

FORUM BOTANICUM

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

S.A.A.B. COUNCIL:- The new Council as elected in January for 1977 is as follows:- Prof N. Grobbelaar (Pretoria) President, Dr A. Eicker (Pretoria) Treasurer, Dr H. Tölken (Pretoria) Secretary, Dr A. Jacot Guillarmod (Grahamstown) Vice-President, Prof J. Eloff (Bloemfontein) Vice-President, Dr B. de Winter (Pretoria), Prof B. Downing (Alice), Dr D. Edwards (Pretoria), Dr F. Getliffe (Johannesburg), Prof W. Lütjeharms (Cape Town), Dr E. Moll (Cape Town), Mr E.G.H. Oliver (Pretoria), Prof S. Seagrief (Grahamstown). Prof T. Steinke (Durban), Dr J. van der Walt (Stellenbosch).

Please note the addresses:-

Prof N. Grobbelaar,
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THIRD ANNUAL CONGRESS:- SAAB held its third Annual Congress in the new Science Lecture Theatre Complex of the University of Natal in Durban from the 28th to the 31st of January 1977. Most delegates were accommodated on the campus in the John Bews and Florence Powell Halls. The congress was attended by more than a hundred members and many visitors, mostly students.

After Prof T.A. Villiers had welcomed the delegates on behalf of the University of Natal, Dr B. de Winter, President of SAAB, opened the congress. The opening address was delivered by Dr R.E. Norris, (Michigan, U.S.A.) President of the International Phycological Society. His subject was: "Possible Red Algal Routes".

The rest of the first day was devoted to the Seed Biology Symposium, when thirteen papers were delivered.

In the evening delegates attended a cocktail party on the campus presented by the University of Natal.

A total of forty papers were read on Saturday and Monday. It must be mentioned that the various Chairmen never had any real trouble with speakers who did not keep to the time limit. Some time was devoted on Monday afternoon to the Symposium on the Training of Ecologists in South Africa. The Chairman was Prof. B. Downing and the introductory speakers were Dr E. Moll, Prof B. Walker, Prof J. van Wijk and Dr D. Edwards. After some lively discussion it was decided to request the Council of SAAB to set up a Committee to investigate the Training of Ecologists in South Africa.

The Annual General Meeting of SAAB was held on Saturday afternoon when it was announced that next year's congress will be held in Bloemfontein at the University of the O.F.S. This will probably take place at the same time as the Congress of the Grassland Society. There is the possibility of a post-Congress excursion to Lesotho and the Eastern Orange Free State.

Other matters discussed at the A.G.M. will receive more space in future issues of Forum Botanicum.

The traditional Annual SAAB dinner was held at the Durban Country Club on Saturday night. The guest speaker was Prof H.B. Rycroft, Director of the National Botanic Gardens of S.A., who proved that a distinguished botanist usually also possessed an excellent sense of humour. In more serious vein, he discussed, amongst other things, future plans for a Botanic Garden in Kwa Zulu.

The third recipient of the South African Medal for Botany is the well-known Mr J.P.H. Acocks, who unfortunately, could not attend the Congress. However, the citation accompanying the medal was read at the dinner by Dr B. de Winter.

Sunday was devoted to the excursions to the beautiful Inanda Game Park near Verulam and the much publicised and endangered Beachwood Mangroves in Durban. The large group of botanists was divided into smaller groups, designed to suit every participant's physical and botanical fitness.

At Inanda we were protected by game guards and luckily did not have any encounters with the rhinos. There was ample opportunity to see other animals in the Park e.g. the Zulu Royal Cattle. After the visit to Beachwood we all hope that the Mangroves will not fall a victim to the atrocious plans of a certain commercially minded person.

The last item on the Congress programme was a cheese and wine party late Monday afternoon where delegates could say goodbye to old and new friends. The local organising committee, notably Prof T. Steinke, Mrs. E. Hennessy, Mr C.J. Ward and Miss G. Lambert must be thanked for a very successful congress.

LIST OF PAPERS DELIVERED AT THE DURBAN CONGRESS:-

Seed Biology Symposium:-

Seed Development and Structure - Prof C.H. Bornman, University of Pretoria.

Welwitschia mirabilis: Seed germination - V. Butler and C.H. Bornman, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Embryo/endosperm relationships - M.T. Smith, University of Natal, Durban.

Seed Dormancy and Germination - Prof J. van Staden, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Hormone synthesis and low temperature requirement - G.K. Campbell, University of Natal, Durban.

Light and lettuce seed germination - R.C. Clark, University of Natal, Durban.

Seed Ecology - Prof T.A. Villiers, University of Natal, Durban.

Establishment of mistletoes on their hosts - R.A. Lubke, Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

Oorlewing van saad van pionierspesies op ontblote hellings in padreserwes - J.J. van Wijk, Potchefstroomse Universiteit vir C.H.O.

Problems of Seed Storage - P. Berjak, University of Natal, Durban.

Metabolic deterioration in stored seeds - J.H. Adamson, University of Natal, Durban.

Antioxidants and Seed Storage - N. Paminter, University of Natal, Durban.

Seed Storage Microflora - M. Murray, University of Natal, Durban.

Other papers:-

The photo-oxidation of blue-green algae under low light intensities - Prof J.N. Eloff, University of the O.F.S., Bloemfontein.

Some factors influencing the phytoplankton of the St. Lucia system - I. Johnson, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

A comparative fine structural study on several marine species of Pyramimonas

(Prasinophyceae) - R.E. Norris and R.N. Pienaar, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Preliminary observations on the symbiotic algae occurring on the marine flatworm Convoluta macnaeii - Prof R.N. Pienaar, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

An investigation into the age structure of observed subtidal circular kelp communities - M. Jarman, University of Cape Town.

Association analysis of the intertidal zone of Umdoni Park, Natal South Coast - G. Lambert, University of Durban-Westville.

Pigments of Welwitschia mirabilis - C.H. Bornman and H. Senger, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Cytokinins in leaves of Ginkgo biloba - J. van Staden, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

The Cytokinins of developing Lupin seed - T. Davey and J. van Staden, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

The Translocation of Cytokinins in Salix babylonica - J. van Staden and N.A.C. Brown, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

Nitrogen Metabolism of the Proteaceae - J. Stock, University of Cape Town.

The effect of high oxygen concentration on the rate of carbon dioxide evolution from barley leaves - A.J. Tew, University of the Witwatersrand.

Invloed van onkruidodders op metaboliese prosesse in geïsoleerde mesofiel-selle - O.T. de Villiers en F.M. Ashton, Universiteit van Stellenbosch.

Die verloop van die vaatweefsel in die kiemplant van Encephalartos eugene-maraisii - P.J. Robbertse, S. van der Westhuizen, G.K. Theron, Universiteit van Pretoria.

Morfologiese aspekte van die blom en vrug van Pelargonium alchemilloides - P.J. Laubscher, Universiteit van Stellenbosch.

Aspects of the embryology of Erica junonia - B.L. Robertson and J.E. McNaughton, University of Port Elizabeth.

Discovery of new hosts for Buttonia natalensis (Scrophulariaceae) - S. Kasavan and E.F. Hennessy, University of Durban-Westville.

Problems encountered in a study of the genus Aerangis (Orchidaceae) - J. Stewart, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

In search of Sarcocaulon (Geraniaceae) - R.O. Moffett, University of Stellenbosch.

Some observations on the fine structure of the leaf epidermis of Zostera capensis - A.D. Barnabas and V. Butler, University of Durban-Westville.

The threat posed by Nasella tussock in South Africa - M.J. Wells, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria.

Myriophyllum in Southern Africa - A. Jacot Guillarmod, Institute for Fresh water Studies, Grahamstown.

Biomass relationships in savannah woody species - M.C. Rutherford, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria.

Responses of Philippia evansii to variations in net radiation - C.S. Everson and C.M. Breen, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

The Distribution of Didelta carmosa var. tomentosa from the ecophysiological viewpoint - L.M. Raitt, University of Stellenbosch.

Enrichment studies in Midmar Dam using isolation columns - A.J. Twinch, University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

The Geographical Distribution of Kranz grasses in Southern Africa - R.P. Ellis, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria.

The effect of nitrate on the nitrogen incorporation pathway in Datura stramonium - O.A.M. Lewis and P.A. Probyn, University of Cape Town.

Die invloed van mineraaltekkorte op die ultrastruktuur van die chloroplast van Triticum aestivum - R.L. Verhoeven, Universiteit van die O.V.S., Bloemfontein.

A contribution to knowledge regarding marine angiosperms and submerged estuarine macrophytes in Natal - C.J. Ward, University of Durban-Westville.

Die wilde rog (Secale africanum), 'n skaars en bedreigde plant - R.B. van der Merwe, Universiteit van Stellenbosch.

Progress with vegetation studies in the sourish mixed bushveld of the Western Transvaal - F. van der Meulen, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria.

Gross changes in the vegetation between Richard's Bay and the Mfolosi River as shown by airphoto interpretation 1937-1974 - P.J. Weisser and F. Marques, Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria.

Studies in Cynodon dactylon with particular reference to the Pongola River floodplain - H.D. Furness University of Natal, Pietermaritzburg.

On the autecology of Myriophyllum in the S.W. Cape Province - Prof E.A.C.L.E. Schelpe and T.P. Flach, University of Cape Town.

Germination ecology of sand dune species - Prof S.C. Seagrief, R.A. Lubke and M.A. Lubke, Rhodes University, Grahamstown.

Serological investigation of leaf nodule bacteria in some species of Pavetta

- J.E. Lombaard and Prof N.G. Grobbelaar, University of Pretoria.

Is there a vacant tree niche in the Fynbos? - E.J. Moll, B. McKenzie and D. McLachlan, University of Cape Town.

The vegetation of the Baakens River Valley, Port Elizabeth - M.C. Olivier, University of Port Elizabeth.

Medisinale plantnavorsing onderneem deur Noristan Laboratoria - J.N. Pienaar, Noristan, Pretoria.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, CAPE PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION-

Superintendent of Gardens:-

1. Applications are invited for the vacant post of Superintendent of Gardens at the Jonkershoek Nature Conservation Station, Stellenbosch. The duties will include general horticulture management, layout of wild flower garden and the propagation of indigenous plants in the wild flower nursery.
2. Qualifications
The National Technical Certificate (Part III) or equivalent and appropriate experience, or a Diploma in Nature Conservation and Management
3. An official house will be provided on the station.
4. The successful applicant should assume duty as soon as possible after 1 February 1977.

This notice arrived too late for publication in the January 1977 issue of "Forum Botanicum".

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