

FORUM BOTANICUM

Vol. 18, No. 3

May
Mei 1980

ISSN 0015 - 847X

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

ALBERT OLIVER DEAN MOGG: Dr. "Bertie" Mogg was born in an oxwagon near Newcastle, Natal on 27 April, 1886, and died in Johannesburg on 4 April 1980, in his 94th year. He was educated at St. Andrews College, Grahamstown, Merchant Venturers Technical College, Bristol, Potchefstroom Agricultural Experimental Station, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Canada and Cambridge University. His first degree was a B.A. from Cambridge in 1913, and others were B.Sc. (Pretoria) in 1921, M.A. (Cantab.) 1922, and Ph.D. (Rand) in 1960.

Dr. Mogg recalled vividly that in his childhood he lived next door to President Kruger in Pretoria. He used to tell a series of amusing stories of how his pet rabbits and guinea-pigs used to have to be retrieved from the Presidential barley-patch, and how the President travelled by coach to church every Sunday - the church he attended was across the street from the Presidential residence.

In 1901 Dr. Mogg joined his uncle's antique business in Bristol, although his ambition was to become an electrical engineer. He stayed there until 1906, studying part-time at the local Technical College. His brother developed an interest in the business, enabling Bertie to continue his studies full-time. He wrote the London Matriculation and the Oxford Senior Local examinations simultaneously. At about this time, his engineering studies were interrupted, permanently as it turned out, by the burning down of the college. He returned to Pretoria, where after about six months in commerce he was diagnosed to be suffering from severe astigmatism. The eye specialist insisted that he become a farmer, as farming was the least strain on the eyes. He was sent to Potchefstroom for a year, and then to Guelph, Canada for a year to learn plant breeding. He received a scholarship to go to Cambridge for four years, at the end of which time he received the B.A. degree. It was at this time that he became interested in taxonomic botany.

He joined the then Division of Botany in 1913, and in 1914 joined the South-West African Campaign as a coding officer. After World War I he was seconded to Onderstepoort, where he worked on stock diseases caused by plants. He

lectured in the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria. In the Second World War he was a bacteriologist in the 5th S.A. General Hospital at Cairo. Later in the war he was moved to Sonderwater, where he was involved in the control of malaria, plague and bilharzia. He retired from the Division of Botany, from Onderstepoort and from lecturing in veterinary science in 1946.

On his first retirement, he was appointed to give part of the four-year Conservation course offered by Witwatersrand University to ex-servicemen. At the end of this time, he worked for an insurance firm for three years and spent three years as a high-school teacher. He was then appointed acting curator of the Moss Herbarium at the University of the Witwatersrand from 1956 to 1959. It is interesting to note that Moss, who had been Senior Lecturer at Cambridge when Mogg was a student, also founded the department and herbarium which gave Mogg his last employment. From 1959 until the end of 1975, a few months before his 90th birthday, he was a Special Assistant at the Moss Herbarium. At this time he was the oldest active botanist in South Africa, beating the late Prof. Compton by a few months, and probably the oldest active scientist in the country, if not in Africa. He obtained his doctorate in 1960 at the age of 74, with a thesis on "The vegetation of the Witwatersrand Region, in relation to the Geology."

When visiting the Botanical Research Institute at 590 Vermeulen Street in the late 1960's, Dr. Mogg took great delight in showing whomever had brought him, the small red-brick building that had housed the Herbarium in the early days, and where he had met his wife. When she died in January 1980, they had been married for 62 years. They leave three children and 7 grandchildren.

Dr. Mogg's energy and enthusiasm were legendary, if somewhat diffuse. I remember as very green first-year member of the Wits Biological Society, being told that "That's Dr. Mogg; while you are still deciding how to get up the hill, he'll be on top having collected 300 specimens and yelling PICK 'EM UP THERE! at the students toiling up below." This was not far from accurate, as he was over 80 at the time, and had already collected over 30 000 herbarium specimens. Because of his diverse enthusiasms, he did not publish as much as might have been expected, but he did inspire not only students with whom he came into contact, but also the general public. He was involved with the Tree Society of Southern Africa virtually since its inception, and became almost synonymous with it, leading the monthly excursion vociferously for many years. What may not be so well known is that he was a staunch churchman, a sub-deacon in the Anglican Church, and the life and soul of the Students' Anglican Society at Wits for many years. His major fault was that, like this obituary, he was very wordy. (H.F.G.)

AETFAT CONGRESS, JANUARY 1982; The first circular giving details of the Congress has recently been sent out to all members.

The Congress will be held at the CSIR Conference Centre in Pretoria from 19-22 January 1982. It is being organised by the AETFAT Secretariat which is housed at the Botanical Research Institute, and SAAB with assistance from the CSIR Symposium Secretariat.

Main theme: The Origin, Evolution and Migrations of African Floras

1. The Fossil Floras - the main topics will be the Pre-Cambrian (unicellular organisms), Palaeozoic and Mesozoic (Pteridophyta and Gymnospermae), Late Cretaceous, Tertiary and Quaternary (mainly Angiospermae). Special attention will be paid to the implications of the fossil findings for the presentday floras.
2. The presentday Floras - topics to be covered will be plantgeography, composition, diversity and migrations of floras, endemism and any other aspects related to the above which could contribute to the main theme.
3. Past and Present Vegetation, Landscapes and Climates - this will consist mainly of invited papers and will deal with the evolution of vegetation as evidenced by palynological findings, relics of past vegetation, presentday distribution, composition, biotic relations, and the role of past and present landscapes and climates.

General Sessions: The following general sessions are planned

1. Marine and Freshwater Botany
2. General Taxonomy and Morphology
3. Biosystematics, Speciation, Pollination
4. Ethnobotany and uses of African plants
5. The influence of Weeds on the African Flora
6. Vegetation mapping and ecological studies

There will be provision made for poster sessions in addition to the formal papers which must be delivered in person. A call has been made in the circular for the submission of papers plus synopses to be submitted by 30 June 1980 for consideration by the Papers Selection Committee.

Post-Congress Field Tours: Three excursions, each lasting about a week, are being planned as follows:-

- a. To the Northern and Eastern Transvaal to view essentially African vegetation of the Sudano-Zambesian Phytogeographical Region.

- b. To the Winter-Rainfall Region and Little Karoo of the south-western Cape to view Fynbos and Karoo vegetation of the Capensis and Karoo-Namib Phytogeographical Regions.
- c. To Coastal areas to view Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems.

Tour A will be held during the week immediately following the Congress. Tours B and C will run concurrently during the second week after the Congress.

CONGRESSES IN VANCOUVER: Two important congresses will be taking place in July at the University of British Columbia.

- 1. Botany 80 will be the Third Combined Meeting of North American Botanists from 11-16 July. The main symposium will be "Plants and the Indigenous Peoples of North America". (Something for SAAB to keep in mind.) The Congress will be preceded by a mouthwatering selection of botanical tours including long hikes in the Rockies.
- 2. International Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology from 17-24 July.

DR. C. PUFF for the last few years lecturer in taxonomy in the Department of Botany, Witwatersrand University, has returned to Austria where he has taken up a research/teaching post at the Institute of Botany and Botanical Garden of the University of Vienna. He hopes to continue his studies on the African - mainly southern African - plants, particularly Rubiaceae. As the teaching load he has is minimal, i.e. one afternoon per week, he hopes to progress very well with this research. There is a good chance of his returning to South Africa in spring to round off his work on the Rubiaceae - Anthospermae by studying and collecting material in the Cape. Prior to that in July/August he plans to collect in Madagascar if all the 'obstacles' can be overcome. He says he is prepared to collect special material for colleagues in South Africa.

Dr Puff says that the old taxonomic literature in the Institute and nearby Natural History Museum is excellent. Anyone urgently needing old references and descriptions can contact him as Interlibrary Loan channels are known to take ages. Contact address of Institute Rennweg 14, A-1030 WIEN, AUSTRIA.

STRIKE!

A strike by the Protea(ceae) Union appears to be imminent. This includes the main groups Protea, Leucadendron and Leucospermum as well as some smaller affiliations.

One of the verligte (more plastic) leaders recently said: "Conditions are now such that some feel their very existence is becoming impossible". The reference was doubtless particularly to the verkrampste (relict) members. One of them complained that foreigners are getting a strangle-hold on the country.

Protea farmers, with their relatively new and lucrative export business are threatened with grow-slow action, if they do not take definite action for the cause in general. It is felt that their preferential and selective employment of those of mixed lineage prejudices the rights of the rest.

There are many disturbing signs of the strike spreading to other Unions in the Fynbos Complex. Some of the Ericaceae and Orchidaceae, for example, have not been seen (at work) in recent times.

The following demands are being made of the authorities:

- (1) Reservation of suitable areas free from foreign take-over, pollution and free from land use incompatible with their survival.
- (2) Guarantee of the indigenous mixed species grouping against the threatening foreign monoculture.

The strike is unlikely to be avoided as there appears to be little more than lip service on the part of the government to the principles involved. It is feared that any action taken, will be too little and too late. (L. & R. Raitt, Conceived in the wee hours (that fertile time for thought) during a bout of insomnia after being woken by our contribution to the population explosion.)

TREES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA, by K. Coates Palgrave: The first edition of this book is almost sold out, and a slightly revised second edition is being planned for 1981. The Editor would be most grateful to know of any inaccuracies, inconsistencies and omissions by the end of 1980 so that these can be corrected in the next edition. Please contact Dr. Eugene Moll (editor), c/o Department of Botany, University of Cape Town, RONDEBOSCH, 7700.

ACTA OECOLOGICA is a new international journal devoted to fundamental ecology and its applications. The articles will cover basic aspects of structure, functioning and changes in populations and ecosystems; the dynamics of populations and ecophysiology and the applications of this research.

The journal will come out in three series:-

Oecologia Generalis devoted to descriptive and theoretical ecology;

Oecologia Applicata devoted to experimental works on ecological concepts or to their application;

Oecologia Plantarum which will keep its emphasis on publishing studies on the functioning and dynamics of phytocenosis as well as works on the autecological level.

These series will be published by the publishers of the original Oecologia Plantarum, Gauthier-Villars of France.

Papers should be no longer than 15 printed pages and should be sent to the Editorial Board, Lab. de Zoologie, Ecole Normale Supérieure, 46 rue d'Ulm, 75230 PARIS Cedex 05.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS FROM THE BOTANICAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE:

A conspectus of the African Acacia species. J.H. Ross. Memoirs of the Botanical Survey of South Africa No. 44, pp. 155 (1979). Price R15; overseas R16.

Flora of Southern Africa

Vol. 10, part 1 (Loranthaceae & Viscaceae) (1979). Price R2; overseas R2,50.

Vol. 27, part 4 (Brachystelma, Ceropegia & Riocreuxia) (1980). Price R4,50; overseas R6.

South African prices do not include G.S.T.

Available from: Division of Agricultural Information, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Private Bag X144, PRETORIA, 0001.

POST VACANT, DATA BANK MANAGER: A graduate (preferably with Botany or Biology as a major) and at least some exposure to computers is urgently required in Pretoria to take over the day to day running of PRECIS the National Herbarium computerised data bank which is now operational. Duties include supervision of query submission and overall responsibility for maintenance of the system. Training will be given. There will be ample scope for original research based on the data bank.

Please direct enquiries to the Director, Botanical Research Institute, Private Bag X101, Pretoria, 0001. Tel. 861164.

EDITORS/REDAKSIE:

Mr E.G.H. Oliver and Miss W.G. Welman

ADDRESS/ADRES:

Forum Botanicum
Botanical Research Institute
Private Bag X101
PRETORIA
0001

SOUTH AFRICAN JOURNAL OF SCIENCE

Suid-Afrikaanse Tydskrif vir Wetenskap

P.O. Box 61019, Marshalltown, Transvaal 2107
Telephone 834-1271 Cables: Science, Johannesburg
Kelvin House, 2 Hollard Street, Johannesburg

Posbus 61019, Marshalltown, Transvaal 2107
Telefoon 834-1271 Telegramme: Science, Johannesburg
Kelvingebou, Hollardstraat 2, Johannesburg

SPECIAL REDUCED SUBSCRIPTION OFFER

We are pleased to announce that the S.A. Journal of Science is now available to members of societies served by the Joint Council of Scientific Societies at the reduced rate of only R10 per year! (A reduction of R14 on the full subscription price.)

The S.A. Journal of Science is a multi-disciplinary publication which features original research papers, review articles and news reports at high level across a wide range of scientific and technical disciplines. It is the only journal of its kind serving the entire scientific community in Southern Africa, and during the last year published research contributions from over 350 authors.

The Journal appears monthly, and an annual subscription runs from January to December. An inspection copy is available on request.

This offer is available to all members of societies of the JCSS in good standing. If you would like to take advantage of it, please complete and return the form overleaf. Subscriptions may be taken out at any time during the year, in which case we would send you all backcopies of the Journal from January of the current year.

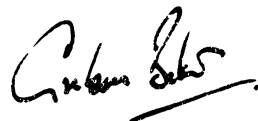
SPESIALE AANBOD: AFSLAG OP INTEKENGELD

Dit is vir ons aangenaam om aan te kondig dat die S.A. Tydskrif vir Wetenskap nou teen die verminderde bedrag van R10 aan die lede van verenigings wat aan die Gesamentlike Raad van Natuurwetenskaplike Verenigings behoort, beskikbaar is! (n Korting van R14 op die volle bedrag.)

Die S.A. Tydskrif vir Wetenskap is 'n multi-dissiplinêre publikasie waarin oorspronklike navorsingreferate, oorsigtelike artikels en nuusverslae van 'n hoë standaard, wat 'n groot verskeidenheid van wetenskaplike en tegniese dissiplines dek, verskyn. Dit is die enigste tydskrif van sy soort wat die hele natuurwetenskapgemeenskap in Suidelike Afrika dien en het gedurende die afgelope jaar navorsingbydraes van oor die 350 outeurs gepubliseer.

Die Tydskrif verskyn maandeliks en die jaarlikse intekening dek Januarie tot Desember. 'n Eksemplaar ter insae kan op versoek beskikbaar gestel word.

Hierdie aanbod is beskikbaar aan alle lede van verenigings van die GRNV van goeie naam en faam. Indien u hiervan gebruik wil maak, sal dit op prys gestel word indien u die vorm op die ommsy sal invul en terugstuur. U kan ter enige tyd van die jaar inteken, in geval waarvan al die vorige eksemplare van die Tydskrif vanaf Januarie van die betrokke intekenjaar aan u gestuur sal word.



Graham Baker
Editor/Redakteur

S.A. JOURNAL OF SCIENCE: SUBSCRIPTION FORM FOR JCSS MEMBERS

Please return to: The Subscriptions Department, S.A. Journal of Science,
P.O. Box 61019, Marshalltown, Transvaal 2107

Please enter me for a subscription to the S.A. Journal of Science for
1980 (12 issues), starting with the January 1980 issue. My cheque/
postal order for R10 is enclosed.

Name

Address

.....

Society (please indicate to which society you belong)

Associated Scientific and Technical Societies of S.A.
(please indicate society)

Royal Society of S.A.

Fakulteit Natuurwetenskap en Tegniek van die S.A. Akademie
vir Wetenskap en Kuns

Liaison Committee for Agriculture

S.A. Archaeological Society

Geological Society of S.A.

S.A. Chemical Institute

S.A. Mathematical Society

Zoological Society of S.A.

S.A. Association of Botanists

S.A. Institute of Physics

Signature

Date

S.A. TYDSKRIF VIR WETENSKAP: INTEKENVORM VIR GRNV LEDE

Stuur asseblief terug aan: Die Intekenafdeling, S.A. Tydskrif vir
Wetenskap, Posbus 61019, Marshalltown, Transvaal 2107.

Dit sal op prys gestel word indien u my op die S.A. Tydskrif vir Wetenskap
vir 1980 (12 uitgawes), met ingang van die Januarie 1980 uitgawe sal
inteken. My tjek/posorder van R10 is hierby ingesluit.

Naam

Adres

.....

Vereniging (dui asseblief die Vereniging waarvan u lid is aan)

Geassosieerde Wetenskaplike en Tegnieke Verenigings van S.A.
(dui asb. vereniging aan)

Royal Society of S.A.

Fakulteit Natuurwetenskap en Tegniek van S.A. Akademie
vir Wetenskap en Kuns

Skakelkomitee van Vakverenigings met Landboukundige Verband

Geologiese Vereniging van S.A.

S.A. Chemiese Instituut

S.A. Argeologiesevereniging

S.A. Wiskundevereniging

Soölogiese Vereniging van S.A.

S.A. Genootskap van Plantkundiges

S.A. Instituut vir Fisika

Handtekening

Date

NAKOR NATIONAL PLAN FOR NATURE CONSERVATION

NAKOR, National Committee for Nature Conservation, was established in 1968 to promote and co-ordinate nature conservation plans and activities by mutual co-operation between all nature conservation authorities. NAKOR has initiated a National Plan for Nature Conservation at the request of the Department of Environmental Planning and Energy, who will integrate and co-ordinate this Plan with other planning towards the National Physical Development Plan launched by that Department.

The National Plan for Nature Conservation is an urgent necessity because of rapidly increasing pressure on the land and reduction of open space owing to

1. rapid population growth and rising standards of living
2. rapidly increasing intensification of agriculture, industrialization and urban sprawl.

The NAKOR National Plan was initiated in 1975 to co-ordinate the plans of all the official nature conservation authorities and determine priorities for joint action. The ten years following its inception will probably be the last decade during which it will be possible to acquire land for nature conservation.

AIMS

The aims of the NAKOR National Plan for Nature Conservation are:

1. To secure the status of permanent conservation areas in South Africa and to maintain a register of these areas and of the nature conservation and outdoor recreation purposes for which they exist.
2. To reserve key areas in South Africa for future nature conservation and outdoor recreation purposes.
3. To secure the protection of landscapes of particular beauty as well as catchment and buffer areas outside those areas to be reserved for nature conservation

Two salient questions need to be answered as fully as practically possible. These are:

1. How far are South Africa's most important ecosystems represented by scientifically adequate samples protected as national parks and nature reserves?
2. Where must additional reserves be proclaimed to meet the various con=

ervation needs as identified at present and in the future?

The National Conservation Plan can never be viewed as static and complete. A dynamic National Plan is required that must be continually adjusted to meet the changing needs and circumstances as they arise.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

We need your help. What areas do you know of that should be conserved because they:

1. Include good examples of a veld type that is not or poorly conserved?
2. Include stands of special plant communities?
3. Include aquatic habitats of importance?
4. Include wetlands of importance to waterfowl?
5. Include habitats of threatened species?
6. Would protect sensitive catchment areas?
7. Are potential wilderness areas?
8. Include outstanding natural features?
9. Would conserve special landscapes?
10. Would conserve coastal lakes, estuaries and lagoons?
11. Would conserve coastal, marine and island habitats?

Please contact: The Co-ordinator
 NAKOR National Plan for Nature Conservation
 c/o Botanical Research Institute
 Private Bag X101
 PRETORIA
 0001

NAKOR NASIONALE PLAN VIR NATUURBEWARING

NAKOR, Nasionale Komitee vir Natuurbewaring, is in 1968 in die lewe geroep met die doel om natuurbewaringsaktiwiteite en -beplanning te bevorder en te koördineer deur middel van onderlinge samewerking tussen alle natuurbewaringsowerhede. NAKOR het op versoek van die voormalige Departement van Beplanning onderneem om 'n Nasionale Plan vir Natuurbewaring van stapel te stuur. Die huidige Departement van Waterwese, Bosbou en Omgewingsbewaring sal dan hierdie plan integreer en koördineer met ander beplanning wat beoog word vir die Nasionale Fisiese Ontwikkelingsplan.

Die Nasionale Plan vir Natuurbewaring is dringend noodsaaklik vanweë die toenemende behoefte aan grondgebied en die vermindering van oop ruimtes as gevolg van

1. die snelle bevolkingsaanwas en stygende lewenstandaarde
2. industrialisasie, stedelike groei en intensifikasie van die landbou.

Die NAKOR-Nasionale Plan het in 1975 'n aanvang geneem om die beplanning van alle amptelike natuurbewaringsowerhede te koördineer en om prioriteite vir gesamentlike optrede te bepaal. Die tien jaar wat volg op die instelling in 1975 is waarskynlik die laaste dekade waarin dit nog moontlik sal wees om die nodige grondgebied vir natuurbewaring te bekom.

DOELSTELLINGS

Die doelstellings van die NAKOR-Nasionale Plan vir Natuurbewaring is:

1. Om die status van permanente natuurbewaringsgebiede in Suid-Afrika te beveilig en om 'n register oor dié gebiede by te hou asook oor hulle natuurbewarings- en buitelugontspanningsdoeleindes.
2. Om sleutelgebiede in Suid-Afrika te bewaar vir toekomstige natuurbewaring en buitelugontspanning.
3. Om natuurlike landskappe van besondere skoonheid asook opvanggebiede en bufferareas, wat buite geproklameerde natuurreservate lê, te beveilig.

Twee uitstaande vrae moet so volledig as prakties moontlik, beantwoord word, naamlik:

1. In hoeverre word Suid-Afrika se belangrikste ekosisteme verteenwoordig deur wetenskaplik toereikende eksemplare in nasionale parke en natuurreservate?
2. Waar moet bykomende reservate geproklameer word om te voldoen aan die diverse bewaringsbehoefte soos teenswoordig en in die toekoms uitgewys?

Die Nasionale Plan vir Natuurbewaring kan nie as staties of volmaak

beskou word nie. 'n Dinamiese Nasionale Plan wat gedurig aangepas word, word vereis om te voldoen aan die veranderende behoeftes en omstandighede soos hulle ontstaan.

WAT U KAN DOEN

Ons het u hulp nodig. Weet u van areas wat bewaar behoort te word omdat hulle:

1. Goeie voorbeelde insluit van 'n veldtipe wat onvoldoende of glad nie bewaar word nie?
2. Spesiale plantgemeenskappe insluit?
3. Belangrike akwatiese habitatte insluit?
4. Vleilande van belang vir watervoëls insluit?
5. Habitatte vir bedreigde spesies insluit?
6. Beskerming kan bied aan sensitiewe opvanggebiede?
7. Potensiële wildernisgebiede is?
8. Uitstaande natuurverskynsels insluit?
9. Spesiale landskappe sal beskerm?
10. Kusmere, riviermonde en lagunes sal beskerm?
11. Kus-, see- en eilandhabitatte sal beskerm?

Tree asseblief in verbinding met:

Die Koördineerder
NAKOR Nasionale Plan vir Natuurbewaring
p/a Navorsingsinstituut vir Plantkunde
Priyaatsak X101
PRETORIA
0001