



PLANTS & PEOPLE

Volume 11

Fall 1997

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1998 SEB ANNUAL MEETING

The SEB annual meeting is in Aarhus, Denmark, July 13-17, 1998. You will be able to register on Monday the 13th and the meeting will officially begin on the 14th with presentations. Wednesday will host more presentations and the symposium dinner. Thursday will finish with the presentations and then follow on Friday with field trips. Dormitories are approximately \$32.50 with breakfast; Hotels are available at higher rates. Traveling to Aarhus is simple: arrive in Copenhagen and fly on a smaller plane to Aarhus or take an hourly train for a few hours. Some direct

flights to Aarhus or Billund are available from London, Sweden, Amsterdam, etc. July is warm but can cool down and be rainy. Be prepared. Organizers are busy making final arrangements and doing everything to make it an affordable meeting. Additional cost information will be made available on the Internet and in the next issue of the newsletter, as well as in membership mailings. Consult the **SEB Web Site** periodically for information about upcoming meetings, etc.:

[http://www.nybg.org/
bsci/seb/SEB.html](http://www.nybg.org/bsci/seb/SEB.html)

REVIEW OF 1997 MEETING IN ST. LOUIS

The Distinguished Economic Botanist of 1997 was Carlos Ochoa, famed Peruvian Economic Botanist. He opened the 1997 annual meeting with his presentation on “Ecogeography of the Wild Peruvian Tuber-Bearing Solanums and their Breeding Potential”. He was a wonderful speaker demonstrating the passion he has had for his work during his career. He shared with us a small portion of the work he has accomplished and how many more solanums have potential to come towards the forefront. Peru is home for 75% of the 225 species of tuber-bearing solanums, making it the perfect spot to study the ecogeography of this still mysterious food crop.

AWARDS PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING

Submitted by Susan Verhoek, Ph.D.

The Edmund Fulling Award is presented each year at the annual meeting for the best oral presentation by a student or beginning professional. Seven papers, all of high quality, were judged by a panel of three judges. The award for 1997 went to Christiane Eringhaus

of Florida International University for her paper “Medicinal Uses of *Piper* spp. (Piperaceae) in an Indigenous Kaxinawa Community in Acre, Brazil”.

A recently established award, the Julia F. Morton Award, is given for the best poster presentation at the annual meeting by a student or beginning professional. The 1997 award went to D. Milanowski from Washington University in St. Louis for his poster “Benzylisoquinoline Alkaloids of *Croton lechleri* Muell. Arg., a Source of the Wound-healing Latex ‘Sangre de Drago’ from Northern Peru.”

Both awards are accompanied by a \$500.00 prize.

OUTSTANDING BOOK AWARD

The members of the 1997 Book Award Committee were: Daniel F. Austin (Florida Atlantic University), Bradley C. Bennett (Florida International University), Timothy A. Johns (MacDonald Coll. of McGill University), and John Rashford (College of Charleston).

After deliberation, the committee selected Cotton, C. M. 1996. Ethnobotany. Principles and Applications. John Wiley and Sons, Ltd.

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Notes from the Field

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Dear Members,

I want to thank all the members who assisted me in forming this issue of "Plants and People". I welcomed your support during this overwhelming time.

Our upcoming meetings are shaping up and with the active support of the website we can keep up-to-date as more details become available. Please check the future meetings column for details and then Botanizing the Web column for the SEB website address.

Don't miss the brief summary of the recent 1997 meeting. There were several awards including book award, Fulling, and Distinguished Economic Botanist. Not only that, but we had lots of fun at the banquet so I have added a humor column to share the botanical creativity of the attendees.

Finally, I am finding many interesting tidbits from list servers, websites, etc. (hopefully you are, too). Please share them with the other members by sending them to me to include in the newsletter.

As always I encourage everyone to write and send in information about what is happening your part of the world. I hope you have found the class listing useful and I will update it in the Spring issue of the Newsletter. Please do not wait to see if I have neglected to list your classes: send me current information before the spring issue.

Sending wishes of health and happiness,

Trish Flaster
tflaster@rmii.com

REVIEW OF 1997 MEETING (cont'd)

(continued from page 1)

C. (Cath) M. Cotton is a member of the faculty at the School of Life Sciences at Roehampton Institute in London. She has been writing book reviews for the journal about three years, almost as long as the United Kingdom chapter has been in existence. She was among the first UK members to join the Society and visited Mexico when the meeting was held there in 1993. During the time that she was finishing her book, few of her colleagues heard from her as she threw her complete energy into polishing the manuscript. Once the book appeared, two of the committee members independently nominated it for the Outstanding Book Award. The other agreed, and so did the Council members at the annual meeting in St. Louis. Cath is the winner of the second annual award from the Society.

If you are publishing a new book or have read one that would benefit members of the Society, please send your submissions to:

Daniel F. Austin
Professor & Director of Environmental Sciences
Florida Atlantic University
Department of Biological Sciences
777 Glades Road, Boca Raton, FL 33431-0991
E-mail: daustin@fau.edu
Ph, (561) 367-3320; Fax: (561) 367-2749

or keep up-to-date by looking at the following websites:

<http://www.fau.edu/divdept/biology/people/editor.htm>
<http://www.fau.edu/divdept/biology/people/books.htm>

Congratulations Cath, we needed this type of book for all the new students who are helping us expand the science of Ethnobotany. [-Trish, Ed.]

SCHULTES AWARD

Professor Nancy J. Turner of the School of Environmental Studies at the University of Victoria, BC, is the recipient of the 1997 Richard Evans Schultes Award. The Schultes Award is presented annually by The Healing Forest Conservancy to a scientist, practitioner, or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to ethnobotany or to indigenous people issues related to ethnobotany.

"Advocate for indigenous peoples," "accomplished academic," "inspiring professor," read the flood of nominations for Nancy Turner. Specific recognition is given for her leadership in partnering with First Nations peoples to bring ethnobotanical knowledge to the forefront in discussions on management of the ancient, temperate forests of the Pacific

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Newsletter Committee

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1997 ANNUAL MEETING (cont'd)

(continued from page 2)

Northwest with the government of Canada. Turner's impressive scholarly recognition by her peers on the temperate climate ethnobotany of the First Nations in British Columbia — almost 30 books, monographs or chapters — is surpassed only by the number of her many devoted students whom she has inspired to enter the field of ethnobotany.

The International Nominating Committee for the award is chaired by Michael J. Balick, Ph.D., Past President of the Society for Economic Botany, Philecology Curator of Economic Botany and Director of The New York Botanical Garden's Institute of Economic Botany. The award was announced in St. Louis, MO, at the annual meeting of the Society for Economic Botany, of which Schultes is a founding member.

ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS

On Saturday the meeting was held at the Missouri Botanical Gardens. This allowed us to have a great herb walk by Cathy Crandell, time to stroll, a lecture by Missouri Botanical Gardens botanists describing their programs, and roundtable discussion on poignant topics. The attendees separated into various roundtables of their choice, Education, Resource Management, or Ethics. The following are submissions of the roundtables by some of the attendees.

Ethics Roundtable

Submitted by Lawrence Kaplan

After opening remarks by Organizer, Memory Elvin-Lewis, the discussion was taken up by about 20 participants. Each spoke for a few minutes on what he or she viewed as an ethical issue of significance to their professional work. Among the issues raised were those concerning the obligations of the scientists to communicate verifiable and reproducible results while respecting the intellectual property rights of those (indigenous peoples, in particular) who were the sources of information. Such information might involve, for example, which species are used and their mode of use. Those who provide the information might be specialists in curing or any other members of an indigenous community.

Concerns were voiced over the compensation of indigenous community participants in research. Models of agreements with individuals and communities were described.

Participants commented that, in making such agreements, identity issues must be addressed: Who has the authority to agree on "ownership" at individual and community levels? The answer depends upon careful recognition of existing political, economic, and social organization of particular local communities in their cultural context.

Because one legal route to establish property rights uses patent law, the procedure for United States patent application was described.

Larger fundamental issues of market place forces versus the free circulation of knowledge about the treatment of disease were discussed. A question was put forth concerning the market value to pharmaceutical companies of newly reported ethnobotanical remedies for tropical diseases. Concerning this, it was noted that diseases such as malaria and gastrointestinal disorders, which might have been considered to be primarily of importance in tropical and less developed countries, are becoming more frequent in industrialized countries.



Education Roundtable

Submitted by Gail Wagner

Will McClatchey organized and led a two-hour roundtable on Ethnobotanical Education, held on Saturday, June 7, at the 1997 SEB meetings in St. Louis. As he stated, the purpose was to openly air opinions and perspectives on the evolution of ethnobotanical education (past), the state of current programs and courses (present), and to discuss the directions and standards for tomorrow (future). He skillfully initiated discussion among participants by asking a prepared question and encouraging comments, and then asking another question. Approximately 21 people attended this lively session. The Roundtable resulted in a series of recommendations that were passed on to the SEB Education Committee.

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The Ethics Roundtable discussed the obligations of scientists to communicate verifiable and reproducible results while respecting intellectual property rights

The Education Roundtable resulted in recommendations that were passed on to the SEB Education Committee

1997 ANNUAL MEETING (cont'd)

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Resource Management Roundtable

Submitted by Bill Poppin

There are many challenges with assuring sustainable resource management of indigenous plants. Some of the challenges include:

1. Limited information;
2. Lack of coordinated management programs;
3. Lack of education at all levels: consumers, manufacturers, and collectors;
4. Lack of a defined wildcrafted standard or system;
5. Lack of industry participation in SEB and roundtable discussions of this nature.

In spite of these challenges, there is optimism and hope for the future. The following suggestions were discussed:

1. Collection of data on forms for plant species and amounts of questionable feasibility due to traditions, nature of collectors, and other factors. This information to be submitted to regulatory agencies to support management practices;
2. Development of educational programs which would impact all groups, collectors to end-users;
3. Development of a wildcrafted program including a concept of a wildcrafting co-op, which would be a cooperative effort with industry and collectors to provide value-added qualities to assure sustainable harvests. These products would cost more, but would include defined harvesting practices, reseeding or dividing plants, environmental protection and others;
4. Greater participation by industry, consideration for the development of local or regional SEB chapters which would focus on these and other issues. Need to work with local native plant organizations.

FIELD TRIPS AT THE MEETINGS

Submitted by Gail Wagner

On Saturday, June 7, Cathy M. Crandall (Mountain Magic/Root, Leaf and Bark, Inc.) led a very informative Medicinal Plant Walk through the Rock Garden and Temperate House at the Missouri Botanical Garden. She prepared a 12-page leaflet on the medicinal plants and their traditional and current uses for the participants. This was a wonderful walk on a beautiful day. Cathy impressed us all as a very knowledgeable herbalist with a knack for communicating her knowledge and love of plants to others.

On Sunday, June 8, Dr. Carol Diaz-Granados led a small tour to visit the tenth to twelfth century petroglyphs at Washington State Park an hour or so south of St. Louis. She was assisted by her husband, Jim Duncan, who also spent many years working in the area. These petroglyphs were carved or pecked into flat areas of sandy dolomite that outcrop in the area. Many were destroyed when a nearby highway was built. Of particular interest were the many possible ears of corn represented. Cathy Crandall, herbalist, added immeasurably to the trip and provided an herb walk through the woods after we viewed the petroglyphs. Several of us spent several happy hours botanizing at local glade and prairie openings on our return trip to St. Louis.

BUSINESS NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

The results of the elections for 1997-98 slate were:

- Gail Wagner - President-Elect
- John Rashford - Treasurer
- Deena Decker-Walters and Steven King as Members-At-Large.

Congratulations to everyone; we are anxiously awaiting your prowess as the Society continues to grow.

I also want to take the time to thank members who have been serving the Society for a few years, especially Don Ugent, Treasurer, who



has carried us forth into profitable times. Although not a board member, Sandi Frank, past Managing Editor of the Journal, has moved to new challenges. She added a professional quality to the Journal and streamlined the

business associated with the Society. As editor, she also empowered me to learn how to keep production costs down and effectively bring the Newsletter to all institutional subscribers.

Our Membership continues to grow and we have over nearly 1000 members and 1000 institutional subscribers. Please continue your recruiting by contacting Allen Press to obtain many more membership pamphlets for your students, club members or friends and family.

-Trish Flaster, Editor.

The Resource Management Roundtable emerged with optimism and hope for the future

The Annual Meeting provided the opportunity for several informative field trips

HEISER HONORED AT INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Submitted by Susan Verhoek, Ph.D.

Well over 100 people gathered to honor Charles B. Heiser's 50th year at Indiana University on September 26-27 in Bloomington, Indiana. The weekend symposium "Plant Evolution and Domestication" held in honor of Charley included, eight presentations by former students or associates in areas that Charley worked (domestication, natural and artificial selection, reproductive biology, systematic patterns and processes and evolution).

The symposium speakers were introduced by their connection to Dr. Heiser. Speakers and titles were: Charles Heiser (the honoree himself), "The sunflower in Old Mexico"; Greg Anderson (Heiser student), "The origins(s)?? of the pepino: one of the 'forgotten domesticates of the Incas' that C.B. Heiser did not forget"; Barbara Pickersgill (Heiser student), "The diversity of plant domestication and the domestication of plant diversity"; Jeff Palmer (colleague at Indiana and symposium organizer), "Evolutionary transfer of genes between and within plant cells"; Charles Rick (early mentor, and colleague), "Some experiences with experimental introgression between tomato species"; Loren Rieseberg (student of student, colleague at Indiana), "Tempo of speciation, lento or presto?" [with *Helianthus* as the subject]; Doug Soltis (student of student), "Angiosperm phylogeny inferred from multiple genes"; Jeff Doyle (student), "Molecular systematics of legumes from soybeans to subfamilies"; and Don Levin (student of student), "The alien element in *Phlox* reproductive biology".

A program highlight was Prof. Heiser's own talk re-evaluating the evidence for cultivated

(domesticated) sunflowers in Mexico before arrival of the Spanish. Jeff Palmer was the overall organizer and primary motive force; he was assisted by Jerry Gastony, Loren Rieseberg and Greg Anderson. The presentations were comprehensive, and the discussions spirited with a congenial esprit de corps promoted by Charley's comments. The program was initiated Friday night by Prof. Heiser's talk,



and concluded Saturday night with a banquet (of paella, with sunflower table centerpieces), and a toast/roast (of Charley) moderated with verve by Greg Anderson. A serious award was presented to Dr. Heiser by Jorge Soria on behalf of INIAP for his work with naranjilla in Ecuador, as

were some less serious awards. Attendees were regaled with reminiscences of their joint graduate years by Herb Wagner talking about grad school days at Berkeley with Charley (and his wife Dorothy, and Herb's wife Florence), and Greg Anderson (former student and friend) discussing Charley's career and impact on botany (and his penchant for paisley). Of course, Charley got the last word, and closed the program with comments and reminiscences.

To further honor Charley Heiser's prominent contributions to botanical research and graduate training, his former students and associates, together with his colleagues at Indiana University, are establishing an endowment fund to support a Charles B. Heiser graduate fellowship in plant evolution at Indiana University. Contributions to this fund can be sent to Kathy Wyss, Department of Biology, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405. Checks should be made out to: IU Foundation/Heiser Fellowship.

The symposium "Plant Evolution and Domestication" was held in honor of Charley's 50th year at Indiana University

An endowment fund is being established to support a Charles B. Heiser graduate fellowship in plant evolution

1997 SEB U.K. MEETING PROCEEDINGS

Good news! 22 papers have had first proofs delivered to authors; a further few are in the process of having first proofs produced; and we are waiting for four more to submit their manuscripts to the appropriate symposium editors. We are aiming for a late 1997 publication.

The UK Chapter newsletters are linked to the SEB web site.

submitted by Hew Prendergast
H.Prendergast@lion.rbgkew.org.uk

[Details about availability and pricing are pending and I will keep you posted - Trish, Ed]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Significant savings on a subscription to the Journal of Ethnopharmacology when you join the International Society for Ethnopharmacology

The Anne S. Chatham Fellowship in Medicinal Botany was established to protect and preserve knowledge about the medicinal use of plants

SPECIAL OFFER from The International Society for Ethnopharmacology! Membership, which includes a personal subscription to the JOURNAL OF ETHNOPHARMACOLOGY is **ONLY US \$125/year** in US, Canada, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Israel, Japan; (\$90/year for all others). Note the significant savings: a current personal JEP subscription is ~US \$900.

Please send subscription/membership directly to:

Professor Ulf Nyman, ISE Representative
Department of Medicinal Chemistry,
Pharmacognosy Section
School of Pharmacy, Universitetsparken 2
DK-2100 Copenhagen, DENMARK

- check or money order in US DOLLARS ONLY
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- include full name and mailing address
- individual subscriptions are for personal use only, not for commercial or library purposes
- PLEASE SEND membership/subscription fee NOW for 1998.

FELLOWSHIPS

The Anne S. Chatham Fellowship in Medicinal Botany has been endowed by the Garden Club of America. The Garden Club of America is pleased to announce a new grant open to Ph.D. candidates and Ph.D.'s to enable study in medicinal botany. The fellowship was established to protect and preserve knowledge about the medicinal use of plants, and this prevents the disappearance of plants with therapeutic potential.

To this end, the Anne S. Chatham Fellowship in Medicinal Botany will provide one grant award of \$4,000 annually. The Missouri Botanical Garden has agreed to administer the new fellowship and selection of candidates for the award will be by a panel of botanists specializing in Economic and Ethnobotany. Eligible applicants should send a brief application letter, 1-2 page description of the proposed research, and current curriculum vitae to Dr. James S. Miller, Missouri Botanical Garden, P.O. Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299 by January 15, 1998. Announcement of the successful candidate is expected in March 1998. Additional information can be obtained at the Anne S. Chatham Fellowship site on the World Wide Web at: http://www.mobot.org/mobot/research/applied_research/chatham.html or by

contacting Dr. James S. Miller at the address above, by phone (314) 577-9503, or email: miller@mobot.org.

EXHIBITS

The U.S. Botanic Gardens has a wonderful exhibit of botanical beads on loan from the extensive collection of Ruth Smith of Arlington, VA. Well-known in the Washington area, she has taught classes and has through her personal interests collected beads from modern and traditional cultures. She is very interested in meeting other enthusiasts. Contact her through the Botanic Gardens' Program Office. Don't delay, the exhibit ends January 11, 1998.

The Smithsonian National Museum of The American Indian, NMAI, in lower Manhattan, New York, is exhibiting Masks of the Yup'ik culture. Please call to be sure how long the exhibit lasts and to find out other interesting events happening at the museum.

MEETINGS

"Who Owns America? II. How Land and Natural Resources are Owned and Controlled." June 3-6, 1998, Land Tenure Center. University of Wisconsin-Madison (USA).

The conference will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas and information about land and natural resource tenure issues in Canada, Northern Mexico, and the US.

General Themes:

- A Bundle of Rights: Law, Policy and the Politics of Land
- Culture, Ethics, and the Land
- For Land and Money: Economic Realities and Alternatives
- This Land was my Land: Land Loss Prevention and Recovery
- Natural Resources Ownership and Management.

Proposals for papers, posters, and videos/films or for organizing a session should be submitted by November 1, 1997 to: Gene Summers, North American Program, Land Tenure Center, 1357 University Avenue, Madison, WI 53715, fax: 608-262-2141, e-mail: itc-nap@facstaff.wisc.edu

FUTURE REMOTE SENSING CONFERENCES

October, 5-7 1998. Fifth International Conference on Remote Sensing for Marine and Coastal Environments. San Diego Princess Convention Center, San Diego, California, USA.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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June 1999. Fourth International Airborne Remote Sensing Conference and Exhibition. Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Both are organized by ERIM, P.O. Box 134001, Ann Arbor, MI 48113-4001 USA. Tel: 313-994-1200, ext. 3234. Fax: 313-994-5123. Internet: wallman@erim.org. <http://www.erim.org/CONF/conf.html>

SOCIETY FOR MEDICINAL PLANT RESEARCH

The Scientific and Organizing Committees cordially invites you to participate in the 46TH ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE SOCIETY FOR MEDICINAL PLANT RESEARCH in Vienna, Austria.

The Congress will be held in August 31 - September 3, 1998 at the University of Vienna, Austria. Topic is the QUALITY OF MEDICINAL DRUGS AND PHYTOMEDICINES including botany, cultivation, breeding, biotechnology, processing, phytochemical quality control, chemical and microbial contamination, phytochemistry, biosynthesis, analytical methods, pharmaceutical, technology, pharmacology, toxicology and clinical studies.

Contact: Prof. Dr. W. Kubelka, Prof. Dr. B. Kopp, Prof. Dr. J. Jurenitsch, Institute of Pharmacognosy, University of Vienna, Centre of Pharmacy, Althanstrasse 14, A-1090 Wien, Austria Phone: (+43) 1 31336-8067; Fax: 31336-772; Email: Pharmacognosy@univie.ac.at or johann.jurenitsch@univie.ac.at

ACTIN

ACTIN was launched in 1995 in response to an initiative of the National Farmers Union and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC). In the same year, interest in non-food crops was reinforced by the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology report "Alternatives in Agriculture". The Technology Foresight panel on Agriculture, Natural Resources and Environment also highlighted this as a priority area for the future.

The principal objectives are to:

- Stimulate R & D in alternative crops by creating synergy between and within UK industry, Government and academia;
- Establish a relational database linking industry need to research capability;
- Promote the most efficient uptake and exploitation of available technology through a multidisciplinary approach.

GATEWAY TO RENEWABLE INDUSTRIAL FEED STOCKS (GRIF'97)

This was the first ACTIN conference. It aimed to:

- provide a UK focus for alternative crop technologies
- illustrate the collaborative effort required to achieve greater use of crop-derived products by Industry
- provide examples of science in the pipeline
- launch ACTIN2020, the ACTIN Special Interest Group.

ACTIN2020

The ACTIN database will be accessible via the Internet through membership in ACTIN2020, the ACTIN Special Interest Group. Membership in ACTIN2020 will be free of charge for Universities and Research Institutes, and in return for a modest subscription for Industry. Further details will be announced at the conference.

The conference coordinator is Claire Ham - Training Group, Pira International, Randalls Road, LEATHERHEAD, Surrey KT22 7RU (Tel: 01372 802047, Fax: 01372 802243, Email: training-services@pira.co.uk).

NEW AWARDS

The Botany Department of the Field Museum is proud to announce the first annual **Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Award** and invite applications for the 1998 award.

The award of \$1000.00 is designed to assist students and young professionals to visit the Field Museum and use its extensive economic botany and systematic collections. Individuals from Latin America and projects in the field of ethnobotany or systematics of economically important plant groups will be given special consideration.

Applicants interested in the award should submit their curriculum vitae and a detailed letter describing the project for which the award is sought. The information should be forwarded to the Timothy C. Plowman Award Committee, Department of Botany, The Field Museum, Chicago, IL 60605 2496 USA and received no later than September 30, 1997. Announcement of the recipient will be made no later than December 1, 1997. *[Although this year's deadline has passed, we have included this information for those interested in applying for next year's award. -Trish, Ed.]*

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The 46TH ANNUAL CONGRESS OF THE SOCIETY FOR MEDICINAL PLANT RESEARCH will be held at the University of Vienna, Austria from August 31 - September 3, 1998

The Field Museum is proud to announce the first annual Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Award

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Experience an Ecotour in Ecuador and Peru

Anyone wishing to contribute to The Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Fund, which supports this award, may send their checks, payable to The Field Museum, c/o Department of Botany, The Field Museum, Chicago, IL 60605-2496 USA. Make certain to indicate the intended fund.

Thank you.

Susan Hamnik
Administrative Assistant, Dept. of Botany
The Field Museum
Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60605
Phone: (312) 922-9410 ext. 314
Fax: (312) 427-2530
email: hamnik@fmppr.fmn.org

ECOTOURISM

SENTIENT EXPERIENTIALS presents:
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December 22, 1997 - January 2, 1998
January 11 - January 22, 1998
January 25 - February 5, 1998

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The Banquet at the 1997 SEB Annual Meeting was a Huge Success



At the 1997 SEB Annual Meeting in St.Louis, the banquet attendees worked off calories doing the clean-up at the Cahokia Mounds Museum.

GRAZING IN THE FIELD

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

I am currently exploring the possibility of providing M.Sc./Ph.D. degrees at Middlesex University based on previous work experience in Phytochemistry/pharmacognosy or similar science fields. Applications would also be considered from potential students overseas.

The idea is that normally an M.Sc. takes two years part time or one year full time. If you are working at a company and have some work experience in phytochemistry, pharmacognosy, whether gained in research, analytical work or perhaps as a practitioner, then this work based experience would taken into consideration towards an M.Sc.

You would perhaps be able to complete the M.Sc., say part-time within a year, instead of two. The advantages are that you could do the M.Sc. research-based work at your own company or at the University. Because the course is an integral part of your work, some companies would pay for the course fees, which are also reduced in many cases.

This scheme will provide the opportunity to do research in phytochemistry/pharmacognosy leading to a Ph.D./M.Sc. qualification while still being based at work and taking into account the skills you have gained in work to count towards your qualification.

If you are interested to find out more, please send me an email with the subject as "work based M.Sc. Ph.D.". Briefly explain what your current work based experience is in phytochemistry/pharmacognosy and why you are interested in the possibility of doing such a course. Overseas inquiries are welcome. All inquiries will be treated as confidential. I look forward to hearing from you

Dr. John Wilkinson
JOHN11@MDX.AC.UK

ASST. PROFESSOR - ETHNOBOTANY

Connecticut College seeks to fill a tenure-track position in the field of ethnobotany. The appointment will be made jointly in the departments of Anthropology and Botany. This position will complement the College's strong programs in anthropology, botany and environmental studies; specific areas of training and research interests are open, but the successful candidate must be broadly educated and able to interact with faculty and students across a range of disciplines.

Applicants should have ethnographic fieldwork experience and a focus on plant systematics and local use of indigenous species. Teaching responsibilities will include an ethnographic area course, an ethnobotany course, and additional courses of the candidate's design that will complement offerings in Anthropology, Botany, and Environmental Studies. Teaching load is five courses for the academic year, with laboratory sections counting as a full course. Connecticut College is committed to research as an important component of undergraduate education; the successful candidate will be expected to develop a program which will involve undergraduates in some component of his or her research. A Ph.D. is required; postdoctoral work and teaching experience are desirable.

Connecticut College is a highly selective, independent, four-year liberal arts college enrolling ca. 1600 students. Facilities include the Olin Science Center, a 16,000 specimen herbarium, TEM, and SEM with x-ray microprobe capabilities. The 450 acre Connecticut College Arboretum surrounds the College and is used extensively for teaching and research.

Application should include a CV with a list of potential referees and statements of the candidate's philosophy on teaching and research at the undergraduate level. Application review will begin December 1, 1997 and continue until the position has been filled. All material should be sent to: R. Scott Warren, Chair, Ethnobotany Search Committee, c/o Box 5213, Connecticut College, 270 Mohegan Avenue, New London, CT 06320-4196. Email inquiries may be addressed to rswar@conncoll.edu. Connecticut College homepage address is: <http://camel.conncoll.edu/> Connecticut College is actively seeking to increase faculty diversity, AAEOE.

OPPORTUNITY IN CHINESE MEDICINALS

A Chinese Medicinal herb company in San Francisco, California, Asia Natural Products Inc., is growing and needs more help. Dr. Kang of the faculty at the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine (ACTCM) purchases bulk Chinese herbs. Contact: Ping Qi Kang OMD L.Ac., (415) 752-6413, (415) 668-4160.

**M.Sc./Ph.D.
degrees at
Middlesex
University based
on previous
work experience**

**Connecticut
College seeking
an Assistant
Professor in
Ethnobotany**

**Positon
available at
a Chinese
Medicinal Herb
Company**

GRAZING IN THE FIELD (cont'd)

(continued from page 9)

INSTITUTE OF PLANT BIOCHEMISTRY, GERMANY

POSTDOCTORAL POSITION: An industry-funded postdoctoral position is available from January 1, 1998, to study recognition of *Cercospora beticola*-derived elicitors of pathogen defense in parsley and *Arabidopsis*. More specifically, the long-term goal of this research is to isolate those elicitors and genes encoding plant elicitor receptors. Candidates should have a strong background in (bio)chemistry and a sound knowledge of molecular biology. The position is available for 18 months but may be extended.

Please send your complete application to: Dr. Thorsten Nuernberger, Institute of Plant Biochemistry, Dept. Stress and Developmental Biology, Weinberg 3, D-06120, Halle / Saale, Germany Tel.: +49-345-5582134 Fax.: +49-345-5582164 email: tnuernbe@ipb.uni-halle.de. For more information on the scientific background of our group please refer to <http://www.ipb.uni-halle.de/ipb/se/nuernberger/index.html>

CITRUS COLLOIDS, U.K.

BIOCHEMIST: (Process Development) Citrus Colloids Ltd, the only UK pectin producer, is looking for an innovative, self-starting biochemist to expand current production methods to take advantage of enzyme technology. Applicants should have a good honours degree in Biochemistry or a related discipline, and/or equivalent experience in industry, along with strong communication and project management skills. The post is located in a pleasant rural area, with a salary of about GBP 16k and 26 days holiday per annum. It also offers both technical and management training, supported by the company in partnership with the University of Birmingham School of Biochemistry. The appointment (initially for 2 years) is through the "Teaching Company Scheme" (TCS), but with the potential for a permanent post. Working through the TCS and the University of Birmingham, allows the registration for a Master of Philosophy degree.

Email: tim@citruscolloids.co.uk or send a CV to: Citrus Colloids Ltd- Specialist Pectin Manufacturer, Pomona Place, Hereford, HR40DA, UK Tel : (UK) (01432) 354333, Fax : (UK) (01432) 352081.

Ph.D. POSITION: This position involves characterisation of biosynthetic pathways of chemical defense mechanisms in maize, cloning of genes, functional characterisation of the gene products and investigation of the evolution of secondary biosynthetic pathways (For more information see: Frey et al. 1997, Science 277, pp. 696-699). Candidates should have knowledge of molecular biology, biochemistry and plant physiology. This position is available immediately.

Please contact: Prof. A. Gierl / Dr. M. Frey, Lehrstuhl f. Genetik, TU Muenchen, Lichtenbergstrasse 4, D85747 Garching, Germany. Phone: +49-89-2891-3532 or Fax: +49-89-2891-2892, email: frey@gen.chemie.tu-muenchen.de

RESEARCH FUNDING

The ICBG program supports multi-disciplinary research in drug discovery from natural products, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable economic development. This RFA is for the next five years of the program, which will be jointly sponsored by the NIH, NSF, and other agencies.

Note that submitting a letter of intent by October 15 is not required but is strongly encouraged. Applications must be RECEIVED at the NIH by January 22, 1998. Further information on inquiries, requirements, etc. is in the text accessible through the web site provided below by the Fogarty International Center, which administers the program on behalf of the participating agencies.

<http://www.nih.gov/fic/res/rfa.htm>

INTERESTING RESEARCH REQUESTS

I am looking for Research Collaboration in the area of bioprospecting for drugs from higher plants. I am specifically interested in the extraction, isolation, purification and structural identification of antibacterial, antifungal and antiviral compounds from plants. The collaboration would involve interlaboratory visits and joint experimentations.

Interested researchers may contact me privately through any of the means below.

With regards,
Anthony J. Afolayan, PhD., Lecturer
Department of Botany, University of Fort Hare,
P/Bag X1314,
Alice 5700, South Africa.
Tel. +2782 202 2167; Fax: +27 404 2 2319
Email: Jide@ufhcc.ufh.ac.za

(continued on page 11)

Postdoctoral
position
available at the
Institute of
Plant Biochemistry
in Germany

Job
Openings
at
Citrus
Colloids, U.K.

GRAZING IN THE FIELD (cont'd)

(continued from page 10)

At present my institution is formulating a research programme on the prospection, conservation and sustainable usage of plants and microorganisms of tropical forests of the Colombian Pacific. Now we are starting some studies on plants of the Amaryllidaceae family, searching mainly for alkaloids, and on essential oils of plants of the region. As our facilities are limited and we have troubles with equipment, we would like to hear about possibilities of collaboration.

Sincerely,

Arnoldo Ramirez- Barco Coordinador Area de Productos Naturales, Professor of Chemistry, Universidad del Valle, Cali, Colombia S. A.
email: aramire@mafalda.univalle.edu.co

ETHNOBOTANEWS

In the World Wildlife Newsletter a announcement was made about the Tibetan Healer, Tsampa Ngawang, being chosen to work on a plant project in Nepal. He will conduct research on Himalayan plants, their origin, status, threats and conservation needs.

During the Cultural revolution of China, Tibetan medicine was curtailed and is now able to re-establish itself within its native borders as well as in India and Nepal. As with any ancient healing system, there is much to learn from the renewed Tibetan medicine. [-Trish, Ed.]

Incidentally, here is a web site on the Yuthog Foundation for traditional Tibetan medicine: <http://www.uni-tuebingen.de/psi/yuthog/english.htm>

Civilization, February-March Volume 43, Number 1, 1997 contained a great article on vanishing languages. They emphasize the need to preserve these languages as their stewards die and no one learns them. They predict 50% of all languages today will be gone within the next century.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I received a wonderful suggestion for a new column from Peter Lapinskas. He has suggested a Readers Write-In Column (my favorite). So I am waiting for readers to write-in with a new title, column, and concerns or problems that you have experienced during your studies. Hopefully, some of you would also write in your successes to share with us. Planning for field work or research projects is tedious and it is hard to know just where to

step sometimes. Helpful hints on things gone wrong may further our science more rapidly. Once someone writes in a problem then I would want to elicit your comments on how to solve it. It is something like a list-server in a sense, but more personalized. I would rather be creative with all of you than by myself, so send in your ideas, thoughts, and your creative moments to me at tflaster@rmii.com

Dear Ms. Flaster,

We are a student group from different fields (biology, ethnology, pharmacy, medicine, biochemistry etc.) very interested in the research on ethnobotany /ethnomedicine. We have founded a working group at the University of Berlin, where we meet every week to discuss different aspects of ethnobotany / ethnomedicine. Apart from theoretical discussions, we would like to stay in contact with working groups, perhaps for participation in different Projects. Are you interested in co-operation with students from Germany? Thank you very much for any information.

Sincerely,

Gregor Boese
Planufer 91, 10967 Berlin, Germany
e-mail: boese@ukrv.de

Dear Trish,

I am back again with another request for information for the Ecosystem Management ethnobotany study for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area. We are also putting together a guidebook for the Park Service so that they can explain ethnobotany to their new park rangers and so on. It is supposed to contain photos and illustrations. We only have ones for San Juan Southern Paiute and Navajo and thought it would be better to be more broad. Do you have any idea where we could get such things (without copyrights)? We need something visual to go with sections that address: indigenous plant management practices; defining ethnobotany; doing ethnobotanical research; ethical concerns in ethnobotanical research (intellectual property rights, etc.); the legal snarls involved in using plants from National Parks; collaboration between tribes and parks.

And if that becomes impossible for us, we will use more general items.

Any ideas? Thanks!!

Sharon Hausam , Ecosystem Management Inc.
411 Valentina Drive
Gallup, New Mexico 87301,
(505) 722-3890 // fax (505) 726-9303

**Tibetan Healer,
Tsampa
Ngawang
was chosen to
work on a
plant project
in Nepal**

**Share your
experiences
in field work
or research
for a new
Readers Write-In
Column**



Botanizing the Web

Continue to share your favorite Web sites

Be sure to visit and bookmark the SEB Website:

<http://www.nybg.org/bsci/seb/SEB.html>

Botanists consider the Flora2K site to be the authoritative source for synonymy

[Throughout the Newsletter there are many references to websites for classes, eco-tourism, and announcements for publications. Please take note of these as you read the newsletter, I did not duplicate them in this column. -Ed.]

Consult the SEB web site periodically for information about upcoming meetings, etc.:

<http://www.nybg.org/bsci/seb/SEB.html>

Please bookmark this site and check it for the latest SEB information. For example, the "What's New" section has a job posting for an ethnobotanist listed, along with other information. [See listing in Announcements column in this Newsletter. -Ed.]

I would also like to encourage any members who have not already sent Brian Boom their email addresses for the next issue of the Membership Directory to please do so: bboom@nybg.org. To date, we have received over 125 email addresses from members.

The UK Chapter of the SEB has an email address: seb-uk@rbgkew.org.uk

and their own web site:

<http://www.rbgkew.org.uk/SEB-UK>

INTERNATIONAL CODE OF BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE (TOKYO) ON-LINE

The International Association for Plant Taxonomy announces availability of the English text of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (Tokyo Code) on the WWW:

<http://www.bgbm.fu-berlin.de/iapt/nomenclature/code/tokyo-e/>

The appendices are currently being converted and will be published as they become available. We would appreciate any information on errors which may have been introduced in the conversion process.

Dr. Walter G. Berendsohn,
Freie Universitaet Berlin,
Botanic Garden and Botanical Museum
Berlin-Dahlem,
Koenigin-Luise-Str. 6-8, 14191 Berlin, Germany
Tel: +49 30 83006-143, Fax: +49 30 841729-43.

WORLD WIDE WEB SITES FOR PLANT TAXONOMIC DATABASES:

Checking for plant scientific name synonymy has become greatly simplified by databases

accessible through the World Wide Web. Here are the major:

FLORA2K - BIODIVERSITY ON THE INTERNET:

<http://www.csdl.tamu.edu//FLORA/kartesz/flora2ka.htm>

W3TROPICOS:

<http://mobot.mobot.org/Pick/Search/pick.html>

NATIONAL DATABASE:

http://plants.usda.gov/plants/fr_enter.cgi?home_frame=query

Home page: <http://plants.usda.gov/npdc/index.html>

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR PLANT INFORMATION (IOPI):

<http://bgbm3.bgbm.fu-berlin.de/IOPI/GPC/>

GERMPLASM RESOURCES INFORMATION NETWORK (GRIN) TAXONOMY:

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/npgs/tax/>

SPECIES 2000 HOME PAGE:

<http://www.sp2000.org/>

INTEGRATED TAXONOMIC INFORMATION SYSTEM (ITIS) DATABASE QUERY:

http://www.itis.usda.gov/itis/itis_query.html

INTERNET DIRECTORY FOR BOTANY:

<http://w3y.pharm.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/botany/botmenu.html>

GRAY HERBARIUM CARD INDEX:

<http://www.herbaria.harvard.edu/Data/Gray/gray.html>

FIRE EFFECTS INFORMATION SYSTEM (FEIS):

<http://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis>

THE LICHEN HERBARIUM, UNIVERSITY OF OSLO:

<http://www.toyen.uio.no/botanisk/lavherb.htm>

The USDA Plants Database provides further information on distribution in North America, introduced vs. native status, etc. For North American species most botanists, including the USDA staff, consider Kartesz's work on the Flora2K site to be the authoritative source for synonymy, particularly because it is frequently updated as new monographs are published. With the sites listed above you can find most plant (and animal, fungi, lichen, etc.) names from anywhere in the world. They are very powerful tools for pharmacognosists and others to make sure we are all talking about the same plant when we use a particular name. Unlike books, which are expensive and soon outdated, these sites are free and

Botanizing the Web (cont'd)

(continued from page 13)

constantly revised, so I encourage you to use them and tell your colleagues or students about them!

Best wishes,

Robin J. Marles, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Botany Dept., Brandon University
270 18th St., Brandon, MB R7A 6A9, CANADA
Tel: 204-727-7334; Fax: 204-728-7346;
E-mail: marles@brandonu.ca

EUROPEAN FOREST INSTITUTE
Torikatu 34
FIN 80100 Joensuu, Finland
Tel: 358 13 252 0241
Fax: 358 13 124 393
Email: gyde.lund@efi.joensuu.fi
Web Site: <http://www.efi.joensuu.fi/>
<http://www.erim.org/CONF/ag.html>

JOHN WILKINSON'S WEB SITE:

<http://www.mdx.ac.uk/www/pharm>

The NIH Guide has finally published the new RFA for the International Cooperative Biodiversity Groups. We have posted a better formatted version with the diagram and useful links to other relevant pages on our web site <<http://www.nih.gov/fic/res/rfa.htm>>. Please share this with anyone you know that may be interested. As always, please contact me if you have any questions.

Joshua Rosenthal, Ph.D.
Biodiversity Program Director
Fogarty International Center/NIH

“ORGANIC RULES” CONFERENCE REVIEW

Early in August, the Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) of Santa Cruz, California, held a conference called “Organic Rules! Are We Ready?” in Oakland, CA, focused on the new organic regulations being jointly developed by both government agencies and the organic industry.

Currently in the United States, organic standards are defined and enforced at the state level, often by multiple, and sometimes conflicting private certification. In addition, enforcement is largely complaint driven, allowing for both loose interpretation and practice of “organic rules”. This has resulted in a few publicized cases where non-organic produce has been sold as organic. In these instances, it has been difficult to penalize offending parties due to the inefficiency of the process of investigation.

Organic “abuse” has caused much industry concern over the potential of organic adulteration and the resulting public distrust in organics, which could reduce consumer demand of products. The new regulations are being created to counter these concerns by standardizing the definition of what may be labeled organic, and outlining penalties and remedies for instances of adulteration of plain misrepresentation of non-organic material as organic. It is expected that the Department of Agriculture will act as an accreditation agency for indi-

vidual state organizations, thereby being the organization that “certifies the certifiers”.

Through these regulations, the definition of what “organic” really means will be clearly defined. For example, there will be organic certifications for not only the producers (farms), but the handlers (distributors), as well. This will ensure that organic material remains “organic” through the transferal from the farm to your grocery shelf.

The tightening-up of organic sales growth of 20% has continued for the past six years, bringing 1997 sales to an estimated \$4 billion. In response to these growth estimates, this year’s OFRF annual organic conference was kicked-off by a one-day Investment and Financial Symposium. The overwhelming positive response and heavy attendance to this added feature was quite unexpected. Mingling with organic farmers, manufacturers and retailers of organic products were many well-clad investment bankers. In the last session of the day, called “Wall Street Goes Natural- The Analysts’ Perspective,” it was evident that “there is more money out there looking for ventures to fund than there are ventures”.

Submitted by Kerry Hughes, M.S.
Executive Director, EthnoPHARM

*For more information on the expected regulations, or the organic industry, you may call OFRF at: 408-426-6606 or fax: 408-426-6670.

The Organic Farming Research Foundation focused on the new organic regulations being jointly developed by both government agencies and the organic industry

Through these regulations, the definition of what “organic” means will be clearly defined

In the Classroom

by Gail E. Wagner
Department of Anthropology
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29208
phone (803)777-6548; fax (803)777-0259;
email: wagnerG@garnet.cla.sc.edu

Richard I. Ford's ethnobotanical field school at the University of Michigan is one of the few available in the U.S.

The teaching of ethnobotany and economic botany is a topic that is increasingly addressed by the Society in a number of ways. A roundtable discussion on Education was held at the 1997 annual meetings in St. Louis (see a short review in the "1997 Meeting Review" column in this newsletter). Requests from perspective students and from teachers for information arrive with frequency. And, it looks as though the Society's Education Committee will address an active agenda this year, working on draft teaching suggestions and other issues raised by the roundtable discussion.

In this issue we hear from Richard I. Ford, professor of Anthropology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. His ethnobotany summer field school, first held in the Southwest but now located in Michigan, is one of the few (if not the only) ethnobotanical field schools available in the United States.

ETHNOBOTANY TRAINING

Richard I. Ford, University of Michigan

ETHNOBOTANY (Biology B455) is a 5 credit hour course that is offered at the University of Michigan Biological Station on Douglas Lake near Pellston, Michigan. It is a four week course from mid-May until mid-June and is open to undergraduate and graduate students. This is an ideal time and setting for an ethnobotany course because of the seasonal changes during the course, the excellent laboratory facilities at the station, and the large Native American community in the area. The course covers all the major topics in traditional ethnobotany - western plant systematics; folk plant classification; food, medicine, psychoactive plants, fibers and textiles, dye plants, fuel, and construction; plants as symbols; Middle Class American ethnobotany; and ethical issues in ethnobotanical research and reporting - held together with an ecological theoretical paradigm. The cultural and behavioral rules employed for procuring plants, principles of plant management, anthropogenic ecosystems, and the impact of human

interaction for any purpose on plant populations and communities are emphasized.

Field methods in ethnobotany that can be applied universally are covered. These include plant collecting in ethnobotany, GPS and GIS, ecological sampling, and techniques of observation. The formal structure of the course is a combination of lectures, field trips, laboratories, and presentations and demonstrations by Native Americans. The lectures are used to present theory and examples of ethnobotany research. They are generally daily for five days each week and are about 3-4 hours in length. The field trips are to different plant communities or to study the ecological setting of particular plant populations. These are also daily with one overnight trip included. The laboratories provide a first-hand opportunity to experience the plants discussed. These include eating plants, making teas and dyes, and measuring the temperature of different firewoods. We try to have at least one Native American consultant visit the class each week to discuss different topics from food to arts and crafts to contemporary environmental issues of concern to the local Indians and how ethnobotany can assist them. The course covers traditional topics but in a unique way through field research and experimental laboratories and concern for contemporary issues in ethnobotany. Throughout the course class discussion is invited and new ideas are encouraged. The diverse backgrounds of the students insure that we learn from each other.

Beyond experiential education, the computer laboratory at the Station allows written exercises, class projects, and the use of the internet for obtaining additional information about ethnobotany and useful plants.

ETHNOBOTANY is offered annually at the Biological Station. The next session will be May 18 through June 10, 1998. Applications and further information, including financial aid, may be obtained by contacting the Biological Station, 1111 Natural Science Building, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1048, or by visiting the Web site: www.umich.edu/~umbs. Professor Richard Ford may be contacted at the Ethnobotanical Laboratory, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1079 and by e-mail at riford@umich.edu.

The next ETHNOBOTANY course will be offered May 18 to June 10, 1998

PUBLICATIONS

FAO has a new monograph on Cactus. It is 215 pages long and has chapters on History, ethnobotany, anatomy and morphology, environmental biology, reproductive biology, domestication of related varieties, propagation, tissue culture, orchard care, nopalito production, pests, biotic and abiotic diseases, post-harvest management, food manufacture and by-products, forage, control of wild opuntias, cochineal production, and energy production.

The exact citation is: Agro-ecology, Cultivation, and Uses of Cactus pear. FAO Plant Production and Protection Paper 132. G. Barbera, P. Inglese and E. Pimienta-Barrios (editors). coordinated by E. de J. Arias-Jimenez.

The title is available at US \$30.00 plus US \$6.00 shipping charges per copy. Prepayment is required and may be made by credit card or by cheque in US dollars, made out to FAO, envelope sent to FAO, Sales and Marketing Group, GIII - Room C166, 00100 Rome. Be also informed that our catalogue of publications and ordering information, including the address of our Sales Agent in the United States, is available on line at: <http://www.fao.org>.

Submitted by Peter Felker

[The following is an excerpt from an internet list-serve. I have not seen this newsletter but I thought it may be of interest to many of you. - Trish, Ed.]

The Food Insects Newsletter is published three times a year (back issues are available). Though not specifically concerned with forest environments, the ethnoentomological information is highly relevant to non-timber forest product discussions given the pot-pourri of edible critters that can and are gathered from forest environments for subsistence and trade. The newsletter is international in scope and authorship and generally contains a good mix of historical and contemporary topics. To get more information you can contact (in the USA) the editor at:

ueyfd@montana.edu
406-994-5065
406-994-6029 (fax)

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION wants to expand

involvement of those interested in non-wood products.

Viale delle Terme di Caracalla, Cables:
Telex: 625852 FAO Fax: 52253152 Telephone:
00100 Rome, Italy FOODAGRI ROME 625853
FAO I / 610181 FAO I52251

[The following is an excerpt from the Non-Wood News taken from the web. Please contact them to obtain a copy of the mentioned questionnaire. - Trish, Ed.]

3 March 1997

Dear Non-Wood News Reader,

Since the first issue of Non-Wood News in 1994, our mailing list for dispatching the newsletter, and other publications in the Non-Wood Forest Products series, has grown to more than one thousand addresses worldwide.

The mailing list, and the references it contains, will enable us to develop a comprehensive database on the different agencies, companies and individuals who are involved in one way or another with the promotion and development of Non-Wood Forest Products.

We would like to make this information available to all of you - in an updated and standardized format - and would, therefore, very much appreciate it if you could kindly complete and return to us the attached questionnaire as soon as possible. Based on the information obtained from processing the replies, a directory will be produced on Who's Who in NWFP. This will be published as an FAO document and, at the same time, will also be made available on Internet through the FAO Home Page (as is presently the case with Non-Wood News No. 3).

Questionnaires that are completed and returned will also facilitate the updating of our mailing list, which will be used for the despatch, free of charge, of Non-Wood News (No. 4 to be issued in March), as well as for the forthcoming publications in the Non-Wood Forest Products series.

We look forward to receiving your completed questionnaire.

Yours Sincerely,

Paul Vantomme
Forestry Officer (Non-Wood Forest Products)
Wood and Non-Wood Products Utilization
Branch, Forest Products Division
Forestry Department

**A New
Monograph
on
Cactus
is available
from
FAO**

**Information on
Non-Wood
Forest Products
is available
on the Web
or by
mail**

ETHNOBOTANICAL HUMOR

This is a column I would love to expand. We need more humor in our lives! So if you are motivated, here are some plant and non-plant laughs. However, I cannot be held responsible for the quality of the humor so send your entry!

Society for Economic Botany
Banquet at Annual Meeting
June 6, 1997
Cahokia Mounds, IL

These limericks were composed by SEB conference attendees after some of the delicious local beverages were tasted. Our banquet was composed of wonderful wild nature foods of the local Americans, competently catered by our annual meeting organizers.

~~~~~  
(Can you figure what our salad was? Hint  
— it is NOT a crucifer)

*There once was a vegetable crucifer  
It went by the name lucifer  
And when it was et  
My mouth it was het  
And now we know what they used it fer.*

~~~~~  
*There was some May wine in a bottle
When you drank it you spoke Nahuatl!
And when you are drunk
You couldn't have thunk
Whether to call it tomato or tomatl.*

~~~~~  
*A Native American feast  
With turkey and bambi for beast  
We ate and we ate  
All the veg on our plate  
And the bottle of wine never ceased.*

~~~~~  
*Coprolites? You may ask...
They're the end result of repast.
Montezuma's Revenge
Will come if you binge
But beans will make it a blast!*

~~~~~  
NOTE: This limerick was composed in  
honor of Carlos Ochoa, the 1997 DEB.

*All the plants in the world I know,  
Anything I would REALLY like to know...  
They're all from Peru  
But let me tell you  
I just can't include the TOMATO.*

~~~~~  
*At the end of the meal — what a deal!
We all got to be a big wheel.
As we cleaned up the site
And we left for the night
We looked for silverware to steal.*

Economic Botany Newsletter
P.O. Box 368
Lawrence, KS 66044

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