

# NOUVELLES DE L'OPTIMA

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par JOSÉ M. IRIONDO

Le Xème Colloque de l'OPTIMA se tiendra à Palerme en septembre 2001. Bientôt vous recevrez la première circulaire. Veillez à vous inscrire et à soumettre vos résumés en temps utile. N'hésitez pas à prendre contact avec le Pr. F. Raimondo à Palerme ou le Secretariat de l'OPTIMA à Madrid si vous avez besoin d'informations supplémentaires. Les dernières nouvelles du Colloque seront disponibles sur le Web à l'adresse : <http://www.bgbm.fu-berlin.de/OPTIMA/>.

Nous souhaiterions également vous inviter à participer au processus de désignation des bénéficiaires des Médailles d'Or et d'Argent de l'OPTIMA qui seront décernées au Xème Colloque en envoyant vos propositions au Secrétariat de l'OPTIMA.

## COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL

En 1999, les membres du Comité ont approuvé le rapport annuel et le rapport financier pour 1998, soumis par le Secrétaire au nom du Président et du Conseil Exécutif. Le Comité a également désigné le Dr. Santiago Pajarón et le Dr. Federico Fernández-González comme vérificateurs des comptes pour l'année 1999.

## CONSEIL

Le Conseil a donné son accord pour maintenir sans changement les cotisations des membres de l'OPTIMA pour l'année 2000. Le Dr. Stephen L. Jury a été désigné pour assurer la fonction de Membre Suppléant au Comité Scientifique de la Fondation Pro Herbario Mediterraneo.

## SECRETARIAT

Le Secrétariat s'est occupé de la gestion des comptes de l'OPTIMA et de ceux de la Commission des Publications et de la Commission des Prix, ainsi que de la gestion de la vente des publications et de la tenue des fichiers des membres. Le Secrétariat de l'OPTIMA a également assuré la liaison entre les membres du Conseil et du Comité et les groupes de travail et commissions de notre Organisation.

Les autres activités en cours comprennent la publication des Nouvelles de l'OPTIMA et la mise à jour du site Web de l'OPTIMA. L'annuaire des membres, qui était en cours de transfert pour consultation sur le site Web de l'OPTIMA, a été ajourné en raison de problèmes légaux.

## DÉCÈS

Mr. Michel Kerguelen, Paris, France, décédé en 1999.

Le Pr. G. Orshan, Jerusalem, Israël, décédé en 1999.

Le Pr. Dr. Hüsnü Demiriz, Caddebostan Istanbul, Turquie, décédé en Mars 1999. Le Pr. Demiriz avait organisé le Vème Colloque de l'OPTIMA à Istanbul en 1986 et fut membre du Comité International pendant de nombreuses années.

Le Pr. Dr. Jaako Jalas, membre fondateur de l'OPTIMA, Helsinki, Finlande, décédé en novembre 1999.

La Dr. Patricia Geissler, Chambésy, Suisse, décédée en avril 2000.

Le Dr. Henk 't Hart, Utrecht, Pays-Bas, décédée en juillet 2000.

Des notices nécrologiques détaillées de ces membres éminents de l'OPTIMA seront publiées dans les prochains numéros de *Flora Mediterranea*.

## LE POINT SUR LES COMMISSIONS

### PAYSAGES VEGETAUX DU BASSIN MEDITERRANEEN

La Commission pour la diffusion des connaissances sur les plantes méditerranéennes progresse constamment dans l'élaboration du livre "Paysages végétaux du Bassin méditerranéen". La plupart des chapitres sont en cours de révision. Ceux qui concernent les Balkans, la Sicile, la Syrie et le Liban, ainsi que les Enclaves Méditerranéennes, sont en préparation. Les seuls chapitres qui manquent encore sont ceux sur Chypre et les Iles de la mer Égée.

Les prochaines étapes comportent l'achèvement des chapitres manquants, la mise au point scientifique et linguistique finale, la recherche et la sélection des photographies, cartes et autres illustrations.

Pour plus d'informations, contacter le Prof. Uzi Plitmann, Department of Botany, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem 91904, Israel. E-mail: [uzi@vms.huji.ac.il](mailto:uzi@vms.huji.ac.il)

### COMMISSION DE L'HERBARIUM MEDITERRANEUM

Le processus d'acquisition de l'immeuble qui doit héberger l'Herbarium Mediterraneum est maintenant terminé. La construction, située à proximité du Jardin Botanique de Palerme, sera très prochainement

restaurée. Le projet de restauration a été confié à d'éminents architectes de la région.

Sur le front des publications, le Volume 9 de *Flora Mediterranea* a été publié en Décembre 1999. Les Volumes 11 et 12 de *Bocconea* ont également été publiés avec les résultats du IVème *Iter Mediterraneum* à Chypre et le catalogue des macroalgues marines benthiques de la côte italienne de la Mer Adriatique.

### L'ATLAS DES ORCHIDEES MEDITERRANEENNES ARRIVE !

La Commission pour la Cartographie des Orchidées Méditerranéennes a fait des progrès considérables sur l'atlas. Après une longue période de préparation, il a été possible de réaliser une base de données numérique pour imprimer les cartes de distribution. Le territoire complet s'étend d'ouest en est des Iles Canaries à l'Iran, et de la Libye au sud jusqu'à la latitude 48° au nord. Une maison d'édition a été contactée pour publier le travail. La Commission envisage maintenant de compléter l'atlas avec une présentation complète de toutes les orchidées européennes-méditerranéennes (texte et iconographie).

### LA CAMPAGNE DE PROPOSITIONS POUR LES ATTRIBUTIONS DE MÉDAILLES DE L'OPTIMA EST MAINTENANT OUVERTE !

La Commission des Prix reçoit dès maintenant les propositions pour la Médaille d'Or et les Médailles d'Argent de l'OPTIMA, qui seront décernées au prochain (Xème) Colloque de l'OPTIMA à Palerme, Italie.

La Médaille d'Or de l'OPTIMA sera décernée à un(e) botaniste qui, par son activité, est reconnu avoir apporté une contribution exceptionnelle à la phytotaxinomie de la région Méditerranéenne.

Trois Médailles d'argent de l'OPTIMA seront décernées aux auteurs des meilleurs articles ou livres sur la phytotaxinomie de la région Méditerranéenne publiés en 1998, 1999 ou 2000.

Pour la Médaille d'Or de l'OPTIMA, contentez-vous d'envoyer le nom de votre candidat et d'exposer brièvement les raisons qui justifient votre proposition. Pour les Médailles d'Argent de l'OPTIMA, vous pouvez soumettre pour étude des articles ou des livres publiés en 1998, 1999 ou 2000. Envoyez vos propositions à José M. Iriondo, Dpto. Biología Vegetal, E.U.I.T. Agrícola, Universidad Politécnica, E-28040 Madrid, Espagne; Fax: +34 1 336 5656; E-mail: [iriondo@ccupm.upm.es](mailto:iriondo@ccupm.upm.es).

Les règlements d'attribution des Médailles d'Or et d'Argent de l'OPTIMA, tels qu'ils ont été modifiés par une décision du Conseil de l'OPTIMA en date du 10.03.1978, sont les suivants :

**Médaille d'Or de l'OPTIMA**

1. Un prix sera décerné tous les trois ans à un(e) botaniste dont on estime que l'activité a apporté une contribution exceptionnelle à la phytotaxinomie de la région méditerranéenne.
2. Le prix consistera en une médaille en or.
3. Le lauréat sera choisi par une Commission des Prix dont la recommandation sera soumise au Comité International de l'Organisation pour ratification et approbation.
4. Le prix sera décerné à l'occasion d'une réunion triennale de l'Organisation.
5. Aucun membre de la Commission des Prix ne pourra être proposé.

**Médailles d'Argent de l'OPTIMA**

1. Les prix seront décernés tous les trois ans aux auteurs des meilleurs articles ou livres portant sur la phytotaxinomie de la région méditerranéenne et publiés pendant la période précédente de trois ans.
2. Les prix prendront la forme de médailles en argent.

3. Les lauréats seront choisis par une Commission des Prix dont les recommandations seront soumises au Conseil de l'Organisation pour ratification et approbation.
4. Le prix sera décerné à l'occasion d'une réunion triennale de l'Organisation.
5. En principe, un prix est attribué pour chaque année de la période de trois ans, mais la Commission des Prix est libre de proposer l'attribution de plus d'un prix pour une même année, ou qu'aucun prix ne soit attribué une année.
6. Les auteurs dont les articles ou les livres seront soumis à la Commission des Prix peuvent être choisis ou non parmi les membres de l'Organisation.
7. Aucun membre en activité de la Commission des Prix ou du Comité International ne pourra être désigné pour le prix.



# OPTIMA NEWS

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by JOSÉ M. IRIONDO

The X OPTIMA Meeting will be held in Palermo in September 2001. Soon you will receive the first circular. Please, make sure you register and submit the abstracts in due time. Do not hesitate to contact Prof. F. Raimondo in Palermo or the OPTIMA Secretariat in Madrid if you need further information. The latest news on the meeting will be available on the Web at: <http://www.bgbm.fu-berlin.de/OPTIMA/>.

We would also like to invite you to participate in the process of designation of the OPTIMA Gold and Silver Medals to be awarded at the X OPTIMA Meeting by sending your proposals to the OPTIMA Secretariat.

## INTERNATIONAL BOARD

In 1999, the Board members approved the annual report and the financial report for 1998, submitted by the Secretary on behalf of the President and the Executive Council. The Board also appointed Dr. Santiago Pajarón and Dr. Federico Fernández-González as auditors for the year 1999.

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Council approved to keep OPTIMA membership fees unchanged for the year 2000. Dr. Stephen L. Jury was elected to fill the position of Substitute Member on the Scientific Committee of the Foundation Pro Herbario Mediterraneo.

## SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat was active keeping OPTIMA's accounts and the accounts of the Publications Commission and Prize Commission and managing publication sales and membership files. The OPTIMA Secretariat also functioned as a liasing centre for Council and Board members and the working groups and commissions of our organization.

Further activities taking place at this moment include the edition of OPTIMA Newsletter and the updating of the OPTIMA Website. The membership database that was going to be made available through the OPTIMA Website has been temporarily postponed due to legal problems.

## DEATHS

Mr. Michel Kerguélen, Paris, France, died in 1999.

Prof Dr. G. Orshan, Jerusalem, Israel, died in 1999.

Prof. Dr. Hüsnü Demiriz, Caddebostan Istanbul, Turkey, died in March 1999. Prof. Demiriz organised the V OPTIMA Meeting in Istanbul in 1986 and was a member of the International Board for many years.

Prof. Dr. Jaako Jalas, founding member of OPTIMA, Helsinki, Finland, died in November 1999.

Dr. Patricia Geissler, Chambésy, Switzerland, died in April 2000.

Dr. Henk 't Hart, Utrecht, The Netherlands, died in July 2000.

Full obituaries of these prominent OPTIMA members will be published in future volumes of *Flora Mediterranea*.

## UPDATES ON COMMISSIONS

### VEGETAL LANDSCAPES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN

The Commission for the Diffusion of Knowledge on Mediterranean Plants is steadfastly progressing on the book "Vegetal Landscapes of the Mediterranean". Most of the chapters are in the revision process. Chapters on the Balkans, Sicily, Syria and Lebanon and Mediterranean Enclaves are in preparation. The only chapters that are still missing are those on Cyprus and the Aegean Islands.

The next steps include the completion of the lacking chapters, final scientific and lingual editing, and the compilation and selection of photographs, maps and other illustrations.

For further information, please contact: Prof. Uzi Plitmann, Department of Botany, The Hebrew University, Jerusalem 91904, Israel. E-mail: [uzi@vms.huji.ac.il](mailto:uzi@vms.huji.ac.il)

### HERBARIUM MEDITERRANEUM COMMISSION

The acquisition process of the building that will house the Herbarium Mediterraneum has now been completed. The structure, located next to the Botanical Garden in Palermo, will be restored in the near future. The restoration project has been assigned to prominent architects of the area.

On the publishing front, Volume 9 of *Flora*

*Mediterranea* was published in December 1999. *Bocconeae* Volumes 11 and 12 were also published with the results of the IV *Iter Mediterraneum* in Cyprus and the Catalogue of the benthic marine macroalgae of the Italian coast of the Adriatic Sea.

### ATLAS OF MEDITERRANEAN ORCHIDS COMING SOON!

The Commission for the Mapping of Mediterranean Orchids has made considerable progress on the atlas. After a long period of preparation, it was possible to construct a digital database for printing distribution maps. The complete territory reaches from the Canary Islands in the west to Iran in the east and from Libya in the south to a latitude of 48° in the north. A commercial publisher has been contacted and will publish this work. The Commission now intends to enlarge the atlas with a complete presentation of all European-Mediterranean orchids (text and icono-graphy).

### NOMINATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR OPTIMA MEDAL AWARDS!

The Prize Commission is now accepting proposals for recipients of the OPTIMA Gold Medal and the OPTIMA Silver Medals to be awarded at the forthcoming X OPTIMA Meeting in Palermo, Italy.

The OPTIMA Gold Medal will be awarded to a botanist who, by his or her activity, is considered to have made an outstanding contribution to the phytotaxonomy of the Mediterranean area.

Three OPTIMA Silver Medals will be awarded to the authors of the best papers or books on the phytotaxonomy of the Mediterranean area that were published in 1998, 1999 or 2000.

For the OPTIMA Gold Medal, simply send the name of your candidate and briefly state the reasons that support your proposal. For the OPTIMA Silver Medals, please submit papers or books published in 1998, 1999 or 2000 for consideration. Send your proposals to: José M. Iriando, Dpto. Biología Vegetal, E.U.I.T. Agrícola, Universidad Politécnica, E-28040 Madrid, Spain; Fax: +34 1 336 5656; E-mail: [iriondo@ccupm.upm.es](mailto:iriondo@ccupm.upm.es).

The regulations of the OPTIMA Gold and Silver Medals, as amended by the Executive Council of OPTIMA by decision of 10.3.1978, are as follows:

#### OPTIMA Gold Medal

1. A prize will be awarded every three years to a botanist who, by his or her activity, is considered to have made an outstanding

contribution to the phytotaxonomy of the Mediterranean area.

2. The prize will consist of a gold medal.
3. The prize winner will be selected by a Prize Commission and its recommendation will be submitted to the International Board of the Organization for ratification and approval.
4. The prize will be awarded at a triennial meeting of the Organization.
5. No member of the Prize Commission will be eligible for consideration.

#### **OPTIMA Silver Medals**

1. Prizes will be awarded every three years to the authors of the best papers or books on the phytotaxonomy of the Mediterranean area published in the preceding three-year period.
2. The prizes will take the form of silver medals.

3. The prize winners will be selected by a Prize Commission and its recommendations will be submitted to the Council of the Organization for ratification and approval.
4. The prize will be awarded at a triennial meeting of the Organization.
5. Normally, one prize is available for each year of the triennium; the Prize Commission is free however to propose that in single years more than one prize, or no prize at all, be attributed.
6. Both members and non-members are eligible to submit papers or books for consideration by the Prize Commission.
7. No current member of the Prize Commission or International Board will be eligible for the prize.



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## *CONSERVATION NEWS*

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### **SURVEY OF WILD SPECIES CONSERVATION IN GENETIC RESERVES**

The Wild Species Conservation in Genetic Reserves Task Force of the European Cooperative Programme for Genetic Resources (ECP/GR) is undertaking a survey of current reserves where the genetic diversity of plant genetic resources for food and agriculture (PGRFA) is conserved. The objective is to identify geographical and technical gaps in the current reserve network and so identify existing and novel sites that require increased support as well as future research objectives.

To avoid confusion of what constitutes a reserve for wild species conservation, genetic reserve conservation is defined as:

“the location, management and monitoring of genetic diversity in natural wild populations within defined areas designated for active, long-term conservation”

Therefore, to be considered a genetic reserve the following two criteria must be met:

- a. the population of the target taxon must be actively managed to promote the long-term health of the population, and
- b. the target taxon population at the site must be monitored, either in terms of population density or genetic diversity.

If you are responsible for a genetic reserve in which PGRFA taxa are conserved, could you please complete the questionnaire below as fully as possible.

**Reserve Details**

Target species: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Province: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Settlement: \_\_\_\_\_ Land area: \_\_\_\_\_ ha  
 Latitude: \_\_\_\_\_ N Longitude: \_\_\_\_\_ W/E Altitude: \_\_\_\_\_ m

Organisation managing site: \_\_\_\_\_ Key Personnel: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Land ownership (e.g. public / private / other): \_\_\_\_\_ Financial support (e.g. public / private / other): \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Reason(s) for establishment: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Management interventions: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Monitoring procedures: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Involvement of local people: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Users of reserve: 1 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

Link to *ex situ* conservation: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Access policy for diversity: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Breeder's evaluation? \_\_\_\_\_ Molecular evaluation? \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please return the form to Chair of the ECP/GR Genetic Reserve Task Force, Nigel Maxted, School of Biological Sciences, University of Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT, UK

**Fax work: (44) 121 414 5463, Email work: [N.Maxted@bham.ac.uk](mailto:N.Maxted@bham.ac.uk). or [N.Maxted@bham.ac.uk](mailto:N.Maxted@bham.ac.uk).**

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# HERBARIUM NEWS\*

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edited by PALOMA BLANCO

## IBERIAN MYCOLOGICAL HERBARIA

by FRANCISCO PANDO

The starting point of Iberian mycology can be placed at the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with studies by M. Lagasca (1802), S. Rojas Clemente (1864) and J. Cavanilles (1802). These authors were the introducers of cryptogamy in Spain. During the rest of the century, hardly any mycological works were published. We can mention the appendices found in the works by M. Willkomm and by F. Loscos y Bernál & J. Pardo y Sastrón.

During the first third of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, mycology became the subject of prominent botanists like T. Aranzadi, P. Font Quer, R. González Fragoso, T. M. Losa España, J. Veríssimo Almeida, M. C. Rezende-Pinto and M. Souza Câmara along with some prominent professors from abroad including R. Heim, R. Maire, A. A. Pearson and R. Singer. Their work set up a base for the study of fungi on the Iberian Peninsula. This effort was continued after the Spanish Civil War by authors like L. M. Unamuno and M. J. Urries. However, the tradition had been largely lost by the 60's until it was taken up once again by F. D. Calonge, who was closely followed by a new generation of mycologists: G. Moreno, E. Pérez Moral and M. T. Tellería. These mycologists, through their work and their students, laid the foundation for the currently large Iberian Mycological community. Nowadays, the Iberian Fungus Flora Project, sponsored by the Spanish government, conveys most systematic mycological studies.

A great number of the specimens studied by mycologists from Spain and Portugal – as well as from abroad – are kept in the herbaria listed below. I hope that the information presented here contributes to a better knowledge of this relevant mycological resource.

A list of Iberian fungus collections follows. The information provided for each herbarium was kindly submitted by their keepers. I would like to acknowledge their cooperation here.

**AH** (Dpto. de Biología Vegetal (Botánica), Universidad

de Alcalá de Henares, Ctra. Madrid-Barcelona Km. 33.600, E-28875 ALCALÁ DE HENARES, Madrid, Spain). Started in 1978, this collection holds 27,052 specimens, mainly Agaricales, "Gasteromicetes", Myxomycetes from the Iberian Peninsula. The principal collectors are J. M. Barrasa, M. Checa, R. Galán and G. Moreno. Loan service. Keeper: F. J. Rejos. E-mail: [bfjrb@bioveg.alcala.es](mailto:bfjrb@bioveg.alcala.es) (soon to be changed to [fjavier.rejos@uah.es](mailto:fjavier.rejos@uah.es)) Telephone: +34 918854965 / +34 918854924; Fax: +34 918855066

**BCC** (Dpt. de Biología Vegetal (Unitat de Botànica) Facultat de Biologia, Universitat de Barcelona, Av. Diagonal, 645. E-08028 BARCELONA, Spain). Started in 1920, it holds nearly 30,000 specimens, mainly Dothideales, "Gasteromicetes", Myxomicetes and Russulales, from the Iberian Peninsula, specially from Catalonia and the Balearic Islands. Important collectors are E. Gracia, X. Llimona, J. Llistosella, M. P. Martín, A. Rocabrana, D. Sierra, M. Tabarés and J. Vila. Remarks: Herbarium of the "Societat Catalana de Micologia" (c. 5000 specimens) kept and managed in BCC. Loan service. Keeper: Dr. Jaume Llistosella. E-mail: [jllistos@porthos.bio.ub.es](mailto:jllistos@porthos.bio.ub.es) Collection manager: Antoni Sánchez-Cuxart. E-mail: [acuxart@porthos.bio.ub.es](mailto:acuxart@porthos.bio.ub.es) Telephone: +34 934021471/ +34 934021472, Fax: +34 934 112 842. Herbarium information available at: <http://www.ub.es/div3/serveis/d3serv06.htm>

**BIO** (Dpto. de Biología Vegetal y Ecología, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad del País Vasco, Apartado 644, E-48080 BILBAO, Spain). Started in 1981, it contains 8,000 specimens, mainly Aphylophorales from the Basque country. Loan service. Keeper: Isabel Salcedo. E-mail: [gvpsalai@lg.ehu.es](mailto:gvpsalai@lg.ehu.es) Telephone: +34 946012613, Fax: +34 944648500

**GDA-GDAC** (Herbario de la Universidad de Granada, c/ Rector López Argüeta nº 8, E-18071 GRANADA, Spain). Started in 1853, it keeps 6,000 specimens mainly

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\* Please send all items suitable for publication under this heading directly to the editor of this column: Paloma Blanco, Real Jardín Botánico, Plaza de Murillo, 2, E-28014 Madrid, Spain.

Agaricales, Aphyllophorales, Boletales and Lycoperdales from Andalusia. The principal collectors are A. Ortega, G. Moreno and F. Esteve-Raventós. Remarks: GDA and GDAC have recently merged. 80% of the collection is databased. Loan service. Keeper: J. Eduardo Linares Cuesta. E-mail: [elinares@goliat.ugr.es](mailto:elinares@goliat.ugr.es) / [herbario@ugr.es](mailto:herbario@ugr.es) Tele-phone: +34 958246329, Fax: +34 958243254. Herbarium information: [www.ugr.es/~herbario](http://www.ugr.es/~herbario)

**LISU** (Museu, Laboratório e Jardim Botânico, Universidade de Lisboa, Rua da Escola Politécnica, 58, 1294 LISBOA Codex, Portugal). Started in 1878, it keeps 12,000 specimens mainly Aphyllophorales from Portugal. Important collectors are P. Coutinho and J. Pinto-Lopes. Loan service. Keeper: Ireneia Melo. E-mail: [jb@fc.ul.pt](mailto:jb@fc.ul.pt) Telephone: +351 213921802, Fax: +351 213970882.

**LOU-Fungi** (Centro de Investigacións Forestais e Ambientais de Lourizán-Centro de Información e Tecnoloxía Ambiental-Consellería de Medio Ambiente-Xunta de Galicia. Apartado de Correos 127, E-36080 PONTEVEDRA, Spain.) Started in 1990, it holds nearly 8,000 specimens, mainly Agaricales and Aphyllophorales, from the northwestern Iberian Peninsula. Two holotypes: *Amanita porrinensis* L. Freire & M. L. Castro and *Gyroporus ammophilus* (M. L. Castro & L. Freire) M. L. Castro & L. Freire. Important collectors are Marisa Castro, Luis Freire, Francisco J. Fernández de Ana Magán and their teams. Loan service. Keeper: Francisco Javier Fernández de Ana-Magán. E-mail: [fmagan@sfp.cifl.cesga.es](mailto:fmagan@sfp.cifl.cesga.es) Telephone: +34 986856400 ext. 291, Fax: +34 986856420.

**MA** (Real Jardín Botánico-CSIC, Pza. de Murillo, 2, E-28014 MADRID, Spain). Started in 1755, it holds 72,000 specimens mainly Aphyllophorales, Dothideales, "Gasteromycetes", Myxomycetes, Phomales, Phyllostictales, Uredinales and Ustilaginales from the Iberian Peninsula. Important collectors are R. González Fragoso, J. Urries, J.M. Unamuno, L. Crespí I. Zubía, F.D. Calonge, M.T. Tellería, C. Lado, F. Pando and Balensón. Fungi are kept in two separate collections: MA-FunHist (specimens included before 1976) and MA-Fungi (specimens included after 1976). Loan service. Keeper: Francisco Pando. E-mail: [pando@ma-rjb.csic.es](mailto:pando@ma-rjb.csic.es) Telephone: +34 914203017, Fax: +34 91 4200157. Remarks: The collections are fully databased and accessible via Internet at: <http://www.rjb.csic.es/herbario/crypto/cryphola.htm>

**MACB** (Dpto. Biología Vegetal I, Facultad de Biología, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Ciudad Universitaria, E-28040 MADRID, Spain). Started in 1966, it keeps 87 specimens from the center of the Iberian Peninsula. Important collectors are M.T. Tellería,

Truchero and G. Moreno. Keeper: María A. Carrasco. E-mail: [carrasco@eucmax.sim.ucm.es](mailto:carrasco@eucmax.sim.ucm.es) Telephone: +34 913944781 / +34 913944414, Fax: +34 913945034.

**MAF** (Dpto. de Biología Vegetal, II, Facultad de Farmacia, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Pza. de Ramón y Cajal s/n, Ciudad Universitaria, E-28040 MADRID, Spain). Started in 1892, it keeps between 2,500-3,000 specimens from Spain, mainly Aphyllophorales. An important collector is B. Lázaro Ibiza. Loan service is temporarily suspended as the collection is being catalogued. Keeper: José Pizarro. E-mail: [mafherb@eucmax.sim.ucm.es](mailto:mafherb@eucmax.sim.ucm.es) Telephone: +34 913941769, Fax: +34 91394 1774.

**PAMP** (Dpto. Botánica, Facultad de Ciencias, Universidad de Navarra, E-31080 PAMPLONA, Spain). Started in 1970, it keeps approximately 1,200 specimens mainly Coprophylus fungi from Navarra. Important collectors are Luis Miguel García Bona and Maria José Solans. Loan service restricted to revised and databased specimens. Keeper: Alicia Ederra Indurain. E-mail: [aederra@unav.es](mailto:aederra@unav.es) Telephone: +34 948425600 ext. 6406, Fax: +34 948425649.

**SALA** (Dpto. de Biología Vegetal, Facultad de Biología, (Botánica), Universidad de Salamanca, SALAMANCA, Spain.). Started in 1995, it keeps 1,300 specimens, mainly Agaricales from the western and central Iberian Peninsula. Loan service. Keeper: Enrique Rico Hernández. Collection manager: Fco. Javier Hernández García. E-mail: [herjavi@gugu.usal.es](mailto:herjavi@gugu.usal.es) Telephone: +34 923294469, Fax: +34 923294484.

**TFC Myc** (Departamento de Biología Vegetal (Botánica), Universidad de La Laguna, 38071 La Laguna, Tenerife, Islas Canarias, Spain). Started in 1969, it keeps 9,300 specimens, mainly Aphyllophorales, Agaricales, "Gasteromycetes" and Myxomycetes. The Canary Island area is particularly well-represented. Important collectors are A. Bañares, J.R. Rodríguez-Armas, J. Mosquera, A. Rodríguez and E. Beltrán. Loan service. Keeper: Dra. A. Losada Lima (No Vascular Plants). Telephone: +34 922318438 / +34 922318436. For Fungi contact: Esperanza Beltrán-Tejera. E-mail: [ebeltran@ull.es](mailto:ebeltran@ull.es) Telephone and Fax: 922318600.

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Information on literature, chorology and databases of Iberian fungi (14+ volumes).

## FIELD WORK NEWS\*

### OPTIMA ITER IX

by DR. STEPHEN JURY\*\*

Iter Mediterraneum IX took place along the Black Sea Coast of Bulgaria from 20 May – 9 June 1999. The 12-person expedition to this species rich and relatively unknown area was led by Mr. DMITAR Uzunov. Over 2,500 collections were made with duplicate sets for the participating institutions (Berlin, Catania, Palermo, Reading, Sevilla and Sofia).

The Iter worked from the southern border to the "steppe" near the Romanian border. The best/worst day was in the Strandja Mountains, right against the Turkish border, when the collections were so numerous that pressing only finished at 3 a.m.! This area has a

splendid flora including *Rhododendron ponticum*, *Daphne pontica*, *Ilex colchica*, *Prunus laurocerasus* and *Vaccinium arctostaphylos* as an understorey of *Fagus orientalis*. This Euxine element was mentioned by Oleg Polunin in his *Wild Flowers of Greece and the Balkans*, but has effectively been inaccessible being in a restricted area.

At Reading, all the specimens (c. 2000) from the Optima Iter VIII to Calabria have now all been mounted, identified and incorporated for use. The collection data can be viewed through our Herbarium Homepage over the Internet at: [www.herbarium.reading.ac.uk](http://www.herbarium.reading.ac.uk)

\* This column is edited by the Secretary of the "Commission for Floristic Investigation" of OPTIMA, Prof. Dr. B. Valdés, Departamento de Biología Vegetal y Ecología, Facultad de Biología, Universidad de Sevilla, Avda. Reina Mercedes s/n, E-41080 Sevilla, Spain. Please send all items suitable for publication under this heading directly to him.

\*\* Extracted with permission from *Herbarium News*, University of Reading (1999).

## X<sup>TH</sup> OPTIMA ITER MEDITERRANEUM (SE-FRANCE, 26 MAY - 3 JUNE 2000)

by MICHAELA MARIA SONNENTAG

The tenth Iter Mediterraneum - organized by two scientific institutions of Nice, the Botanical Garden and the Museum of Natural History - took place in SE-France, mainly in the Maritime Alps.

### Organizers:

Alziar, Gabriel, Jardin Botanique de la Ville de Nice  
Ewald, Philippe, Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle, Nice

### Senior participants:

Certa, Guisepe, Università degli Studi di Palermo  
Everest, Ayse, Mersin Üniversitesi  
Gambino, Alessandro, Università degli Studi di Palermo  
Thomine, Jean-Charles, Jardin Botanique de la Ville de Nice (assistant, 2<sup>nd</sup> week)  
Triphon, Jean-Luc, Jardin Botanique de la Ville de Nice (assistant, 1<sup>st</sup> week)

### Junior participants:

Domina, Giannantonio, Università degli Studi di Palermo  
Pina Gato, Francisco, Universidad de Sevilla  
Sonnentag, Michaela, Freie Universität Berlin / Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem

The study area is situated in the departments **Alpes-Maritimes** (24 locations), **Alpes-de-Haute-Provence** (8 locations) and **Var** (3 locations) between 48°32'-48°57' N and 4°47'-5°19' W. For the floristic investigation of this poorly known area, collections of vascular plants were carried out at altitudes between (350-) 700-1400 (-1680) m above sea level.

As variable as the geomorphological landscapes (high cliffs, gorges, crests, karst, deeply embanked valleys) are the substratum (calcareous, marls, pelites, sandstones) and water availability (dry to aquatic) within the studied habitats. The flora of the region is essentially compound of mediterranean, provencal and south-alpine elements.

The program started on 26 May in the afternoon with a visit to the Botanical Garden of Nice. The Botanical Garden was created in 1983 and now has over 3500 species on 3 hectares. In spite of a low budget and consequent lack of staff, the Garden is well-developed and has a certain originality due to the form of

presentation. Beyond that, the personal engagement and devotion of the few people working in the garden is obvious in every respect.

The first station of the expedition was **St.-Vallier-de-Thiery**, a small village situated about 35 km west of Nice on the **Route Napoléon** (700 m above sea level). On the morning of 27 May we were introduced to the vegetation, geology, climate and geographical features of the selected area. Until 1 June we visited various locations in the marvellous surroundings such as **Vallon de Barosse**. There we worked in a rather dense forest of *Quercus pubescens* with some clearings dominated by *Genista cinerea*. We also visited the **Forêt de Briasq** (karst-plateau with *Quercus pubescens* and *Pinus sylvestris*) and the spring of the **Estéron** river (e.g., aquatic: *Potamogeton* spec., *Nasturtium* spec., humid: *Eriophorum* spec, *Narcissus poeticus*, dry: *Globularia cordifolia*, *Anthyllis montana*, *Hippocrepis comosa*). On the rather isolated **Mont Arpille** we collected in dry grassland with dense clusters of *Buxus sempervirens* and *Ribes uva-crispa*. During the first week we collected 564 numbers of specimens altogether.

On 2 June we moved to **Puget-Théniers** (about 70 km north of **St. Vallier** on the **Var** river, 400 m above sea level). On our way we stopped twice to make extensive collections in a mixed forest with *Quercus pubescens*, *Ostrya carpinifolia* and *Pinus sylvestris* near **Conségudes** and - for the first time on siliceous substratum (sandstone) - near **St. Pierre** (163 numbers of specimens).

The next day we climbed the mountains north of **Léouve** to the **Col de Roua** (1282 m). The landscape and the vegetation were really fascinating there. Walking through a forest of *Quercus pubescens* and *Pinus sylvestris* we passed clearings with dry grasslands and springs with *Pinguicula vulgaris*, *Eriophorum* spec. and *Luzula nivea*, which forms dense patches and gives the meadows a very special aspect. Nevertheless, we were all glad to reach the summit. There, we enjoyed the refreshing wind and the beautiful view of the adjacent mountain ridges. We also had the pleasure to find *Centaurea balbisiana*, which had never been collected before in this massif.

We spent the next five days on **Mount Mayola**, the banks of the **Var** and the **Chalvagne** river, the **Col du Fam** and other locations of diverse character.

In all we collected 1341 numbers of specimens, with a multitude - as expected - belonging to the large Poaceae, Fabaceae and Asteraceae families.

Some words about the group: Although there were

a few language problems at the beginning, the joint interest in nature made us forget about the difficulties. Very soon we became accustomed to speaking a mixture of French, English, Spanish, Italian and even German. Thus, it was possible to become a close group working hand-in-hand and therefore being more effective. A motto which led us through the whole expedition: "This is not a competition, this is school!". I have to confirm this: I really learned a lot, above all because everybody shared his knowledge.

As we were the only two women I felt rather featherbedded by the male participants, who were always very polite and attentive. Every day we got fresh flowers (☺) and - whenever possible - somebody collected the sweet "fruits" of *Fragaria vesca* for us. In the second week when I wanted to close a thick press I was even asked: "Are you able to handle it?" (no comment).

Last but not least, I would like to thank G. Alziar

and P. Ewald for the perfect organization. I never ate so luxuriously and deliciously in the field as on that trip. There was no lack of anything - not even a cup of coffee after lunch. As the German saying is: "Leben wie Gott in Frankreich!".

Michaela Maria Sonnentag. Freie Universität Berlin, Fachbereich Biologie, Chemie, Pharmazie. Institut für Biologie, *Systematische Botanik und Pflanzengeographie*. Altensteinstraße 6, D-14195 Berlin  
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e-mail: [msonne@zedat.fu-berlin.de](mailto:msonne@zedat.fu-berlin.de)

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## WEB NEWS\*

edited by Jose M. Iriondo

### ECOLOGICAL MODELING LINKS

Modeling tools are increasingly being used in different aspects of botany, such as plant conservation. Ever thought of browsing the exciting world of modeling? Now, you have a chance to do it simply by clicking <http://dino.wiz.uni-kassel.de/mod-info/all.html>. This web page includes registers and sources of ecological models, and an extensive list of links to journals, societies, initiatives, databases and documents related to ecological modeling.

### THREATENED AND PROTECTED PLANTS AT WCMC

Three important datasets regarding threatened and protected plants are available at the Web site of the World Conservation Monitoring Centre. The first one is the *1997 IUCN Red List of Threatened Plants* with information on all globally threatened plant taxa

(<http://www.wcmc.org.uk/species/plants/plants-by-taxon.htm>). The contents of this database are the same as those found in the corresponding IUCN publication: name of the taxon, synonymy, conservation status, distribution information and relevant bibliography. However, being in a searchable database format the information can be extremely useful as one can perform queries by taxon, family or country. The second database contains all plants that are covered by CITES (Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species) and provides information on synonymy, common name, native distribution, CITES Appendix (I, II or III), date listed, listing notes, country of origin, and export quotas for each country (<http://www.wcmc.org.uk/CITES/eng/dbase/index.shtml>). Finally, plants that are covered by European Union regulations can be found at [http://www.wcmc.org.uk/species/trade/eu/database\\_plants.htm](http://www.wcmc.org.uk/species/trade/eu/database_plants.htm). This database has a structure similar to the previous one and also incorporates information on CITES species.

\* Please send all items suitable for publication under this heading to the editor of this column: Jose M. Iriondo, Dpto. Biología Vegetal, EUIT Agrícola, Universidad Politécnica, Ciudad Universitaria, E-28040 Madrid, Spain.

## LAND PLANTS ONLINE

This web site (<http://www.science.siu.edu/landplants/index.html>) focuses on the phylogenetic relationships among embryophytes and provides information on the biology of these organisms including phylum descriptions, life cycle accounts and comparisons among existing molecular and morphological phylogenetic hypotheses. A remarkable number of photographs are presented that illustrate plant habit, gross morphology, anatomical features and ultrastructural details. Additional features are links to botanical experts, arranged according to organism groups, and to other web sites that relate to plant evolution, phylogeny and taxonomy.

## RJB "HERBARIO DE CRIPTOGAMIA" ON LINE

This Web-accessible database (<http://www.rjb.csic.es/herbario/crypto/crydb.htm>) contains detailed information on the specimens of the collections of the "Herbario de Criptogamia" at the Real Jardín Botánico de Madrid, which includes seaweeds, bryophytes, lichens and fungi, totaling over 125,000 specimens. The queries can be performed by multiple criteria such as genus, locality or habitat, and the output contains additional interesting data such as all identifications done on the material, whether the specimen is the nomenclatural type, and a location map for geo-referenced specimens.

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## PROJECTS

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### EURO+MED PLANTBASE: A NEW EURO-MEDITERRANEAN INITIATIVE IN PLANT SYSTEMATICS

by M.A. CARINE, V. H. HEYWOOD & S.L. JURY

The Euro+Med PlantBase project aims to provide an on-line database and information system for the vascular plants of Europe and the Mediterranean, against an up-to-date and critically evaluated consensus taxonomic core of the species concerned. The first phase of this project now has financial support for three years from the European Union under Framework V.

The need for this new initiative in Euro-Mediterranean plant systematics is readily apparent. Since the completion of *Flora Europaea* (Tutin et al., 1964 – 1980) and three of six volumes of *Med-Checklist* (Greuter et al., 1984 – 1989), large numbers of new taxa have been described from the Euro-Mediterranean region. Most remain to be adequately assessed. A large number of country Floras have also been produced which naturally tend to adopt a national rather than a European perspective and for some countries there are up to six or more authoritative treatments available for the same taxon. As a consequence, the consensus established by *Flora Europaea* and, in part by *Med-Checklist*, has been overtaken by events.

A partial revision of the first volume of *Flora Europaea* (Tutin et al., 1993) included nearly ten-percent additional species but a decision was made not to revise the other four volumes in a similar way. However, the need for an agreed taxonomic framework for

conservation, legislation and other purposes has never been greater. Indeed, the Convention on Biological Diversity gives rise to new needs for inventories and assessments on the state and trends of species and an increasing number of international and regional conventions include lists of species to be considered for conservation purposes.

In addition to taxonomic and floristic data, a great amount of information has been amassed on the biology, mapping, phytochemistry, karyology, uses and conservation of European plant species and no consistent attempt has been made to bring this together and relate it to an agreed taxonomic framework. The agreed taxonomic framework provided by Euro+Med PlantBase will, therefore, be used by many different kinds of users whose work is impeded by the absence of such an agreed background.

The Editors of *Flora Europaea* readily acknowledged the fact that the area they termed 'Greater Europe', i.e. the area dealt with in *Flora Europaea*, together with the countries bordering the Mediterranean, is phytogeographically a more natural unit than is Europe alone. The close relationships between many European plant species, especially in southern parts of the continent, and those growing in neighbouring Mediterranean countries is well known, and these are

compelling reasons for extending the taxonomic consensus for the entire Euro+ Mediterranean region, an area estimated to contain approximately one-eighth of global vascular plant species.

A key component of the new Euro+Med PlantBase initiative is the mechanism of regional co-operative revision of the taxonomic status of all families, genera, species, subspecies and, where appropriate, cultivars described from the Euro-Mediterranean region. The organisation of this work follows that established by the highly successful *Flora Europaea* project and involves specialists from over fifty countries and territories within the region. The revisionary process will result in an **agreed taxonomic core** which will be one of the main outputs of the project. Specifically, this will comprise:

- the scientific name of each taxon
- the author citation
- the place of publication
- the basionym
- selected synonyms
- distribution – worldwide, within the region and by territories
- status of occurrence – native, introduced, naturalised, cultivated
- endemic to region/country/territory
- description (standardised for auto-translation)
- growth form – revised Raunkiaer system
- ecology – basic habitat type
- phenology
- karyology – chromosome number(s) and ploidy level (referring to native occurrences)

Surrounding the core data, there will be a set of minimal summaries of verified data, termed **'beads'**, on topics such as:

- distribution maps
- phytosociology – to the level of alliance and order
- representative illustrations – line drawings, colour plates, photographs
- biosystematics – breeding system, crossability, hybridisation
- phytochemistry
- conservation status (national and global, following the IUCN categories, for species)
- legal protection (Protected Areas such as National Parks, Biosphere Reserves, Natural Parks)
- economic or scientific importance
- genetic resources – status, availability and location of germplasm
- growth habit – tree architecture, etc.

The Euro+Med PlantBase will also be hot-linked through the 'beads' to 'satellite' data sets where more detailed information would be available. Many such datasets already exist electronically or are presently being actively developed by individuals, organisations and institutions. Examples include the OPTIMA chromosome database in Patras, the rare plant information database in Madrid, the *Atlas Florae Europaeae* database in Helsinki, the FAO and IPGRI crop and genetic resources databases, the UNEP/WCMC species, protected areas and trade databases. The main thematic coverage envisaged by these associated projects in **satellite databases** will be:

- maps
- ecology – habitats, communities, biotopes
- phytosociology
- illustrations, slides, drawings, SEMs, habitat, photographs
- karyology
- phytochemistry
- biosystematics
- horticulture
- conservation status
- legal protection
- economic uses – medicinal and aromatic, fuel, fibre, food, ornamental
- genetic resources, including crop relatives
- threats, including weediness, invasiveness, parasitism.

These classes of information will be organised and co-ordinated by groups of appropriate specialists. Thus the taxonomic data will be revised and assessed by taxonomists, the ecological information by ecologists and phytosociologists, and the conservation information by conservation and genetic resource organisations.

The European Union-funded Phase One of the project will start to develop all three aspects of Euro+Med PlantBase. The following institutions have received EU funding for this phase of the project:

- Centre for Plant Diversity and Systematics, School of Plant Sciences, The University of Reading, UK
- Universidad de Sevilla, Departamento de Biología Vegetal y Ecología
- Department of Botany, Università de Palermo, Sicily, Italy
- Dept. of Biodiversity Informatics, Botanical Garden and Botanical Museum Berlin-Dahlem, Freie Universität Berlin, Germany
- Real Jardín Botánico, CSIC, Madrid, Spain
- Botanischer Garten der Universität Bern, Switzerland

- Royal Botanical Garden, Edinburgh, UK
- Institute of Botany of the Slovak Academy of Sciences, Bratislava, Slovakia
- Institute of Botany of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
- Finnish Museum of Natural History, Botanical Museum, University of Helsinki, Finland
- The Botanical Institute, University of Patras, Greece

Specifically, Phase One will result in the following output:

- a consensus synonymic checklist of all European vascular plant species.
- new taxonomic treatments of several important groups.
- the first ever working list of plants of the entire Euro-Mediterranean region which can be used to determine priorities for future revisionary work.
- software development for the future management of the project
- development of several 'beads' including those dealing with distribution, mapping, karyology, conservation and genetic resources.

The second and subsequent phases of the project will proceed as further funding becomes available.

The Euro+Med PlantBase project is organized as a decentralised federal structure throughout the area. It comprises **National and Territorial Centres** throughout Europe and the Mediterranean which will co-ordinate the checking of data relevant to the Country or Territory in question, **Regional Centres** which will provide advice on local botanical expertise, **Taxonomic Centres**, which will provide expertise in particular groups of plants and other **Co-operating Centres and Institutions**.

A **Steering Committee** is responsible for the overall scientific, administrative and financial aspects of the project. **Editorial Panels** are being established for individual families or groups of related families. These will ensure that the accounts of the groups concerned are prepared in accordance with agreed editorial procedures, they will maintain liaison between the authors and specialists in the National and Regional Centres and will check that comments and suggestions from them have been taken into account. The European Union-funded phase of the project is managed by an **Executive Committee**, and the day-to-day management is the responsibility of the **Secretariat** based at the University of Reading.

The long-term aim is to have a decentralised database. However, initially the development of the core database and work on design and software development are co-ordinated at Reading. The set of names and associated data originally developed at Reading by the European Science Foundation European Documentation System (ESFEDS) has been used to provide the initial starting point for Euro+Med PlantBase. Work to supplement this with information available in the MedChecklist database, the Flora of Macaronesia dataset, and published Floras from the Euro-Mediterranean region will soon start.

Amongst the outputs planned from the Euro+Med PlantBase initiative are:

- A consensual **Synonymic Conspectus of the Plants of the Euro-Mediterranean Region** (SCOPER) that will be revised periodically (possibly every five years) but with Internet links to later data, both verified and unverified. It will be available on the Internet. This will provide the scientific community, the European Union, individual countries and conservation agencies with a single key source of electronically available information on the plant biodiversity of the region.
- CD ROMS and other electronic outputs (as they develop) of various classes or combinations of data, such as wild relatives of crops, medicinal and aromatic plants, weeds, reforestation species, their geographic distribution, ecological preferences, and their phytochemical characteristics, genetic resources and conservation status.
- Hard copy ad hoc 'tailor-made' handbooks, Floras, illustrated keys or other desired outputs that are needed by various classes of consumers.

After several years of planning, the project is now firmly underway and the Secretariat would be pleased to receive details or enquiries from any botanists in the Euro-Mediterranean region keen to co-operate in this exciting new initiative in plant systematics. Further details may be obtained from:

Euro+Med PlantBase Secretariat, Centre for Plant Diversity and Systematics, School of Plant Sciences, The University of Reading, Reading, RG6 6AS, UK

Fax: + 44 (0)118 9753676

Email: s.l.jury@reading.ac.uk

<http://www.herbarium.rdg.ac.uk/EuroMed/Euro+Med.html>

## REQUEST FOR *Thymelaea tartonraira* (L.) All.

As a part of a research project dealing with phylogeny and biogeography of the genus *Thymelaea*, we are currently studying the highly polymorphic taxon *T. tartonraira*. Our intention is to clarify its systematics and phylogeography using molecular techniques and taking into account a high number of populations all over its distribution area, which is strictly Mediterranean.

We have collected samples of numerous populations, mainly from those present in the western Mediterranean region. However, material from some other populations is more difficult for us to get, so we ask for your help in doing this task.

We would like to obtain well-dried material (herbarium specimens or pieces of young branches with plenty of leaves desiccated in silica-gel) of 5-10 individuals from each population of *Thymelaea*

*tartonraira* native from the following places: Algeria, Tunisia, Italy (specially Sicily and Sardinia), Greece (Cephalonia, Euboea, Jalkidiki Peninsula, Tasos, Crete), European Turkey and Cyprus.

Please do not mix the material from different individuals and do not forget to write down all the information concerning the locality, province, department or region, altitude, date, collector, etc.

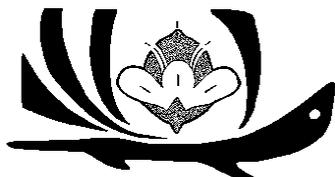
Please do not hesitate to tell me how I can pay you back for this favour. Perhaps we could exchange *Thymelaeaceae*.

Contact: David Galicia-Herbada; Dpto. Biología (Botánica), Fac. Ciencias (Biológicas), Universidad Autónoma de Madrid; 28049 Madrid, Spain. E-mail: david.galicia@uam.es.

## MEETINGS

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### I SYMPOSIUM "ISLAND ECOSYSTEMS - A CONSERVATION AND MOLECULAR APPROACH"

FUNCHAL, MADEIRA ISLAND - PORTUGAL, 5-9 MARCH 2001

The meeting organised by Centre of Biological and Geological Sciences will focus on work carried out on Island Ecosystems although papers on non-island research will be considered if they contribute in some way to our understanding of this subject. The symposium will be based primarily upon submitted papers volunteered by intending delegates; but there will be a limited number of Plenary lecturers invited by the Scientific Committee focusing on major themes. There will also be a series of specialist workshops. Some of the papers will be presented as posters.

The symposium will be held in Funchal (Madeira Island, Portugal) and will run from 5 Monday, to 9 Friday, March 2001. The official language will be English.

#### SYMPOSIUM SECRETARIAT

Mafalda Fonseca: Tel: + 351 291 233229

Isabel Marques: Tel: + 351 291 231101

Address: Apartado 105. P-9001-902 Funchal. Madeira. Portugal

## **SYMPOSIUM ON MEDITERRANEAN PLANT COLLECTIONS: NEEDS AND OPTIONS. X OPTIMA MEETING, PALERMO 2001**

It is planned to hold a half-day symposium on this topic. The problems arising from historical matters, databases and computer tools will be presented. Papers will also deal with case studies and possible future opportunities. It is expected that there will be discussion and some proposals that might be submitted for consideration and action by the OPTIMA Commission for Herbarium Mediterraneum.

There are several different sorts of herbaria serving very different roles, but these roles have often become confused. There are now many herbaria in the Mediterranean area that are either new or being revitalised, which are lacking sources of expert help and advice. Therefore, there is a need to provide information, and sources of information, on specialists, techniques, supplies and herbarium data. There are other herbaria that are in danger of being closed and their collections left to deteriorate in bad storage or even destroyed. There are universities with herbaria that now undertake no taxonomic work and universities with small, new herbaria that are investing in taxonomy. Many collections now appear to be situated in the wrong place. This means that specimens need to be loaned or botanists need to travel. There are no coherent policies and each centre writes its own rules. Specimens are required for destructive sampling,

including DNA studies, but DNA may be damaged by fungicide and pests treatments. (Many of these are anyway now considered hazardous under present health and safety legislation.) DNA extraction, analysis and publication of results may contravene the Convention on Biological Diversity, yet few herbaria have considered rational policies on the use of their specimens. Many herbaria are creating databases of information from their collections in a haphazard way that makes it difficult to exchange data with others, or results in lower usage and standing in the botanical community.

Not only is it planned to address some of these issues, but also to consider the implications of charging for services, including identification for commercial companies, and obtaining grant money for processing voucher specimens.

I would appreciate your views and ideas on these matters so that we can develop the symposium and create an appropriate strategy for Mediterranean herbaria to adopt. Please contact Dr Stephen L. Jury, Centre for Plant Diversity and Systematics, The School of Plant Sciences, The University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading, RG6 6AS, UK. Fax: +44 (0)118 975 3676; E-mail: s.l.jury@reading.ac.uk

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## *ANNOUNCEMENTS\**

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**3-8 September 2000**

**The Fourth IAL Symposium.**  
Barcelona.

The Fourth International Symposium, arranged by the International Association of Lichenology, will be held from 3-8 September 2000 at the Facultat de Biologia, of the Universitat de Barcelona (UB). Most of the sessions will take place in the Aula Magna, Avda. Diagonal, 645,

Barcelona. The Universitat de Barcelona (UB), the Ministerio de Educación y Cultura, and the Generalitat de Catalunya (Autonomic Government of Catalonia) will act as main sponsors. The lichenologists of the Grup de Recerca de Criptogàmia (Dept. de Biologia Vegetal, UB) will act as the Local Organising Committee, assisted by an Advisory Board composed of leading lichenologists of the

Iberian Peninsula.

This Symposium is a continuation of a series of international meetings on lichen biology, which started in Berlin 1969, and continued in Bristol 1974, Münster 1986 (IAL 1), London 1989, Madrid 1990, Lund 1992 (IAL 2) and Salzburg 1996 (IAL 3). It aims to bring together scientists and students from different fields such as morphology, physiology, ecology, chemistry and classic and

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\* Coordinated by S. Pajarón and J.M. Iriondo. Please, send your announcements to S. Pajarón, Dpto. Biología Vegetal I Fac. Biología, Univ. Complutense, Ciudad Universitaria, E-28040 Madrid, Spain. E-mail: SPAJBOT@eucmax.sim.ucm.es

molecular systematics, in order to extend our knowledge of the lichenized fungi.

**Information:** IAL4 – AOPC. Edif. Colon, Avda. Drassanes, 6-8. Barcelona, Spain. Tel.: +34 93 302 7541. Fax: +34 93 301 1255. E-mail: [aopc@ncsa.es](mailto:aopc@ncsa.es) More information at the Symposium Website: <http://www.bio.ub.es/ial2000.htm>

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#### 4-9 September 2000

**Curso Livre de Etnobotânica.** Vila Real, Miranda do Douro, Portugal.

Concepts and perspectives of Ethnobotany as a scientific discipline. Methods for gathering ethnobotanical information. Medicinal plants. Landscape ecology, ethnobotany and conservation. Aromatic and medicinal plants in rural development.

Lectures, study visits, field work and lab work, for a total of 40 hours.

**Contact:** Comissão Organizadora do curso Livre de Etnobotânica. Universidade de Trás-os-Montes e alto douro/ departamento de Protecção de Plantas. 5001-911 Vila Real. Portugal. Tel.: +351 259 350 515; Fax: +351 259 350 480; E-mail: [etnobotn@utad.pt](mailto:etnobotn@utad.pt)  
<http://www.utad.pt/~etnobotn>

#### 11-15 September 2000

**Ninth International Conference on Mediterranean-Type Ecosystems (MEDECOS 2000)** – Stellenbosch, South Africa.

The theme of the conference is "Mediterranean-type ecosystems - Past, present and future". Much interest has been expressed in this conference, and we are expecting good representation from all parts of the world with MTEs.

For the latest details on MEDECOS 2000, including the preliminary list of sessions, keynote and other invited speakers, registration details etc,

details of pre-, mid-, and post-conference tours, please check the web site at: <http://www.botany.uwc.ac.za/medecos/index.htm>

For any enquiries, please feel free to contact the conference coordinator, Glaudin Kruger, at: [kruger@jaywalk.com](mailto:kruger@jaywalk.com).

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#### 11-16 September 2000

**Algae and Extreme Environments. Ecology and Physiology.**

Trebon, South Bohemia, Czech Republic.

All aspects of the ecology and physiology of Cyanobacteria and algae of the natural and the man-influenced objectively extreme and marginal ecosystems will be considered.

The conference will be held at the AURORA Spa complex. Trebon is a historical town reserve founded in the 13<sup>th</sup> century, situated 145 km south of Prague, Czech Republic.

For more information, please contact: Václav Bauer and Dana Švehlová. Algae conference Secretariat. Institute of Botany AS CR, Dukelská 135, CZ-379 82, Trebon, Czech Republic. Tel.: +420 333 721156; Fax: +420 333 721136; E-mail: [jelster@butbn.cas.cz](mailto:jelster@butbn.cas.cz)

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#### 13-17 October 2000.

**1<sup>st</sup> European Botanic Garden Education Congress "Partnership for People and Plants"**

Botanic Gardens Conservation International in association with The Birmingham Botanical Gardens & Glasshouses present the 1<sup>st</sup> European Botanical Garden Education Congress "Partnership for People and Plants". The congress will take place at The Birmingham Botanical Gardens &

Glasshouses. The major themes of the congress will be: Building public awareness, Working with different audiences, and Raising the status of education within and outside Botanic Gardens.

**More information:** BGCI, "Partnership for People and Plants", Descanso House, 199 Kew Road, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3BW, UK.

Tel.: +44 020 8332 5953/4; Fax: +44 020 8332 5956

E-mail: [bgci@rbgkew.org.uk](mailto:bgci@rbgkew.org.uk)

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#### 15-21 October 2000

**V Reunión de la Red de Herbarios de Mesoamérica y el Caribe.** Universidad de Puerto Rico.

The V Reunión de la Red de Herbarios de Mesoamérica y el Caribe will be hosted by the Herbarium of the Department of Biology (MAPR) at the University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez Campus next fall. The meeting has been scheduled for the week of 15-21 October, 2000, principally at the UPR Mayagüez Campus. We are also counting on the collaboration of other botanists and herbaria in Puerto Rico, and we are planning a visit to two herbaria in San Juan as well as to the UPR Botanical Garden. The central theme of the meeting will be the role of herbaria in conservation. Among the activities will be conferences, field trips, a workshop, meetings, and the presentation of the results of current projects of the Red.

**Contact:** Ms. Vélez; E-mail: [je\\_velez@rumac.uprm.edu](mailto:je_velez@rumac.uprm.edu)

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#### 16-20 October 2000

**27th Annual Natural Areas Conference — Managing the Mosaic: Connecting People and Natural Diversity in the 21st Century.** St. Louis, Missouri.

The Natural Areas Association, the member agencies of the Missouri Natural Areas Committee, and the Missouri Department of Conservation invite you to attend the first Natural Areas conference of the new century. It will be held in St. Louis, Missouri, just a short walk from the Gateway Arch National Monument. The celebration of the bicentennial anniversary of the Lewis and Clark Expedition has begun in St. Louis, and our banquet speaker, Dr. Daniel Botkin, will discuss the historical and future implications of their trip. The plenary and concurrent sessions will address different aspects of biodiversity and how humans fit into the new century of management. On Tuesday, October 17, Dr. Jerry Franklin, Professor of Ecosystem Analysis at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington, will speak about "Bridging Science and Management." Wednesday morning, Dr. Peter Raven, Director of the Missouri Botanical Garden, will address "Opportunities and Problems of Biodiversity." Following him, Dr. William Burch, Professor at Yale University, will speak about "Finding the natural synergy between human diversity and global biodiversity." Excellent field trips will highlight the tremendous natural diversity found in Missouri. Pre-conference and Conference trips include opportunities to tour the Missouri Mines State Historic Site, hike the Sunklands Conservation Area, and visit the Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project research center. Participants will have their choice of viewing native flora and fauna on a trip to Danville Glades and Graham Cave State Park, spelunking in Fisher and Mushroom Caves, learning about geologic features at St. Francois Mountains Natural Area, floating the Mississippi River, or a number of other opportunities.

**Contact:** Kate Leary, Conference Coordinator, Missouri.

Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180; Phone: (573) 751-4115 ext. 183; E-mail: learyk@mail.conservaion.state.mo.us. <http://www.conservaion.state.mo.us/nac/>.

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**25-27 October 2000**

**Third Ecuadorian Botanical Congress.** Quito, Ecuador.

FUNBOTANICA (Ecuadorian Foundation for Research and Development in Botany) and Herbario Nacional del Ecuador QCNE will host the Third Ecuadorian Botanical Congress from 25 - 27 October 2000 in Quito. For more information or to submit titles of presentations, go to the FUNBOTANICA web site (<http://pagina.de/funbotanica>) and select "Congresos" from the menu or e-mail inquiries to [funbotanica@pagina.de](mailto:funbotanica@pagina.de).

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**28 January – 2 February 2001**

**XVIIth International Seaweed Symposium. "Seaweeds: Science and technology for sustainable industry".** University of Cape Town, South Africa.

The International Seaweed Symposium is held every three years under the auspices of the International Seaweed association. It is the foremost international meeting on seaweed research and utilisation. This is the first to take place in Africa.

The Scientific programme includes plenary sessions, mini symposia, posters sessions, mid-symposium excursions and pre- and post-symposium tours. The following mini symposia are planned: Algal biotechnology;

Algal pigments; Biological interactions in seaweed mariculture; Integrated aquaculture and bioremediation; Coalescent seaweeds, Low-volume, high-value algal products.

**Further information:** The Secretariat. XVIIth International Seaweed Symposium. P.O. Box 34098, Rhodes Gift 7707, South Africa. Tel.: +27 824687504; Fax: +27 21 650 4041; E-mail: [ISS2001@botzoo.uct.ac.za](mailto:ISS2001@botzoo.uct.ac.za); <http://www.uct.ac.za/conferences/iss>; <http://www.butbn.cas.cz/alga.extrem/>

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**12-16 February 2001**

**Ecology of Insular Biotas - Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand.**

The conference will focus on ecological patterns and processes of particular importance to isolated biotas, including true islands, natural habitat islands (e.g. ponds) and artificial habitat islands (e.g. reserves). Examples of suitable topics for papers include: dispersal and gene flow within and among isolated populations; ecology of small populations; ecological consequences of disharmonic floras and faunas; the relevance of island biogeography principles in conservation; islands as model ecosystems; comparative ecology of true islands vs. habitat islands.

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**2-6 July 2001**

**Legumes Downunder — The Fourth International Legume Conference.** Canberra, Australia

The Fourth International Legume Conference will be held from 2-6 July 2001 on the campus of Australian National University in Canberra, Australia. The scientific program includes

symposia on systematics, utilization, infra-specific genetics, land rehabilitation, symbiosis, phytochemistry and electronic resources. Field trips throughout Australia are being planned in conjunction with the meeting. Co-organizers are Mike Crisp, Australian National University, Jim Grimes, RBG Melbourne, Joe Miller, Centre for Plant Biodiversity Research, and David Morrison, University of Technology, Sydney. For further details and to express interest in attending the conference please check the website at <http://www.science.uts.edu.au/sasb/legumes.html>.

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**23-26 July 2001**

**Fern Flora Worldwide: Threats and Responses.** University of Surrey, Guildford, U.K.

This symposium is being organized by the British Pteridological Society and the IUCN Species Survival Commission Specialist Group for Pteridophytes. The sessions will

include a status report, conservation techniques, networking, action plans and programmes, and education.

Contact: The British Pteridological Society, Dept. of Botany, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, U.K.

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**24-28 September 2001**

**First International Orchid Conservation Congress.** Perth, Australia.

Kings Park & Botanic Garden in conjunction with the Orchid Specialist Group of the Species Survival Commission of IUCN-The World Conservation Union, Botanic Gardens Conservation International, and the Australian Network for Plant Conservation are pleased to announce: The 1st International Orchid Conservation Congress (Incorporating the 2nd International Orchid Population Biology Conference) Perth, Western Australia. The Congress will bring together for the first time,

orchid conservation specialists, researchers and practitioners, to develop an understanding of global issues in orchid conservation. The Congress will cover topics including phylogeny of the Orchidaceae, population biology, pollination biology, propagation science, germplasm storage, conservation genetics and taxonomy with opportunities for specialist workshops in orchid conservation techniques and orchid recovery programs. Pre- and post-conference tours will explore the incredible diversity of orchids and remarkable wildflowers of south-west Western Australia. The first circular will be available in April 2000 and a call for papers will follow soon after.

Contact: The Congress Secretariat Dr Kingsley Dixon Kings Park & Botanic Garden West Perth 6005 Western Australia Tel: ++61 (0)8 9480 3614 Fax: ++61 (0)8 9480 3641 Email: [orchidcongress@kpbg.wa.gov.au](mailto:orchidcongress@kpbg.wa.gov.au)