

FORUM BOTANICUM

Vol. 14, No. 2

February 1976
Februarie

NEWS-LETTER OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN ASSOCIATION OF BOTANISTS
NUUSBRIEF VAN DIE SUID-AFRIKAANSE GENOOTSKAP VAN PLANTKUNDIGES

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR PLANT PHYSIOLOGY:

SAAB is affiliated to this Association. For the information of members the Constitution of IAPP which was adopted at the Würzburg meeting in September 1974, at which Prof. O.A. Lewis was present, and approved after a few minor changes at the meeting in Leningrad last July is printed here.

1. NAME - The organization shall be called the International Association for Plant Physiology.
2. OBJECT - The object of the Association shall be to promote plant physiology at an international level.
3. MEMBERSHIPS - Memberships shall be open to all scientific societies actively engaged or interested in plant physiology. Personal members of the confederate societies are thus entitled to the services of the Association through the societies.
4. COUNCIL
 - 1) The affairs of the Association shall be controlled by a Council comprising representatives from each of its confederate societies.
 - 2) Council members : each confederate society shall nominate one of its members as its representative on the Council; this member shall normally be an executive office bearer of the society in the year of his nomination, except under special circumstances, which must be made known to the Council.
 - 3) Terms of office : the term of office of each Council member shall be four years. If a Council member resigns his mandate before the end of this term, the society shall nominate a new Council member for a full term of four years.
 - 4) Office bearers : the Council elects for terms of four years the following office bearers : a president who shall also be chairman at

Council meetings, a vice-president and a secretary-treasurer.

- 5) Executive Committee : the executive powers of the Council shall be exercised between the Council meetings by an Executive Committee consisting of the three office bearers.
- 6) Proxy : if a Council member is unable to attend a Council meeting, his society may appoint another of its members to stand proxy for him at that Council meeting after due notice to the Secretary-treasurer. Otherwise his vote on Agenda items may be recorded by mail.
- 7) Council meetings : the Council shall meet at the call of the Executive Committee at least once every three years.
- 8) By-laws : the Council shall have power to make by-laws and other appropriate regulations for carrying out the objects of the Association.
- 9) The Council shall have the power to arrange for financial support from the member societies.

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- 1) The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint committees to further the objects of the Association and to delegate its power to them.
- 2) The Executive Committee shall have the power to arrange for economic support from sources outside the Association.
- 3) The Executive Committee shall appoint an auditor to audit the accounts of the Association every year.

6. CONSTITUTION - Changes of the constitution shall be made by the Council and determined by a 2/3 majority vote of the members present and voting.

DR GILBERT BOCQUET of the "Institut für Spezielle Botanik" in Zürich spent some time in South Africa during October and November. He made collections in connection with his study of the genus *Silene* (Caryophyllaceae) and also worked in the Herbarium of the Botanical Research Institute. He gave an illustrated lecture at the Institute entitled "Aspects of the Flora of Corsica, with special reference to *Silene*".

DR A.O.D. MOGG retired at the end of December from the Botany Department of Witwatersrand University, after 30 years on the staff. He graduated from Cambridge University in June 1913 and was appointed as a government botanist on 15 September 1913 in Pretoria under Dr Joseph Burt Davy. The latter retired during Dr Mogg's first week in the job and so he was Acting Chief Botanist for a short while until Dr I.B. Pole Evans assumed duty. Dr Mogg believes he is the oldest South African botanist alive. Although Prof. R.H. Compton was a year his senior at Cambridge Dr Mogg will be 90 in April and Prof. Compton 90 in September.

S.A.A.B. EASTERN CAPE REGION:

ANNUAL REPORT - 1975:

Note: The first six months of this year have already been reported on but some points will be briefly recapitulated here for the sake of completeness.

Membership: 23 Members who will be joined early in 1976 by Mr N.C. Fanshawe and Dr G.E. Gibbs Russell making our membership total 25.

Committee: The committee for 1976 consists of:-

Dr R.A. Lubke - Chairman
Mrs E. Brink - Secretary/Treasurer
Dr A. Jacot Guillarmod - Grahamstown member
Dr B.L. Robertson - Port Elizabeth member
Mr S. Russell - Alice member

No formal committee meetings have been held.

We would like to thank Prof. Small and his committee who have done duty for the past 3 years (1973-1975).

Meetings: Two Annual General Meetings were held due to the change in date of the National A.G.M.

24/5/75 - Port Elizabeth. The committee under Prof. Small's chairmanship was requested to continue until December 1975.

29/11/75 - Grahamstown. A new committee was elected for 1976. Dr Lubke gave a talk on Numerical Taxonomy.

Two other meetings took place during the year - Dr D.K. Bailey

addressed members on 15/9/75 and an informal meeting to discuss the proposed checklist and keys for the handbook was held (Prof. Downing, Dr Jacot Guillarmod, Dr Lubke, Dr Gibbs Russell and Mrs Brink).

Regional Representative: Dr A. Jacot Guillarmod will represent the Eastern Cape Section on Council.

Co-ordinating Council for Nature Conservation. Dr M.C. Olivier with Mrs N.R. Urton as alternate, will represent our section.

Eastern Cape Flora Handbook:

1. The area to be covered has been tentatively fixed at those districts south of 32°S and east of 24°E with the inclusion of any immediately adjacent area considered necessary.
2. The format will be standardised to avoid extensive editing.
3. Xhosa names as well as English and Afrikaans common names will be a desirable addition.
4. Members have been asked to stipulate in which regions they will be working so that overlapping can be avoided.
5. Some members have already indicated their preference for certain families. In the near future a questionnaire will be sent to all members.

S.A.A.B. SOUTHWESTERN CAPE REGION:

REPORT FOR MAY - NOVEMBER 1975:

Constitution: At the meeting held on 24th September it was agreed that the A G M of the Branch be changed from April to November to fit in with the national organisation.

Meetings: Four meetings were arranged by the Branch:

6 May after the A G M DR David Read of Sheffield University spoke on the Biology of mycorrhizal infection with particular reference to the Ericaceae.

22 September in conjunction with University of Stellenbosch, Prof. R.L. Specht of Queensland spoke on Aspects of the ecophysiology and

management of the Australian heath vegetation.

24 September: Prof. C.G.G.J. van Steenis of Leiden discussed the
Composition and origin of the Malesian mountain flora.

24 October: Prof. R.H. Whittaker of Cornell University gave a talk
on Evolution of species diversity.

Members were circularised about an additional meeting namely Prof.
Lewis' inaugural university lecture on 29 May on Plants, proteins
and people.

Congress: With the S A A B decision to accept Prof. Lewis' invitation
to hold the 1976 Congress in Cape Town an organising subcommittee was
appointed with the convenor Dr E.J. Moll.

Membership: This stands at 53. On November 11 Dr M.R. Levyns died at
the age of 85. She was one of S A A B's honorary members and was very
closely associated with botany in the Cape for some 65 years.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: The meeting was held on 20 November in
the Botany Department, University of Stellenbosch. Due to the trans-
fer of Mr E.G.H. Oliver to Pretoria in January 1976 a new chairman had
to be elected. Prof. O.A.M. Lewis was unanimously elected. Following
the A.G.M. a local member, Mr F.J. Kruger of the State Department of
Forestry, Stellenbosch, gave a talk on his impressions of the Australian
sclerophyll vegetation which he had recently studied and compared it with
the Cape fynbos.

BOOKS:

Grasses of Southern Africa: Collins, Scientific and Technical Publishers
of Salisbury, give a preliminary announcement of a proposed loose-leaf
reference book by Lucy Chippendall on 240 common grasses which they hope
will become a standard reference work. Further details and a review
will be given in a future issue of Forum.

Wild Flowers of Rhodesia: Longman Rhodesia will soon be publishing an
authoritative work on this subject by Darrel Plowes and Robert Drummond.
Further details and a review will be given in a future issue of Forum.

Wild Flowers of Natal - Coastal Region by Janet Gibson. In the January

issue of Forum it was mentioned that the plates in this book did not give any indication as to scale. Reaction came from a Durban botanist who pointed out that in the introduction mention is made that the drawings are all half size. It is unfortunate that this fact is not more prominent and fortunate that someone read Forum and reacted, one of the very few.

EMPLOYMENT WANTED: Young married couple in America are seeking employment in the field of botany in South Africa. Both graduated with B Sc. degrees in biology from Georgia Southern College at Statesboro. Their qualifications include knowledge of plant propagation techniques, collection and identification of plant specimens, herbarium practices, isolation and identification of plant pathogens and a basic knowledge of photography. R & S. Bow, 215 South Main St., Apartment 112, Statesboro, Georgia 30458, U S A.

DATE OF FORUM VOL. 14, No. 1 : Please note that the date for that number should be January 1976.

EDITORS/REDAKSIE

Mr E.G.H. Oliver & Miss M. Welman

CORRESPONDENCE/KORRESPONDENSIE

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