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"Polynomials"

AND THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

R.J. Henderson, Queensland Herbarium

It seems to me from reading various recent local publications, there is some confusion in the minds of some botanists and referees as to what form the names of infraspecific taxa can or should take. Till now I felt reluctant to comment for fear of appearing petty or to be "pointing the finger" at particular persons but I see in the recently published book on Sydney Parkinson edited by Denis Carr, to which I contributed, I was just as confused in this matter, and can start by chastening myself.

Manuscript for my effort for the book was submitted before the 13th International Botanical Congress held in Sydney in 1981. Sitting through the nomenclature sessions before the congress I began to grasp the full meaning of many articles of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature particularly with respect to Article 6.7 and Article 24.1. Following subsequent advice from Professor Greuter in Berlin, I think I see the effects of these two articles clearly now.

Under the Code, the names of infraspecific taxa, be they subspecies, varieties, sub-varieties, forms or sub-forms, consist of a generic name combined with a specific epithet and a single infraspecific epithet connected to the species name by a term denoting its rank (Article 24.1).

Therefore, *Abutilon indicum* (L.) Sweet subspecies *albescens* (Miq.) Borss. var. *australiense* Hochr. ex Britten is not the name for the taxon I dealt with on page 134 (Henderson, 1983) and indeed as given has no standing as such under the Code. Correctly it is *Abutilon indicum* var. *australiense*. From the taxonomic point of view, it is useful to know that this variety may be classified under subspecies *albescens* but that the subspecies' epithet is not and can not be part of the name of the variety.

From the practical viewpoint, this is the only way the system of nomenclature can cope with inconsistency between treatments of infraspecific taxa. Some taxonomists will describe new varieties or forms in species in which subspecies have previously been described without relating those new varieties or forms to the already established subspecies. In some instances the reverse is the case. In all cases it is often impossible to reconcile the two sets of names published. In my opinion the code adequately covers this problem. As examples of my point, "polynomials" such as

Chenopodium carinatum R.Br. var. *melanocarpum* J. Black forma *leucocarpa* Allen

Dicrastylis exsuccosa (F. Muell.) Druce subsp. *exsuccosa* var. *tomentosa* Munir
forma *lachnophylla* Munir

Diuris punctata Smith var. *punctata* forma *blackneyae* F.M. Bailey

Euphorbia tannensis Sprengel subsp. *eremophila* (Cunn.) Hassall var.
findlaysonii (J. Black) Hassall

Lachnostachys ferruginea Hook. var. *paniculata* (Ewart) Munir forma *obtusifolia*
Munir; and

Pimelea curviflora R.Br. subsp. *gracilis* (R.Br.) Threlfall var. *sericea* Benth.

used in recent Australian publications as names, cannot be names in the sense of the Code. (This is by no means a comprehensive list and the practice is by no means confined to Australia - see, for example, Flora Europaea). In the examples above the correct names should have been listed respectively as:-

Chenopodium carinatum forma *leucocarpum*
Dicrastylis exsuccosa forma *lachnophylla*
Diuris punctata forma *blackneyae*
Euphorbia tannensis var. *findlaysonii*
Lachnostachys ferruginea forma *obtusifolia* and
Pimelea curviflora var. *sericea*

Paul Wilson's index to scientific names in Chenopodiaceae (Nuytsia 4(2), 1983) is a good example of how these sorts of names should be written. A further misconception apparently held by some botanists in relation to Article 26 is also illustrated by the *Dicrastylis*, *Euphorbia*, *Lachnostachys* and *Pimelea* examples above. Article 26.2 states in part that the first valid publication of a name for an infraspecific taxon (i.e. a generic name with a specific epithet and an infraspecific epithet connected to it by a term denoting the taxon's rank) that does not include the type of the correct name of the species automatically establishes the name of a second taxon of the same rank which does include that type and has the same epithet as the name of the species.

Taking the *Dicrastylis* case as an example, the publication of *D. exsuccosa* forma *lachnophylla* and *D. exsuccosa* forma *albo-lutea* under *D. exsuccosa* variety *tomentosa* (Brunonia 1, 1978) did not establish the supposed autonym *D. exsuccosa* forma *tomentosa* but the autonym *D. exsuccosa* forma *exsuccosa*. If it was intended *D. exsuccosa* forma *tomentosa* be published, and it fairly obviously was, all conditions for valid publication should have been met. I think this has almost been done (under Articles 32 and 36 by direct reference back to the effective publication of *D. exsuccosa* var. *tomentosa*) but as these two names were proposed simultaneously for the taxon (based on the one type) under Article 34.4 neither was validly published. (Under Article 25 the taxon named *D. exsuccosa* var. *tomentosa* includes the taxon named *D. exsuccosa* forma *tomentosa*). Fortunately, with publication of the "Sydney" code with its retroactive provisions and changes I believe were made with regard to autonoms in Sydney 1981, there will be no suggestion that these are invalid. This is an example of invalid and hence illegitimate names becoming validly published and legitimate by a change in Articles of the Code (at an International Botanical Congress).

This same principle applies in the *Euphorbia*, *Lachnostachys* and *Pimelea* cases above. The description and naming varieties under "non-type" subspecies or formas under "non-type" varieties established taxa of equivalent rank including the type of the species name for which the species epithet is repeated. They did not establish a taxon of equivalent rank whose name repeats the epithet of the name of the next highest "non-type" taxon.

Reference

Henderson, R.J. (1983) in D.J. Carr, (ed). Sydney Parkinson Artist of Cook's Endeavour Voyage. Canberra: ANU Press.

Council of Heads of Australian Herbaria

The Eleventh Annual Meeting of CHAH was held in Melbourne on 26-27 October 1983. Members present were: Dr J.H. Ross (MEL-Chairman), Dr B.A. Barlow (CANB), Mr D.J. Boland (FRI), Dr B.G. Briggs (NSW), Mr A.B. Court (CBG), Mr C.R. Dunlop (DNA), Dr J.W. Green (PERTH), Dr J.P. Jessop (AD), Dr R.W. Johnson (BRI), Dr A.E. Orchard (HO).

In addition Dr W. Harris (DSIR, Christchurch, New Zealand) and Mr F.J. Kendall (CAMD representative) attended as observers.

On Thursday 27 October Dr P. Bridgewater, Director of the Bureau of Flora and Fauna, met with Council to discuss matters of mutual interest and concern.

Among the topics discussed were:

1. Australian Botanical Liaison Officer (ABLO)

The question of a duty statement for the ABLO was considered and it was agreed that a general duty statement was desirable and that one would be drawn up by the Chairman. Members of Council are also of the opinion that on returning to Australia each ABLO should be required to provide a report detailing the work undertaken to the Director, Bureau of Flora and Fauna.

Since the initiation of the trial period for the ABLO to service enquiries from New Zealand botanists in March 1983 only one such enquiry had been received by the ABLO up until the end of October 1983.

2. Reciprocal scheme for British botanists

Members of Council support the concept of a reciprocal scheme whereby British botanists could pay working visits to Australian Herbaria and are willing to co-operate with British botanists on an informal basis. As the opportunity already exists for British botanists who have funding to work in Australian Herbaria it was felt that the scheme need not necessarily be linked with the ABLO position. The Chairman has informed the Acting Keeper, Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, of CHAH's attitude towards the scheme.

3. Visits to Australia by Overseas Botanists

Dr W. Harris, Director, Botany Division, DSIR, Christchurch, New Zealand (CHR), notified Council that CHR can consider raising funds for overseas botanists who are in Australia to cover expenses for travel to New Zealand and requested that CHR be notified of forthcoming visits by overseas botanists to Australia. The question of how visits by overseas botanists could be advertised was considered and it was concluded that the ASBS Newsletter provided the best medium. Members of ASBS are invited to communicate information concerning forthcoming visits by overseas botanists to the Editor of the ASBS Newsletter.

4. Role of CHAH in the Direction of Australian Plant Taxonomy

(a) Register of Economic Properties of Australian Plants. Following the meeting of CHAH in Brisbane in 1982 Mr J.R. Maconochie agreed to act as convener of a working party and prepare a discussion paper. Subsequently Mr Maconochie accepted an FAO-sponsored position in Somalia for 12 months and the project has lapsed.

(b) Card Index to current Australian Taxonomic Literature. Journal titles for indexing have been allocated to each herbarium and some sets of index cards have been distributed among the participating herbaria. Although the system is operating, it needs refining and the matter has been referred to a sub-committee. The sub-committee consists of Dr W.R. Barker (AD-Convener), Dr R.W. Johnson (BRI) and Miss H.M. Cohn (MEL).

4.

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(c) Register of Handwriting samples. A second set of samples consisting of botanists whose surnames start with the letters L-Z was distributed to each Herbarium by Mr A.B. Court.

Samples of handwriting of botanists and collectors associated with Australian botany will be welcomed by Mr Court.

5. Eligibility for Australian Research Grants Scheme (ARGS) Grants

Following the change of Government in Canberra this year, the new Minister for Science and Technology has advised that botanists employed in State and Commonwealth Herbaria are eligible for ARGS grants.

6. Australian Biotaxonomic Information Service (ABIS)

The progress with, or steps taken towards, the capture and electronic storage of label data was summarised by the representative of each herbarium.

Methods of capturing herbarium label data from specimens used in the preparation of treatments for the Flora of Australia were discussed with Dr Bridgewater. Dr Bridgewater informed members of CHAH that the Bureau of Flora and Fauna intends to hold a workshop on ABIS in Canberra to which interested parties will be invited.

7. Survey of Herbaria

Dr Bridgewater has agreed to a request from CHAH to co-ordinate a survey of the resources and facilities available to State and Commonwealth Herbaria along the lines of the survey contained in the ABRIS Report (1978).

8. Flora of Australia project

Members of Council expressed concern at the slow production rate of the Flora of Australia. Government is being informed of the Council's concern.

9. Exchange of specimens between Australian Herbaria

The quality and quantity of specimens exchanged was discussed. It was agreed that:

(a) When collecting, botanists should bear in mind the existence of the exchange programmes and endeavour to collect duplicates for exchange.

(b) The first duplicate should be lodged in the herbarium belonging to the State/Territory in which the specimen was collected. If only one duplicate is available the choice lies between sending it to a specialist in the group and the herbarium in the State/Territory in which the specimen was collected.

(c) Specimens distributed on exchange should be named to species wherever practicable.

It was also agreed that collectors should be encouraged to include the family name on labels in future.

10. ABRS Plant Collecting Programme

Certain reservations were expressed by members of Council about the ABRIS Plant Collecting Programme. Nevertheless, members of Council were of the opinion that the ABRIS Advisory Committee would be in a better position to allocate the available funds now than if the Herbaria had not participated by indicating the priorities in the State/Territory to which they belong.

11. Training of Taxonomic Botanists

Several options for providing appropriate training for graduates were considered. The matter will be discussed again at the next meeting of CHAH to allow certain lines of enquiry to be discussed in the interim.

12. Register of translations of major publications of use to taxonomists

In an endeavour to prevent the same publications being translated more than once by different people at different times Dr Johnson suggested that a register of unpublished translations be compiled. The representative of each herbarium agreed to compile a list of such translations and to forward the list to Dr Johnson. Dr Johnson agreed to collate all of the information and prepare a card index for distribution to each herbarium and, in addition, to publish a list in the ASBS Newsletter.

13. Next meeting of CHAH and the new Executive

The Twelfth Annual Meeting of CHAH will be held in Perth.

The incoming Executive is: Dr J.W. Green (Chairman), Dr J.P. Jessop and Dr J.H. Ross (retiring Chairman).

J.H. Ross
Chairman, CHAH

Report from the Bureau of Flora and Fauna

Volume 22 of the Flora of Australia has had a slow passage through AGPS and is only now going to the printer. Provided that there are no further delays it should be available in late February.

The staff shortage in the Flora Section has been alleviated, first with the return of Arthur Chapman from overseas and second with the appointment of Geetha Sriprakash on temporary transfer to the Section. Geetha will assist in editing manuscripts, so it is expected that progress will become more rapid while she is here. Volume 4 and 25 are now being edited.

Arthur's trip was highly successful. He visited over 60 libraries and now estimates that there are only about 15 of the 55 000+ names in the Australian Plant Name Index for which he has not seen the protologues. He also found about 700 names not previously recorded for the Index. It is hoped that the whole Index will be available on microfiche in two years' time.

Alex George
Acting Assistant Director,
Flora Section

Nomenclatural Notes

on Eragrostis cilianensis (All.) Vign. ex Janchen

B.K. Simon, Queensland Herbarium

Much has been written about the nomenclature of Stink Grass, a common weed found in both tropical and temperate regions. However, there are still two aspects of its nomenclature that need clarification:

- (a) the typification of the basionym *Poa cilianensis* All.
- (b) the validating author of the combination *Eragrostis cilianensis*.

(a) *Poa cilianensis* was published by Allioni (1785), based on a specimen "collected by Bellardi on his father's estate of Ciliani in Piedmont", Italy (Hubbard, 1913). There has been some confusion concerning the identification of the Bellardi specimen upon which Allioni based his, albeit rather poor, description. As some aspects of the description are regarded by some authors as more applicable to the genus *Poa* than to *Eragrostis*, the name has been often considered to be of doubtful application (see references in Rauschert, 1982 and Kerguelen, 1978) and the next available legitimate binomial, *Eragrostis megastachya* (Koeler) Link, has been taken up for the species. The fact that the description does contain features which are consistent with *Eragrostis* ("folia circa vaginam ciliata") and that there are Bellardi specimens from Ciliani, in the general herbarium of the Turin Botanical Garden Museum (T0), that can be readily identified as belonging to the genus *Eragrostis*, remove the doubt of the application of the name. Most previous authors consider that a Bellardi specimen cannot be found in the Allioni herbarium (McNeill & Dore, 1976; Rauschert, 1982; Vignolo-Lutati, 1904). However, there are two specimens in the type locality collected by Bellardi at T0 (M. Crisp pers. comm.) and photographs of them are in BRI and K. Of these one is a specimen in Bellardi's own herbarium and the other, in the Balbis herbarium, was donated by Bellardi and is presumably a duplicate. Furthermore, there is a third matching specimen in the Biroli herbarium but no locality is given on the label.

Rauschert (1982) has selected the specimen in Bellardi's herbarium as a neotype, the same procedure having previously been suggested by McNeill & Dore (1976). In my opinion, however, there is no evidence that the holotype of Allioni was in fact lost. According to Stafleu & Cowan (1976), "the Allioni herbarium was acquired by G.B. Balbis, then by M. Bonafous and subsequently by the Turin Academy of Agriculture. This Academy presented the herbarium to T0 in 1891". From this it follows that the specimen used by Allioni i.e. the holotype, is in T0 and could conceivably be either the specimen in the Bellardi herbarium or that in the Balbis herbarium, both of which were collected by Bellardi. In view of this uncertainty it seems appropriate to nominate one of these as a lectotype of *Poa cilianensis* All. and I therefore select the specimen in the Bellardi herbarium (the neotype of Rauschert) as such (T0 8242, photo at BRI, photo at K under negative no. 19571).

(b) When Vignolo-Lutati made the new combination *Eragrostis cilianensis*, mistakenly attributing the combination to Link, he did not accept the combination, which was thus not validly published (Article 34.1(a) of the ICBN (1978)). The most widely accepted validating author in recent times has been F.T. Hubbard (Hubbard, 1913), although two other validating authors, both post-dating Hubbard, have been used in North America (Voss, 1966). However, there are two prior European uses of *Eragrostis cilianensis*, that of Schinz & Thellung, 1907 and that of Janchen, 1907. Janchen's paper was published prior to that of Schinz's & Thellung's and Rauschert (1982) drew attention to this fact by correctly using Janchen as the validating author. The abbreviation for Vignolo-Lutati given in the title of this paper is that listed in the Draft Index of Author Abbreviations compiled at the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (1980).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am very grateful to Dr M. Crisp of the National Botanic Garden Herbarium, Canberra for photographing specimens of Bellardi, Balbis and Biroli at TO while he was Australian Botanical Liaison Officer in Europe, 1981-82, to Mr T. Fiore and Mr P. Sharpe for assistance in translating Italian and German papers respectively, to Dr J.F. Veldkamp of the Rijksherbarium, Leiden for exchanging his views on nomenclatural matters concerning *Eragrostis cilianensis* and to Mr R.J. Henderson of the Queensland Herbarium for reading an earlier manuscript of this paper.

References

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- Hubbard, F.T. (1913). On *Eragrostis cilianensis* (All.) Vignolo Lutati. *Philippine Journal of Science, C. Botany* 8(3): 159-161.
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- Voss, E.G. (1966). Nomenclatural notes on Monocots. *Rhodora* 23: 441.

Preliminary Announcement

XIV International Botanical Congress

Under the auspices of the International Union of Biological Sciences
Berlin (West), Germany, 24th July to 1st August 1987

The Programme will comprise 6 Divisions: metabolic botany, developmental botany, genetics and plant breeding, structural botany, systematic and evolutionary botany, and environmental botany. All plant groups will be considered, and aspects of both pure and applied research will be covered. Special emphasis will be laid on inter- and multi-disciplinary topics. There will be plenary sessions, symposia, and sessions for submitted contributions (posters).

The Nomenclature Section will convene in Berlin on 20th to 24th July 1987.

Pre- and post-congress scientific Field Trips will be arranged to various parts of Central, South and North Europe.

The First Circular, containing further details and a preliminary registration form, is now available. Send your name and full address to ensure your inclusion on the mailing list. Your early reply will be appreciated.

Chairman of the Organizing Committee: Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. K. Esser.

Enquiries should be sent to the Secretary of the Organizing Committee, Prof. Dr. W. Greuter.

Congress Address: XIV IBC, Bot. Garden & Museum, Königin-Luise-Str. 6-8, D-1000 Berlin (West) 33, Germany.

ABRS GRANTS 1984

FLORA PROGRAM

Investigator	Institution	Project Title	\$
Bell, G.H.	Botanic Gardens of Adelaide	Revisional study of Pottiaceae (Musci: Bryophyta) in Australia	9 900
Blaxell, D.F.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	Formal publication of the "eucalypt" genera and consequent new combinations	7 000
Carolin, R.C. & Morrison, D.A.	University of Sydney	Revision of <i>Lechenaultia</i> (Goodeniaceae)	15 000
Chinnoek, R.J.	Botanic Gardens of Adelaide	Revision of <i>Eremophila</i> (Myoporaceae)	9 000
Clarkson, J.R.	Queensland Herbarium	Flora/Vegetation Survey, Cape York	17 500
Clifford, H.T.	University of Queensland	Accounts of Liliaceae (part) and Smilacaceae (whole) for Flora of Australia	250
Crowden, R.K.	University of Tasmania	Studies of the <i>Epacris tasmanica</i> complex (Epacridaceae)	930
Dunlop, C.R.	Conservation Commission of N.T.	Computerise Herbarium of the N.T. (Darwin) label data	7 000
Eichler, HJ	Herbarium Australiense	Taxonomic revision of <i>Hydrocotyle</i> (Apiaceae) in Australia	2 000
Elix, J.A.	Australian National University	A taxonomic revision of <i>Parmelia</i> subg. <i>Xanthoparmelia</i> in Australasia	19 740
Fox, M.D.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	Vegetation survey of western N.S.W.	3 000
Green, P.S.		Floras of Lord Howe & Norfolk Islands	20 000
Grieve, B.J.	University of W.A.	"How to know Western Australian Wildflowers"	5 000
Henderson, R.J.F.	Queensland Herbarium	Contributions to Liliaceae for Flora of Australia	2 218
Hopper, S.D.	CWR	Flora survey, E.Roe botanical district, W.A.	33 000
Hopper, S.D.	Fisheries & Wildlife, W.A.	Banksia Atlas	32 500
Hyland, B.P.M.	CSIRO, Atherton	Rainforest Proteaceae for Flora of Australia	600
Johnson, R.W.	Queensland Herbarium	Taxonomic Revisions in Convolvulaceae	2 300

Investigator	Institution	Project Title	\$
Jones, D.L.		Preparation of miscellaneous orchid genera for Flora of Australia	7 500
Maslin, B.R.	W.A. Herbarium	The elucidation of new & poorly known species of <i>Acacia</i>	22 334
McGillivray, D.J.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	A revision of the genus <i>Grevillea</i> (Proteaceae)	5 000
Morris, D.I.	University of Tasmania	The Students Flora of Tasmania	1 284
Orchard, A.E.	Tasmanian Herbarium	Flora accounts of Sub-Antarctic islands	1 000
Orchard, A.E.	Tasmanian Herbarium	Curation of the G.C. Bratt lichen collection	2 000
Pedley, L.	Queensland Herbarium	Revision of <i>Acacia</i> ser. <i>Microneuræ</i> & ser. <i>Heterophyllum</i> in Australia	3 700
Powell, J.M.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	Taxonomic revision of the genus <i>Leucopogon</i> (Epacridaceae)	22 214
Scott, G.A.M.	Monash University	Taxonomic revision of <i>Fossombronia</i> & other liverwort genera in Australia	19 822
Short, P.S.	National Herbarium of Victoria	Biosystematic studies in Australian Gnaphaliinae (Asteraceae)	3 000
Simon, B.K.	Queensland Herbarium	Revision of <i>Aristida</i> (Poaceae) in Australia	2 630
Stone, I.G.	University of Melbourne	A taxonomic revision of Australian tropical moss genera	2 400
Thompson, B.G.	Conservation Commission of N.T.	Computerisation Herbarium of N.T. (Alice Springs)	19 840
Thompson, J.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	A revision of the genus <i>Leptospermum</i> (Myrtaceae)	22 000
Tindale, M.D.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	Taxonomic studies in Australian species of <i>Acacia</i>	5 000
Trudgen, M.E.	Western Australian Herbarium	Revisionary studies, <i>Baeckea</i> complex (Myrtaceae)	10 500
Watson, L.	Australian National University	Preparation of automated taxonomic descriptions and keys for the eu-panicoid grasses of Australia	22 813
Weston, P.H.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	Computerise eucalypt specimen records	20 000

Investigator	Institution	Project Title	\$
Wetherbee, R. & Blaze, K.L.	University of Melbourne	Taxonomy and biogeography of marine phytoplankton from Bass Strait	9 500
Wilson, K.L.	National Herbarium of N.S.W.	Revision of the genera <i>Leptidosperma</i> & <i>Schoenus</i> (Cyperaceae) in Australia	5 000

Trans-Tasman Taxonomy

A colloquium on "New Zealand and Australian Plant Taxonomy and Systematics" was held in the Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, Canberra, on 26-30 September, 1983. The meeting was organised jointly by the Division of Botany, DSIR, Christchurch, and the Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, Canberra. In addition to the eight New Zealand botanists and those from CSIRO, other participants from most Australian states brought the total number to over 40.

Topics discussed at the meeting included inconsistencies in application of taxonomic names in Australia and New Zealand, the organisation of and communication between taxonomists in Australia and New Zealand, experimental taxonomic studies and biogeography. An extract from the program is set out below.

Sessions on Taxonomy and Nomenclature: "Plants known by the same name in New Zealand and Australia which are different; and plants known by different names in New Zealand and Australia which are the same".

1. DR E. EDGAR, Botany Division, DSIR. Introduction to the Taxonomy and Nomenclature workshop.
2. Types of shared taxonomic problems with preferred solutions: DR D.R. GIVEN, Botany Division, DSIR. Examples from Asteraceae.
DR B.P. MOLLOY, Botany Division, DSIR. Examples from Myrtaceae.
DR P.J. GARNOCK-JONES, Botany Division, DSIR. Examples from Brassicaceae and Caryophyllaceae.
MR I.R. TELFORD, National Botanic Garden, Canberra. Examples from Cucurbitaceae and Violaceae.
3. DR E. EDGAR, Botany Division, CSIR. The principal Australasian generic problem in Gramineae: *Agrostis/Deyeuxia/Lachnagrostis*.
4. MR W.R. SYKES, Botany Division, DSIR. Taxonomy and nomenclature of weeds.
5. DR E. EDGAR, Botany Division, DSIR. ITSA stabilization of Nomenclature of Agricultural Plants.

Session on Organisation of Taxonomic Research in Australia and New Zealand:

The following desiderata were presented by staff members of DSIR for discussion.

- A. Promotion of liaison between Australian and New Zealand botanists.
 - (a) Joint scheme for search and exchange of protologue material.
 - (b) "Australasian" loans of type material and circulation of photos of type specimens.
 - (c) Pooling of knowledge from visits to overseas herbaria about type and other source material.

- (d) Promotion of stability of nomenclature:
 - (i) Exchange of duplicates of taxa held in common or closely related
 - (ii) Weeds: sharing of taxonomic or nomenclatural problems; checklists.
- B. Exchange of information from living plants.
 - (a) Establishment of data base listing Australian plants cultivated in New Zealand botanic gardens and vice versa.
 - (b) Growing of living representative collections of difficult Australasian genera; quarantine problems.
 - (c) Information on chromosome counts in closely related taxa.
 - (d) Information on chemotaxonomic work and supply of living material.
 - (e) Conservation of rare plants; trans-Tasman transfer and restocking.
- C. Exchange of individuals.
 - (a) Visits of scientists.
 - (b) Joint field expeditions for Australasian taxonomists; Macquarie, Lord Howe, Norfolk Islands.
 - (c) Joint experimental work.
 - (d) Setting up a formal Australasian taxonomic body such as, for example, a Taxonomy Section of ANZAAS or a New Zealand Chapter of ASBS.
 - (e) Continued maintenance of a List of Current Plant Taxonomic Research on Australian Flora. Notification of projected major floristic works.

There was general agreement that all topics raised at the meeting warranted further consideration. It was pointed out, however, that mechanisms are already in operation within Australia for certain types of exchange. The relatively isolated position of botanists in New Zealand can therefore be readily ameliorated by including them directly into these systems, or by arranging some other channel of communication at the national level. This has already been realised in the case of the ABLO at Kew, who nowadays also handles a number of requests from New Zealand colleagues.

Regarding matters for which particular arrangements of exchange do not exist as yet, it was not possible to present firm proposals at the meeting. Exchange of personnel, e.g., is hampered by the fact that trans-Tasman travel is officially regarded as an "overseas" visit, requiring a quota position, for all but those who are employed by the Australian Government.

For many years, ANZAAS has provided a forum where New Zealand and Australian colleagues could communicate face to face, but the days for a special Botany Committee appear to have passed. It is good that a number of New Zealanders have joined the ASBS, as this facilitates a more regular exchange of information about current projects and recent literature. To have the New Zealand component of its membership reflected in the name of the Society would of course require a change in its constitution, but that would probably be considered favourably by the membership, if suggested by those most concerned.

Sessions on Computers in Taxonomy:

1. MR L. WATSON and DR R. WEBSTER, Research School of Biological Sciences, Australian National University. Use of the Delta System for generation of keys, descriptions of taxa and complete revisions. (Held in Taxonomy Unit, RSBS, A.N.U.).

12. *Austral. Syst. Bot. Soc. Newsletter* 37 (December 1983)

2. MR G.M. CHIPPENDALE, formerly Division of Forest Research, CSIRO. Introduction to Eucalyst and computer identification of *Eucalyptus* species. (Held at DFR, CSIRO, Yarralumla).

Session on Reproductive Biology:

1. DR C.J. WEBB, Botany Division, CSIR. Constraints on the evolution of plant breeding systems and their relevance to systematics.
2. DR J.G. WEST, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO. Reproductive systems in *Calandrinia* (Portulacaceae). (Read in her absence by Dr B.A. Barlow).
3. MR L.A. CRAVEN, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO. Floral biology of *Heliotropium* (Boraginaceae).
4. MR J.A. ARMSTRONG, National Botanic Garden, Canberra. Pollination studies in the Australian flora.
5. DR A.R. GRIFFIN, Division of Forest Research, CSIRO. Reproductive biology of *Eucalyptus*.
6. DR B.A. BARLOW, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO. Studies of reproductive biology in *Melaleuca* (Myrtaceae) and *Solanum* (Solanaceae).

Session on Gondwanan Taxonomy and Biosystematics:

1. DR H.E. CONNOR, Centre for Resource Management, University of Canterbury and Lincoln College. Gondwanaland biosystematics and Gramineae.
2. DR R.C. CAROLIN, Botany Department, Sydney University. *Calandrinia* - a biogeographic problem.
3. DR T.G. HARTLEY, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO. The relationships of Australasian Rutaceae.
4. MR W.R. SYKES, Botany Division, DSIR. Floristics of Lord Howe and Norfolk Islands.

The formal sessions ended in a general discussion on strategies for improving co-ordination of Australasian plant taxonomy research.

Other activities included:

- (a) an introduction by MR A.S. GEORGE to the Flora Program of the Bureau of Flora and Fauna, where
- (b) the Canberra Chapter of ASBS (HEWSON/TELFORD) organised a buffet dinner at which DR DAVID GIVEN presented an illustrated talk on Flora Conservation in New Zealand,
- (c) a Colloquium Dinner at which DR HENRY CONNOR spoke on "Saucy sex in seaside Sarcocornias - perhaps a change ... in seaside Salicornias", and
- (d) a two-day field trip through various habit types, terminating in Sydney.

Abstracts and working papers were prepared for several of the sessions, and can be obtained from us on request.

Andrew Kanis, Bryan Barlow

Rationalisation of Field Trips

B.A. Barlow, Herbarium Australiense, Canberra

Over the last few years there have been a number of discussions on how to maximize efficiency and minimize cost (per specimen) of field trips. Such attempts at rationalization have usually involved planned joint field trips by botanists with different objectives, and sometimes from different institutions. I am aware of several very successful field trips which were arranged in this way.

The matter has been discussed by various ASBS Chapter groups, and by CHAH at its last two meetings. Rationalization of field trips has also been promoted by ABRS, which has in at least one instance funded field work for different projects in accordance with the proposition that the studies be based on a combined field trip. At its last meeting in Brisbane, CHAH considered the possibility of using this Newsletter as a forum for advertising or canvassing the possibility of joint field trips. It is assumed that joint ventures will only be seriously canvassed in this way when the field work is major, involving significant duration, long distances or remote objectives, and possibly complex and expensive logistics such as helicopter hire.

Two types of planning could conceivably involve advertising in the Newsletter. The first would be concerned with projected field trips, for which joint participants would separately seek funds after initial planning was completed. A long lead time is obviously needed; this would relate to deadlines and decisions of funding bodies such as ABRS. The second would be concerned with field trips for which tentative institutional approval was already obtained. The lead time would perhaps be shorter, and the advertisement would be aimed at potential contributing participants.

As an experiment, I would like to suggest that each chapter and/or botanical institution nominate a person who can solicit relevant field work proposals and submit them to the Newsletter Editor twice yearly. Publication in the March and September issues would be desirable. The format can of course be determined by the Editor.

In view of the major difficulty which grants committees have in funding major field work, it would be interesting to see if communication through the Newsletter could actually bring one or more expeditions to fruition.

CLADISTICS, SYSTEMATICS AND PHYLOGENY

CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED NOW

An interdisciplinary symposium of the above title will be held in Canberra on Friday, 18 May, 1984.

Invited speakers will present a structured introduction on the discipline of cladistics, some of the available techniques and their application in systematics.

The second half of the symposium will consist of contributed papers and a poster paper session. We are wanting contributions from you. If you have some relevant work to present please contact one of us NOW with a suggested title. Please encourage other biologists with whom you are in contact to contribute also. We need to know of your contribution as soon as possible so that we can plan the afternoon session.

Helen Hewson and Judy West
Subcommittee of the Canberra Chapter

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CANBERRA CITY. A.C.T. 2601
(062-467 497)

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ORIGIN AND EVOLUTION OF THE AUSTRALASIAN ALPINE BIOTA

The Society is organising a symposium on the origin and evolution of the Australasian alpine biota in conjunction with the Australasian Pollination Ecology Society and possibly other biological societies to be held in January 1985 in the Kosciusko area and/or in Canberra. A couple of days of active field work will be organised in association with the symposium.

A General Meeting of the Society will be held at the time of the symposium.

There will be a call for contributions from the organising committee early in the new year.

Judy West

Chapter News

BRISBANE CHAPTER

At a meeting held at the University of Queensland on 21 November, Professor William T. Stearn spoke on the history and art of botanical illustration.

He traced the development of botanical illustration through various stages as new techniques were utilized, beginning with ancient and medieval work and hand copying which showed more imagination than realism. This was followed by the use of woodcuts but the limitations regarding detail and on the number of prints that could be made led to the use of copper plate, steel plate then lithography during last century and ultimately modern photographic colour separation.

L.W. Jessup, Convener

CANBERRA CHAPTER

Opportunity to liaise with botanists from overseas has come our way lately.

For our August meeting we advised members to attend a public lecture at the Australian Academy of Science. Professor J. Heslop-Harrison FRS gave a lecture entitled "Conservation of Habitats and Species - Do we need to do

anything? - Man is altering the face of this planet with headlong speed. What should we do? What can we do? What is the real basis of the case for conservation?"

In September plant taxonomists from CSIRO and DSIR organised a colloquium to discuss "Plants known by the same name in New Zealand which are different; and plants known by different names in New Zealand and Australia which are the same." One evening we organised a dinner to give members a chance to meet our visitors. Afterwards, Dr David Given from DSIR, Christchurch, presented an illustrated talk on "Conserving New Zealand's Floristic Diversity". David is an outstanding photographer and his talk demonstrated action in New Zealand. This was refreshing. Good to see progress beyond the hot air and irritated bull-dozer drivers which we experience so often here in Australia.

In October, Dr Jack Elix, Chemistry Dept., Australian National University, gave us an illustrated talk on "Lichens in Papua New Guinea". Jack is an Australian authority on Lichen chemistry and taxonomy. As Lichens tend to be a forgotten group it was particularly enlightening to have them so expertly illustrated and discussed.

In November, Dr W.T. Stearn visited Australia as a guest of the Australian Garden History Society. ASBS gave an afternoon tea for Dr Stearn at the National Botanic Gardens. The topic for discussion was "The history and art of botanical illustration". In the evening he gave a public lecture at the Australian Academy of Science entitled "The introduction of plants into the gardens of Western Europe during two thousand years". Both were excellently illustrated with examples from literature which is not available to us here in Australia. These fascinating and informative areas of research together with a fund of anecdotes, so characteristic of Dr Stearn, made both lectures a valuable experience.

Don't forget the Cladistics Symposium (Cladistics, Systematics and Phylogeny - see notice p. 13).

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Helen Hewson, Convenor

Book Reviews

Pilbara Coastal Flora: Gillian Craig. Western Australian Department of Agriculture, South Perth. 1983. 110 pp. Price \$7.50.

Plants of the Kimberley Region of Western Australia: Petheram, R.J. and Kok, B. University of Western Australia Press, Nedlands. 1983. 556 pp. Price \$20.00.

These two field guides, both products of the Western Australian Dept. of Agriculture (Soil Conservation and Rangelands respectively) will probably go a long way to increasing public interest in the flora of the tropical regions of Western Australia.

The first (compiled and edited by Gillian Craig, but with several other contributors listed with their various chapters) is a field guide to the coastal flora of the Fortescue District of the Eremaean Botanical Province of Western Australia. Brief chapters on climate, ecological processes and patterns of the sand dune, mangrove and salt marsh environments commence the guide. The majority consists of a key to 74 "common" species, then brief

descriptions of the 146 (89 illustrated in colour) species recorded for the region. In conjunction with Gordon Smith's booklet on south-western coastal flora, most of Western Australia's coastal flora is now covered by field guides.

The second book is designed to aid pastoralists in recognising the most important pasture plants of the Kimberley region, and to use composition of this flora as a guide to halt pastoral degradation. Basically the guide is divided into three sections (A) Grasses and herbs (B) Woody shrubs (C) Trees. Approximately 240 species are illustrated in colour (habit, close up of flowers/fruit/foilage). Selection of material being on forage quality (many grasses); whether it is poisonous, representative of a genus or an indicator of pasture quality. Few errors seem to be immediately noticeable (plate 90: *Sesbania cannabina* seems decidedly odd for this species). The section on trees is by far the best, coverage of herbs is very poor. The more accessible Eastern Kimberley is reasonably well covered, but the Western Kimberley is lightly covered.

With some 1400 species in the region, obviously only a small fraction can be covered in a field guide like this but it is a useful beginning to popularize a poorly known part of our botanical heritage.

Greg Keighery

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF PLANT BIOSYSTEMATISTS

The International Organization of Plant Biosystematists (IOPB) was founded in 1960 to promote international co-operation in the study of biosystematics. The IOPB acts on several levels, from co-ordinating and publishing information on biosystematics to arranging conferences. The IOPB is open to all persons working or interested in the field of biosystematics. The history and past activities of IOPB have been given in *Taxon*, 31: 386-387, 1982.

IOPB is no longer under the umbrella of the International Association for Plant Taxonomy, and membership no longer follows automatically for members of IAPT who nominate for IOPB. Interested persons are therefore invited to take out membership in IOPB. Membership in IOPB is for the period between International Botanical Congresses. The next IBC will be in Berlin in 1987.

An IOPB Newsletter is sent to all members. Such items as current research, requests for materials, meeting reports, publications, etc. are reported. The Editor is Dr Krystyna Urbanska, Geobotanische Institut, E.T.H., Zurichbergstrasse 38, CH-8044 Zurich, Switzerland.

The Executive is elected prior to each International Botanical Congress and serves between Congresses. The present Council includes Dr B.A. Barlow, Division of Plant Industry, CSIRO, G.P.O. Box 1600, CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2601. Enquiries about IOPB may be directed to him.

Membership fee 1983-1987\$US25.00

Send payment to Dr Liv Borgen, Secretary-Treasurer, IOPB
Botanical Garden and Museum
Trondheimsveien 23B
OSLO 5, NORWAY

PLEASE DO NOT CONFUSE 'MALESIA' WITH 'MALAYSIA'

C.G.G.J. van Steenis, Flora Malesiana, Leiden

Predominantly through the late Dr E.D. Merrill's works the geographical term for the whole of the Archipelago between Asia and Australia was usually called 'Malaysia', as the English equivalent for the old term 'Malesia' or 'La Malesie' used by early French explorers in the former century, further by Zollinger, and by Beccari in his 3-volume work 'Malesia'.

In recent years, since the independence of the former British colonies, 'Malaysia' became the name of the new State of Malaysia, comprising the Malay Peninsula (often also called 'Malaya') and the northeastern parts of Borneo, viz. Sarawak and Sabah.

Thus the geographical term 'Malaysia' became confused, in particular for plant-geographical indication. In the earlier volumes of *Flora Malesiana* we used also the term 'Malaysia' in indicating ranges, but we shifted this to 'Malesia' since 1962. Now I have observed that in the many valuable works on the Australian flora produced in recent years the terms 'Malaysia' and 'Malesia' are indiscriminately used, not rarely in the same work, when indicating extra-Australian occurrence of taxa. I plead here to use these geographical terms in the correct way:

Malesia for the whole archipelago;

Malaysia for the State of Malaysia as circumscribed above.

Peninsula Malaysia, or if one prefers the old terms 'Malaya' or 'Malay Peninsula' should then be used for the continental-Asian part of Malaysia.

REQUEST FOR FRESH MATERIAL OF VASCULAR TISSUE

Prof. Dr H.D. Behnke, Zellenlehre, Universität Heidelberg, is undertaking an ultrastructural survey of plastid-types of sieve-elements in flowering plants. He would like to receive fresh samples in plastic bags of stem or branch pieces with leaves or entire plants (whichever is appropriate) of the following Australian and New Zealand genera, viz.

<i>Andruris</i>	<i>Emblingia</i>	<i>Phyllachne</i>
<i>Blepharocarya</i>	<i>Eremosyne</i>	<i>Placospermum</i>
<i>Brunonia</i>	<i>Forstera</i>	<i>Suriana</i>
<i>Chloanthes</i>	<i>Monococcus</i>	<i>Tetracarpha</i>
<i>Dicrastylis</i>	<i>Nitraria</i>	<i>Tetrachondra</i>
<i>Donatia</i>	<i>Peripterygium</i>	<i>Valvanthera</i>

A quick shipment by air mail is desired, since for electron microscopy he needs living material of vascular tissue. Mailing expenses can be covered by his institution.

Send material to Prof. Dr H.-D. Behnke,
Zellenlehre, Universität Heidelberg,
Im Neuenheimer Feld 230,
D-6900 Heidelberg 1,
WEST GERMANY.

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The Society

The Australian Systematic Botany Society is an association of over 300 people with professional or amateur interest in Botany. The aim of the Society is to promote the study of plant systematics.

Membership

Membership is open to all those interested in plant systematics and entitles the member to attend general and chapter meetings and to receive the Newsletter. Any person may become a member by forwarding the annual subscription to the Treasurer. Subscriptions become due on the 1st January.

The Newsletter

The Newsletter appears quarterly and keeps members informed of Society events and news, and provides a vehicle for debate and discussion. In addition original articles, notes and letters (not exceeding ten pages in length) will be published. Contributions should be sent to the Editor at the address given below, preferably typed in duplicate and double-spaced. All items incorporated in the Newsletter will be duly acknowledged. Authors are alone responsible for the views expressed. The deadline for contributions is the last day of February, May, August and November.

Notes

- (1) The deadline for the next Newsletter is 29th February.
- (2) ASBS Annual Membership is \$13 (Aust.) if paid by 31st March, \$15 thereafter. Students (full-time) \$10. Please remit to the Treasurer.
- (3) Advertising space is available for products or services of interest to ASBS members. Current rates are \$30 per full page, \$15 per half page. Contact the Newsletter Editor for further information.

Mailing List

All address changes should be sent to the Treasurer or the Editor.

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