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

FLORA OF S. AFRICA NEWS: Twenty-two persons attended a meeting, chaired by Dr B de Winter, which was held during the SAAB Congress at Potchefstroom University for C.H.E. on the 17th January 1985. The following paragraphs are extracted from the minutes.

Progress report on the FSA: Dr Leistner presented a full list of all the parts of the Flora, Lichens, Algae, Bryophyta, Pteridophyta, Gymnosperms and Angiosperms, with the total number of species to be covered and the numbers actually published to date. For Angiosperms, a total of 2 189 species, comprising about 10,5% of all species have been covered in volumes already published or in press. A further 617 species (3%) of the entire flora is in manuscript form with the Editor. Conservative estimates of the work due to reach completion by the end of 1987 stand at about 5 000 species. This would leave about 13 000 species to be completed. In order to finish the FSA by the end of the century, about 1 000 species per year would have to be prepared for publication. However, between 6 000 and 7 000 of these 13 000 species have either been recently revised or are being worked on at present.

Plan of FSA (1985): Dr G E Gibbs Russell discussed the changed format of the plan of the flora, and invited additions and amendments, which can now be easily kept up to date by a word processor. It was felt that the Plan of the FSA should be kept up as a complete register of taxonomic work on southern African plants. Dr P Vorster moved that the Plan be enlarged to include current work on families that had been published in the FSA in the past; this was accepted by the meeting.

Taxa in need of study: The List of Southwestern Cape Taxa in need of study was prepared for the 1984 FSA meeting by Mr R O Moffett, and circulated in Forum Botanicum as part of the FSA News. The meeting felt that if the list could be expanded to cover the entire FSA area a gap would be filled that would be especially good for students in choosing a thesis topic. Dr Gibbs Russell suggested that the list could be maintained as part of the "Plan of the FSA".

Guide to contributors to FSA: Dr Leistner reminded authors that the guide was available, and mentioned that a revised edition would eventually be prepared, once a uniform system for citing specimens and literatures had been agreed on by the editors of the major southern African botanical journals.

List of species of southern African plants: Dr Gibbs Russell described the new addition to PRECIS that will make it possible to keep up to date with new literature and name changes for bryophytes and vascular plants. Annual lists of new taxa, new records and name changes will be published annually in Bothalia, beginning in 1985. The second edition of the List of Species that includes recent synonyms and literature references was well advanced: the cryptogams, gymnosperms and monocots were now in press and publication was expected early in 1985; information for dicots was currently being entered into the computer, beginning with the Asteraceae. Further information that could be added includes distribution, conservation status, weed status, endemism, and sources of illustrations. Suggestions for further additions to the List of Species were requested.

Working group for the Flora of southern Africa: Dr de Winter reported that the Department of Agriculture and Water Supply had been approached for support for a Working Group, but no final decision had been made because of the current financial climate. He would continue with the matter.

FSA Newsletter: The FSA Newsletter had continued to appear in Forum Botanicum, as news items became available during the year. FSA contributors are requested to communicate items of news to Dr Gibbs Russell.

Fellowships, contracts and other services: Fellowships are available to overseas researchers completing a project for the FSA, and should be tenable for 3 to 6 months. During 1984 fellowship holders were Dr O Almborn, working on lichens, and Dr Ch. Puff, who completed the Anthospermeae (Rubiaceae) for the Flora. These funds can be applied for through a University or through the BRI. The deadline for applications is the end of June in each year for the following financial year (beginning in April). Contracts are available to researchers at South African universities. Current contract holders are Prof Schelpe, who has completed Pteridophyta and is now working on Orchidaceae, and Dr Stegenga who is working on the red algal family Ceramiaceae. Both researchers are at UCT. The deadline for applications is the end of March for the following financial year (beginning in April). Ad hoc funds are available from CSIR, and from the Department of Agriculture and Water Supply, after the funds are available.

Invitation to participate in the Flora of Southern Africa: Dr de Winter expressed the hope that all those working in systematics botany in southern Africa would participate in the Flora of Southern Africa project.

Section for systematic botany in SAAB: Prof P D F Kok proposed that this suggestion be rejected because it would be divisive within SAAB. This met with general agreement from the meeting, but the Chairman raised the problem of how taxonomists could improve their image and increase the contact between themselves. Prof D J Botha suggested that workshops covering particular problems would be one way to draw taxonomists together. A committee consisting of Dr de Winter, Dr Getliffe Norris and Prof C Johnson was designated to investigate these problems.

Discussion : Widespread use of "Ined." names: The use of "ined." names came basically from two sources, those in press which would soon be published, and those for which there was little prospect that they would ever be published. It is the last case that is a matter for concern. In many cases the "author" was deceased, but in many other cases a thesis is completed without subsequent publication of new taxa or new combinations, but the author is no longer working actively in taxonomy. Prof D J Botha suggested that students be required to publish articles arising from their theses. Prof P D F Kok supported this, saying that the article could be just the list of name changes. He further suggested that if the student did not do this himself, the changes should be published under the authorship of the editor of Bothalia. The meeting took no decision about this point. However, it was requested that the sources of "ined." names be listed.

General: Prof D J Botha introduced again the format of theses, and suggested that the taxonomic part of the thesis should be in FSA format. He asked if SAAB should not communicate with the Universities in this matter. He also brought up problems that arose from the assumption that all taxonomic work was purely descriptive. The meeting agreed with this assessment, various individuals giving examples of the true nature of taxonomy as the discipline that performs a synthesis of the findings of other botanical disciplines to find the most natural plant classifications possible. Prof Botha also expressed concern about the fact that Bothalia and the FSA were not recognized as publications leading to the award of extra funds to University departments.

'APPROVED PUBLICATIONS' UNDER SAPSE-110 SUBSIDY FORMULA FOR UNIVERSITIES:

The Botanical Research Institute has been disturbed recently to hear reports that its journals do not appear on the list of journals 'approved' by the Department of National Education for subsidy purposes. The Institute has taken up the matter with the Department of National Education and has been informed in reply (Ref. 2/2/1/1 of 1985.02.04) that, as yet, no list of approved journals exists or has been published. In other words, there is no truth in the reports currently circulating. If such a list is envisaged in the future, the BRI will make representations to the Department to ensure that its journals are included on the list. Although the Institute's journals are essentially house journals, the support of University staff by way of contributions in the past (and, we hope, in the future) is greatly appreciated.

D J.B.K.

SUIDWES-KAAPSE STREEKTAK, JAARVERSLAG VIR 1984:

Gelukwensings: Die volgende lede word gelukgewens: Mnr B E van Wyk wat die Junior Kapt. Scott medalje vir die beste M.Sc.-tesis in die Republiek van Suid-Afrika vir 1982/1983 ontvang het. Prof K Pienaar vir sy boek: "The S. African: What flower is that?" en vir sy TV-program "Plant Inheems". Dr P Goldblatt & mev P Bond vir hulle boek: "Plants of the Cape Flora: A descriptive catalogue". Mej D Snijman vir haar boek: "Revision of Haemanthus". Mnr J Watts en mnr A L P Cairns wat 'n Ph.D. graad in Desember aan die Universiteit van Stellenbosch ontvang het.

Bestuur en Vergaderings: Die komitee vir 1984 het bestaan uit: Dr O T de Villiers (Voorsitter), mnr J Aalbers (Vise-voorsitter), mnr J Watts (Sekretaris/Tesourier), prof D T Mitchell, mej D Snijman, dr D Koutnik,

- Van hierdie lede verstryk prof Mitchell en mej Snijman se termyn en hulle sal dus uittree. Skriftelike nominasies vir die twee vakante poste is aangevra. Dr O T de Villiers is geskies as die streeksvertegenwoordiger op die Raad vir die Suidwes-Kaapstreek. Gedurende 1984 is twee formele komiteevergaderings gehou; die een by die Universiteit van Stellenbosch en die ander een by die Universiteit van Kaapstad. Ons het tans 134 lede; 13 meer as verlede jaar.

Vergaderings: Tydens die jaar is drie vergaderings gehou: 16 Mei 1984 by Kirstenbosch: Dr K Steiner: Co-evolution between bats and flowers. Dr D Koutnik: The vegetation of California.

25 Julie 1984 by die Wyn-na-worsingsinstituut op Nietvoorbij in Stellenbosch: Dr P G Marais: Phytophthora cinnamomi Rands in Vitis vinifera L. Mnr O P H

Augustyn: Geurstowwe in Vitis vinifera L. Mnr C Kok: Die Geskiedenis van die Suid-Afrikaanse Wynbedryf: gister en vandag.

19 September 1984 by die Universiteit van Stellenbosch: Prof J H Visser en Miss I Trautmann: Growth of guayule in suspension culture. Mr C Boucher: Patterns of invasion by larger woody alien species in selected areas of the fynbos biome, South Africa. Dr J H Jooste en mnr P W Vorster: Loon-opname en translokasie in gewone en proteoiëde wortels van die Proteaceae.

Ekskursies: 9 Junie 1984: 'n Ekskursie is gereël na die Tokaibos deur prof D T Mitchell (+ 20 lede). 1 September 1984: 'n Besoek is gereël na die Kogelberg Staatsbos deur mnr J Aalbers. Mnr Cooper van EVKOM het die lede rondgewys (+ 20 lede).

Oorsese Besoekers: Gedurende 1984 het 'n aantal plantkundiges van oorsee die Suidwes-Kaapstreek besoek. Dr M Avishai, Hebreeuse Universiteit, Jerusalem, Israel; dr B Fineran, Universiteit van Canterbury, Christchurch, Nieu-Seeland; prof H Lipps, Israel; prof Solbrig, Universiteit van Harvard, VSA; dr P Goldblatt, Universiteit van Missouri, VSA.

S.A.G.P-Raad: Die volgende lede van ons streek het in 1984 op die Uitvoerende komitee van die Raad gedien: prof J H Visser (Voorsitter), Mr C Boucher (Sekretaris) en dr J H Jooste (Tesourier).

Bedankings: Ek wil graag die bestuurslede van harte bedank vir hulle goeie samewerking gedurende die jaar. Ook 'n spesiale woord van dank aan die Sekretaris/Tesourier, mnr J Watts, wat die meeste van die werk gedoen het. Ook 'n woord van dank aan prof D T Mitchell vir al die reëlings van die aand en wat vir die verversings vir die aand gesorg het. En dan 'n spesiale woord van dank aan al die lede vir hulle samewerking en ondersteuning gedurende die jaar.

O.T.de V.

EASTERN CAPE BRANCH, ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1984

At the last AGM of the Eastern Cape branch of SAAB, held in October 1983 at Rhodes University, a new committee was elected. The committee for 1984 and 1985 consists of: Prof Ted Botha (Chairman), Dr Amy Jacot Guillarmod (Treasurer), Mr Peter Phillipson (Secretary), Dr Ria Olivier (UPE Representative), Mrs Doreen Court (Rhodes Representative), Mr Oswald Makunga (Fort Hare Representative). Prof Roy Lubke agreed to continue as the regional representative for the Eastern Cape on the SAAB Council. After the AGM an interesting and thought-provoking lecture was given by Prof Max Hommersand of the University of North Carolina on global distribution patterns of marine algae.

Due to the geographic isolation of the constituent institutions of the E. Cape branch, only one other formal meeting was scheduled. This was a lecture given in conjunction with the Department of Plant Science at Rhodes University by Dr R M Cowling from the University of Port Elizabeth, who spoke on the formation of biogeographic hypotheses, with particular reference to the E. Cape. This lecture was well-attended and stimulated much discussion on a topic that is of considerable relevance to the research of a number of E. Cape botanists.

Of interest to taxonomists involved in research on the flora of the E. Cape and Ciskei is the fact that the herbarium of the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Fort Hare has recently become recognised by the editors of Index Herbariorum and has been assigned the official acronym 'UFH'. Loans are available from this herbarium and considerable interesting new material has been collected in the region, and accessioned, during 1984.

C.E.J.B.

ORANJE-VRYSTAAT STREEKTAK, JAARVERSLAG VIR 1984: Die bestuur vir die termyn 1984/85 was soos volg saamgestel: Voorsitter: dr R L Verhoeven, Ondervoorsitter: prof G H J Krüger, Sekretaresse/Tesouriere: mev A M Joubert, Addisionele lid: prof J U Grobbelaar. Die ledetal het afgeneem van 51 tot 48. Indien die stigting van die Suidwes-Afrikastreek in ag geneem word, het die ledetal in werklikheid gegroei. Namens die bestuur wil ek graag die nuwe lede en "ou"SAGP-lede wat hul gedurende 1984 in die OVS-streek gevestig het, welkom heet en vertrou dat hul verbintenis met die Vereniging vrugbaar sal wees. Namens die Vrystaatstreek wil ek ook die SWA-streek gelukwens met diestigting van die SWA-tak en die vertroude uitspraak dat hul as nuwe SAGP-streek hul sal beywer vir die bevordering van Plantkunde in SWA.

Gedurende 1984 is die volgende vergaderings gereël: 1 Maart - Dr A J van der Westhuizen - Invloed van omgewingsfaktore op die toksisiteit en toksien-samestelling van Microcystis aeruginosa. 9 Mei - Dr G H Wiltshire - Nitrogen availability in pasture at Sydenham farm. 7 Augustus - Mnr J C Roos - Aspekte van die limnologie van Swartwaterdam (Qwa-Qwa). 30 Oktober - Mnr V R Smith - Are subantarctic ecosystems tundra? Die lesings het goed verloop met 'n gemiddelde bywoningstyg van 23 persone. Die werkswyse van die tak het soos in die verlede voortgegaan met aandlesings gevolg deur 'n besprekingsessie waarna afgesluit is met 'n koppie tee en verversings. 'n Afsluitingsfunksie, in die vorm van 'n kaas en wyn, is na afloop van die lesing deur mnr V Smith op 30 Oktober aangebied.

Gedurende 1984 is daar 'n boekprys vir die beste Plantkunde III-student ingestel. Die prys word toegeken deur die SAGP, geborg deur Nasionale Boek-

winkels en sal toegeken word tydens die Akademiese Prysuitdeling van die Universiteit van die Oranje-Vrystaat. Toestemming vir die toekenning van die boekprys tydens die Akademiese Prysuitdeling word egter nog van die Universiteitsowerhede afgewag. Namens die OVS-streek wil ek graag vir dr F C Botha gelukwens met die ontvangs van die SAGP Junior Medalje vir Plantkunde.

Die volgende instansies en persone word hartlik bedank vir hulp wat in een of ander vorm verleen is om van die jaar se verrigtinge 'n sukses te maak. Die Universiteit van die Oranje-Vrystaat, mev. A M Joubert en I du Plessis en prof J U Grobbelaar vir die reëlings van die afsluitingsfunksie, sprekers wat gedurende die jaar opgetree het, lede van die bestuur en lede van SAGP vir die wyse waarop hulle die aktiwiteite ondersteun het, want 'n Vereniging is maar net so sterk soos sy lede.

R.L.V.

VERSLAG OOR DIE IUBW (INTERNASIONALE UNIE VAN BIOLOGIESE WETENSKAPPE)

Die Uitvoerende Komitee van die IUBW het vanjaar in Oktober in Parys, Frankryk vergader. Die president, professor Paola Fasella kon, weens ander verpligtinge nie deurgaans as voorsitter optree nie en is in dië hoedanigheid deur een van die vise-presidente, naamlik professor Otto Solbrig uitgehelp. Dit is waarskynlik hoofsaaklik die besprekings van die wetenskaplike program van die IUBW wat vir lede van die SAGP van belang sal wees.

Bio-Indikatore: Prof Salanki is voorsitter van die "Program oor die biologiese monitering van die stand van die omgewing". Onder sy leiding is 'n geslaagde "Internasionale simposium oor bio-indikatore" in Nu-Delhi, Indië in Oktober 1984 gehou.

Dekade van die Trope: Prof Otto Solbrig is die ko-ordineerder van hierdie omvangryke program wat as onderdele het: (a) 'n Studie van die belang van spesieverskeidenheid in tropiese woude; (b) grondbiologiese prosesse en die vrugbaarheid van tropiese gronde; (c) vergelykende studies van tropiese bergagtige ekosisteme; (d) studie van savanne-ekosisteme; (e) studie van mensbiologie in die trope. Van hierdie afdelings is dit veral die een oor navorsing oor die savannes waarin verskeie Suid-Afrikaners as gevolg van hul betrokkenheid by die WNNR se Nyalsvleyprojek, belangstel.

Medisinale Plante: Hierdie projek staan onder leiding van prof Ayensu maar ongelukkig vorder hierdie projek nie naastenby so goed as die ander nie.

n Ander aspek in verband met die IUBW se aktiwiteite waarin die lede van die SAGP moontlik belang sal stel is die aktiewe werk wat n span onder aanvoering van Dr W.D.L. Ride van Australië doen om taksonomiese probleme wat veral deur dierkundiges ondervind word uit te stryk. Baie probleme word ook met taksonomiese reëls ondervind in die geval van organismes wat deur party mense as plante en ander as diere beskou word. Die volgende (23e) driejaarlikse Algemene Vergadering van die IUBW word vanjaar (1985) in Budapest, Hongarye gehou

N.G.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR:

I saw in the latest issue (22:12) of Forum Botanicum a report on un-revised genera for Flora of Southern Africa. I would like to inform you and the readers of Forum Botanicum about present work on South African Asteraceae, especially Anthemideae and Inuleae in Stockholm. Together with C.J. Humphries of the British Museum (Natural History) I myself am undertaking a generic monograph of all Asteraceae-Anthemideae. In connection with this work Miss Mari Källersjö has undertaken substantial generic rearrangements in Athanasia, Pentzia, Matricaria and related genera. These works will appear this year in Nordic Journal of Botany. Miss Källersjö will visit South Africa during the end of this year in order to study the species of Athanasia in the field. Stilpnophyton has been sunk in Athanasia by Källersjö. Peyrousea will be sunk in Schistostephium. Osmitopsis has already been revised. Eroeda is Oedera and seems to pose few problems. Lidbeckia, Hippia and Marasmodes also seem unproblematical. So far concerning Anthemideae. I suggest that anyone interested in Anthemideae should get in touch with me. Concerning Inuleae Nestlera has already been sunk in Relhania. B. Nordenstam is working on Helipterum as stated in the list. A. Anderberg has a revision of Pegolettia in manuscript. P-O Karis is successfully continuing his work on Metalasia. As I have earlier explained to Dr Leistner, Karis and I have a pretty good overview of Inuleae-Athrixiinae sensu Merxmüller (in the Biology and Chemistry of the Compositae symposium volumes). Stoebe, Disparago, Elytropappus, Metalasia and Amphiglossa are all well-known and studied by Karis. I suggest that anyone interested in Inuleae-Athrixiinae should get in touch with P-O Karis, those interested in Inuleae-Inulinae (sensu Merxmüller) should contact A. Anderberg, and those interested in Senecioneae, Calenduleae or Arctoteae should contact B. Nordenstam, in order to coordinate activities with the present active work on Asteraceae in Stockholm.

Dr K Bremer, Swedish Museum of Natural History, Stockholm.

Please note that anyone interested in studying the above taxa should also contact Dr G.E. Gibbs Russell of the Flora Research Section at the Botanical Research Institute, Pretoria, in order to facilitate the planning of the Flora of Southern Africa.

W.G.W.

CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

The Shrub Research Consortium of the Shrub Sciences Laboratory, Provo, Utah, USA, is sponsoring the Fourth Wildland Shrub Symposium August 7-9, 1985 at Snowbird Resort, near Salt Lake City, Utah. The symposium, "Plant/Herbivore Interactions", will feature invited and contributed papers on aspects of plant-animal interactions with an emphasis on but not limited to vertebrate herbivores and shrub ecosystems. Contributed presentations will be 20 minutes. The proceedings will be published. If you would like to present a paper, send a title and abstract by May 15, 1985, to: Dr F.D. Provenza, Department of Range Science, College of Natural Resources, UMC 52, Utah State University, Logan, Utah 84322. For further information about the symposium and facilities, please contact: Theresa A. Bigbie, Conferences and Workshops, Brigham Young University, 297 CONF, Provo, Utah 84602 (801) 378-4903.

World Environment Day

Important dates to be noted in your diary for 1985 are 5, 6 and 7 June - World Environment Day. On these dates the National Veld Trust will hold an international congress with the challenging theme, Man: Endangered Species? At least two well known overseas speakers will give keynote addresses and some of South Africa's leading experts on a variety of disciplines will read papers on topical environmental matters. Subjects such as over-population, depletion of resources, the energy crises and pollution, South Africa's responsibility towards neighbouring states in the supply of vital raw materials, etc. will be discussed. In the final event we will look into the biological effect of these problems on the future existence of the human race, particularly those living in the RSA. With only fifteen years left until the turn of the century it is envisaged to find guide lines for planning into the 21st Century. The Congress will be held on 6 and 7 June at the CSIR Conference Centre in Pretoria. On the night of 5 June it will be preceded by a prestige dinner in commemoration of World Environment Day. You may recall the very successful symposium, Man and his Environment held in 1971 in Stellenbosch by Veld Trust. This was in fact the very first time that South Africa's multitude of environmental problems were discussed in depth. This event also led to the establishment of the Habitat Council. The question now is, what has happened

to our environment in the course of the past fifteen years? Did we adhere to the warnings of the 1971 Symposium or did we go on relentlessly plundering our resources? These will be the most vital questions to which we will seek answers.

J.F. DU P.

Forest Products Research International - Achievements and the Future: This international symposium will be held at the CSIR in Pretoria from 22 - 26 April 1985. It is being organized by the National Timber Research Institute (NTRI) of the CSIR in collaboration with the Directorate of Forestry, the South African forest products industry, and the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Stellenbosch. The following international forest products research organizations are co-operating: the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations, the International Academy of Wood Science, the International Association of Wood Anatomists.

The purpose of the symposium will be to discuss international developments in research and technology and the application of local and overseas research results using case studies; formulate future world requirements for research and plans for future international co-operation; draw up a medium-term future research plan for South Africa. The titles of the different seminars are as follows: Forestry Research Management, Timber Frame Construction, Timber Engineering, Wood Protection, Pulp and Paper (effluent abatement, energy conservation, non-chlorine bleaching of chemical pulp), Wood Drying, Wood-based Composite Products, Sawmilling Management and Practice, Computer Applications in Sawmills, Charcoal Manufacture and Use, Woodgas in Practice, Raw Material Supply, Preparation and Transport, Techno-economics, Fundamental Studies (physics, chemistry and anatomy of wood), Synthetic and Natural Wood Adhesives, Glulam (manufacture and aspects other than structural applications).

International Association of Wood Anatomists: The first meeting of IAWA on the African continent will take place from 22 - 26 April 1985. It will form part of the international symposium discussed above. IAWA was founded in 1931 and now has approximately 450 members in 60 countries all over the world. Its goal is to advance the knowledge of wood anatomy in all its aspects. A scientific journal, IAWA Bulletin is issued quarterly and contains articles on systematic wood anatomy, structure and properties, ultrastructure, wood identification, structure and function of wood. The South African representatives of IAWA are Mr J Swart, Department of Wood Science, Faculty of Forestry, University of Stellenbosch

and Dr M Bariska, National Timber Research Institute, CSIR, Pretoria. The executive secretary is Dr B ter Welle, Institute for Systematic Botany, Utrecht, Netherlands.

Fynbos Biome Project Review Symposium : Research for resource management in the Fynbos Biome

The above symposium will be convened at the Fruit and Fruit Technology Research Institute, Stellenbosch, on Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 July 1985. This will be the 7th Annual Research Meeting of the Fynbos Biome Project. The project has been running for 7 - 8 years of what was originally intended to be a 10 year programme, and it is time to review progress.

The objective of the symposium is to review the degree to which research undertaken within the Project has contributed to the understanding and solution of environmental problems in the biome. Sessions will include a brief outline of user agencies policy, a review of the overall contribution from the research programme, a specific case study, poster papers and a discussion session. The themes selected for detailed review are habitat conservation, invasive biota, catchment management and the wild flower industry.

Enquiries should be directed to Mrs M L Jarman, Coordinator: Fynbos Biome Project, c/o Department of Organic Chemistry, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7700.

A SURVEY OF MICROCOMPUTER USAGE BY BIOLOGISTS

There is an increasing appreciation among biologists that microcomputers are here to stay and that in order to benefit from the technology it has become necessary to find out what everyone is doing. This survey of microcomputers in the biological community aims to find out what strides have been made in the last few years and depending on what is found will hopefully lead on to a forum whereby biologists using similar software and machines may be able to contact each other. If you own or use a micro, whether at home or work, you are urged to let us know. Each respondent will be sent an analysis of the survey which, as it is being run under the auspices of the Linnean Society, will we hope be worldwide.

The following information is needed: Name: Mailing address:
Telephone: What microcomputer(s) do you currently use?
Make: Model: Operating system: Peripheral devices: Printer:
Plotter: Do you have access to any other computers or peripheral devices, even though you may not use them regularly? Please specify. How long have you owned or used a microcomputer? Software: Please list the make and version of the following software packages that you use. Work processing:
Database: Graphics: Have you ever written any computer software your-

self? What languages are your programs written in? What is your main field of research? Other: Please add any remarks that you feel we should know about. Do you think that there is a need for an association or working group of biologists using micros? Thank you for taking part in this survey. Please return the questionnaire to:

Charles Stirton
c/O The Herbarium
Royal Botanic Gardens
Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AE
U K

AFRIKAANS/ENGLISH DICTIONARY OF ECOLOGICAL TERMS. Hulp gesoek/Help wanted.

Het jy miskien daardie lys van woorde gebêre wat jy gemaak het toe jy verlede jaar daardie lang dokument vir jou baas moes vertaal? Or has your secretary perhaps a piece of paper on which she has jotted down the Afrikaans equivalents of some tricky English ecological terms? Of miskien het julle 'n kantoorlys van afkortings van die name van internasionale bewaringsorganisasies, plaaslike organisasies, komitees en dies meer?

The Terminology Services Section of the Department of National Education is busy compiling an Afrikaans/English dictionary of ecological terms and would appreciate any suggestions for inclusion in the dictionary. To start something of this magnitude from scratch is no easy task. The dictionary will include terms relating to botany, zoology, marine, estuarine and coastal ecology, inland water ecology and other general ecological terms. A list of abbreviations and acronyms of all South African organizations involved in ecological matters, as well as international organizations with which South African organizations have dealings, will supplement the dictionary. Enige idees en voorstelle sal waardeer word (handgeskrewe sal heeltemal aanvaarbaar wees). Stuur dit asseblief aan:

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