

Orchid Research Newsletter No. 49 (January 2007)

In the last issue we asked our readers to let us know if the *Orchid Research Newsletter* served a purpose and should be continued. Responses from as near as Wales and as far away as Australia and Brazil were emphatic: keep up the good work! We were unaware how useful it is to so many orchid scientists and horticulturists, if only as an occasional reference tool or a way to keep abreast of the latest research projects. Many thanks to all who took the time to write.

The next issue marks the 25th anniversary of the *ORN*, brilliantly conceived by Phillip Cribb as a clearinghouse for all information related to current international orchid research, new nomenclature, and recent publications. We intend not only to maintain present features but to resurrect others that disappeared in the transition from hard copy to this electronic version. One of these is News from Correspondents (see below), which, in presenting what others are doing, helps to prevent duplication of efforts and might even stimulate international collaboration. It can also be used to plea for plant material; in a world of shrinking forests and restricted movements of plants across international borders, the choice of a research topic is too-often governed by what plants can be obtained for study rather than what needs to be investigated. I think we all agree that this is one of the major crises of modern plant systematics.

Another feature will be Upcoming Conferences. Each year there are several orchid meetings around the world that somehow have to fit into our travel budgets and academic schedules. With advance notice of these, we can plan more effectively and at least send our students if we ourselves cannot attend.

We invite book reviews, too, formatted as in previous issues of the *ORN*. If you wish to have a book reviewed, please send it to Dr. David Roberts, *ORN* Book Editor, Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB, UK (d.roberts@rbgkew.org.uk).

The design of the *Newsletter* is also likely to change in the near future. Rather than presentation as parts of one pdf document, sections will be tabbed for easier online navigation. This will also allow us to post colour photographs and other figures appropriately.

In short, not only are we continuing the *ORN*, we're expanding and developing it. But we're also depending on you, the reader, to send us personal and professional communications. We look forward to hearing from everyone willing to share research news, suggestions,

even criticisms. In the meantime, a productive and Happy New Year to you all.

Alec Pridgeon

News from Correspondents

Please submit any news about newly completed research, future research plans and needs, change of address, upcoming or recent fieldwork, etc. to Alec Pridgeon (a.pridgeon@rbgkew.org.uk). Graduate students are especially encouraged to share the subjects of their thesis or dissertation with the international community. We will print submissions in the format used in prior issues of the *ORN* ([sample](#) below from January 2001).

Oakeley, Henry F. (77 Copers Cope Road, Beckenham, Kent, BR3 1NR, UK) has finished his revision of *Anguloa* and is on the verge of completing a revision of *Lycaste*. He will make a field trip to Venezuela in 2001. Toward work on these two genera, he would like plant material and data on herbarium specimens held. He offers to identify same.

Upcoming Conferences

19-24 March 2007

The Third International Orchid Conservation Congress in conjunction with the Second International Conference on Neotropical Orchidology will be held in San José, Costa Rica, on 19-24 March 2007. It will be preceded by the Costa Rican National Orchid Show (15-18 March) and by a Workshop on Population Dynamics taught by Pavel Kindlmann and Raymond Tremblay (17-18 March). Consult www.jardinbotanicolankester.org/ing/congress.html for further information.

31 October-1 November 2007

In association with the year-long celebration of the Linnean Tercentenary, an orchid conference titled 'Orchid evolutionary biology and conservation - from Linnaeus to the 21st century' will be held at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, on 31 October and 1 November 2007. Details will soon be posted on the RBG Kew website (www.rbgkew.org.uk) and also the Linnean Society of London website (www.linnean.org).

15-17 November 2007

On the heels of a most successful First Scientific Conference in Gualaceo, Ecuador, the Second Scientific Conference on Andean Orchids will convene in Loja, Ecuador, at the Universidad Técnica Particular de Loja (UTPL) on 15-17 November 2007. The university has a state-of-the-art convention center that can seat 800,

with three huge video screens and a professional sound system. Part of the hall will be sectioned off with a modular wall for a poster session, too. Preceding the conference, an international orchid show promises 1000 species in flower! Pre-conference and post-conference tours throughout mainland Ecuador with Ecuagenera are also planned. Further information is now online at www.andeanorchids2007.org/. For the time being, reserve all these dates on your calendar.

23-27 January 2008

The 19th World Orchid Conference, to be held in Miami, Florida, is now only a year away (yikes!). The slate of speakers, online registration, exhibitor and vendor information, and all the opportunities for sightseeing in south Florida are available on the impressive website (www.19woc.com/home.htm/). Whether you are a scientist, horticulturist or both, this is one event you cannot afford to miss. The 11th WOC, also held in Miami, in 1984, will always be remembered as one of the most successful. Make those flight reservations now and register early.

Recent Orchid Nomenclature

New orchid names may now be accessed on the IPNI website: (www.ipni.org/ipni/plantsearch?request_type=search&output_format=query&ret_defaults=on) Click on "Show additional search items" on the right-hand side of the screen. After the search page appears, type in **Orchidaceae** under family name and (for example) **2005-11-30** under "Record date" and "Added since." This will pull up a list of all names added to the IPNI database since 30 November 2005.

Recent Literature

We are grateful to Ann McNeil, compiler of the Kew Record of Taxonomic Literature, and to Anna Lynch and Margaret Ramsay for drawing our attention to the following publications from 1 June to 21 December 2006.

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