-11/7).

Barbara Ertter, University of California Berkeley; Rosaceae and Potentilleae (9/29-10/2).

Luisito Evangelista, Philippine National Museum, Manila; Diatoms (9/30-10/1).

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266; Malvaceae, pp. 458-464; Tiliaceae, pp. 642-645. In O. Hokche, P. Berry and O. Huber, eds. *Nuevo Catálogo de la Flora Vascular de Venezuela*. Fundación Instituto Botánico de Venezuela Dr. Tobias Lasser, Caracas.

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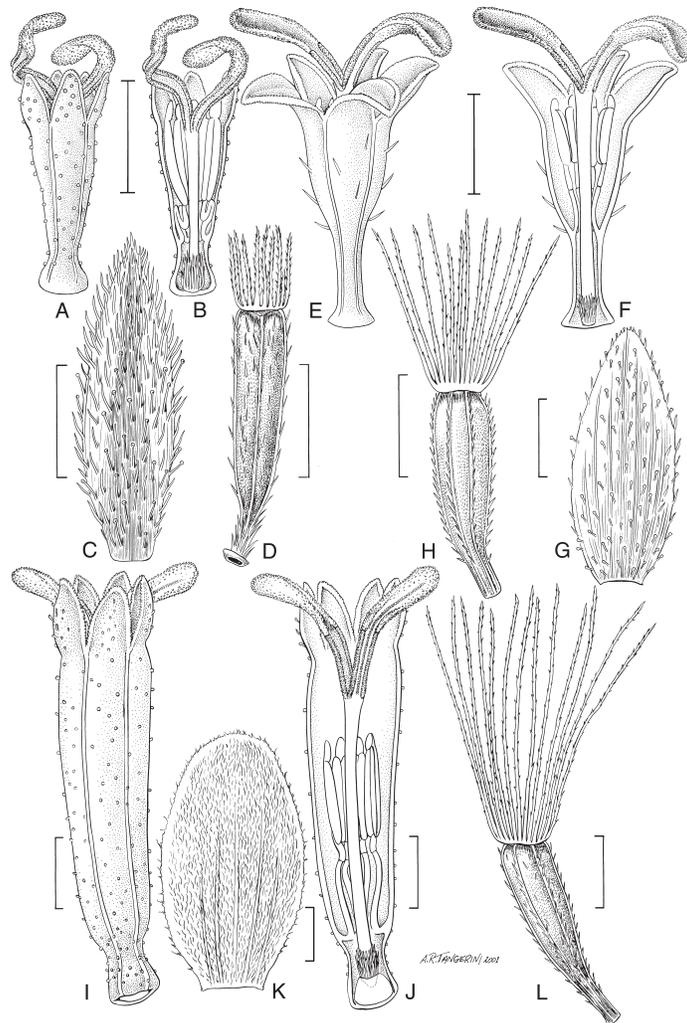
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Art by Alice Tangerini

***Neocuatrecasia* R.M. King & H. Robinson**

Neocuatrecasia was named for José Cuatrecasas. It is a genus of ca. 12 species restricted to the eastern escarpment of the Andes in Bolivia and Peru. The area is very poorly collected, and almost every collection of the genus has proved to be a previously unknown species.



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