

# The Bean Bag

A newsletter to promote communication among research scientists concerned with the systematics of the Leguminosae/Fabaceae

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## FROM THE EDITOR

Barbara Mackinder

The Bean Bag is designed to promote communication among research scientists concerned with legume systematics. To achieve this goal The *Bean Bag* is issued each year. This issue comprises the following columns: News (meetings, major events, announcements, etc.), Nodulation and Nitrogen Fixation, Gleanings, and Recent Legume Literature. If you have news about legume systematics, please send it to us for the News column. Data in the Gleanings column is supplied by Readers. The Recent Legume Literature column contains published research papers of specific interest to *Bean Bag* Readers and is derived from Readers contributions in conjunction with references from *The Kew Record of Taxonomic Literature*. Recent is defined as up to 18 months old. Specific interest to *Bean Bag* Readers is defined as research papers of interest to a worldwide group of legume systematic botanists.

*Bean Bag* Readers are encouraged to send notices, observations, etc.

*The Bean Bag* is delivered to readers via e-mail. If new readers wish to have a copies sent to them, please send an email message to the editor (email: [B.Mackinder@kew.org](mailto:B.Mackinder@kew.org)), providing your title, first and last name and area(s) of interest.

## NEWS

### The Rupert Barneby Award

Fabián A. Michelangeli

The New York Botanical Garden is pleased to announce that Sirli Leython from the National Herbarium in Caracas, Venezuela, was the recipient of the Rupert Barneby Award for the year 2008. She visited The New York Botanical Garden during April-May of this year in order to carry out her studies on *Calliandra* from Venezuela.

The New York Botanical Garden now invites applications for the Rupert Barneby Award for the year 2009. The award of US\$ 1,000.00 is to assist researchers to visit The New York Botanical Garden to study the rich collection of Leguminosae. Anyone interested in applying for the award should submit their curriculum vitae, a detailed letter describing the project for which the award is sought, how a visit to the NYBG would help accomplish the goals of the project, and the names of 3 referees. Travel to the NYBG should be planned for sometime in the year 2009. Recipients are expected to spend 3-6 weeks at NYBG and during that time they should give a seminar on their current research.

The application should be addressed to Dr. Fabián A. Michelangeli, (e-mail: [fabian@nybg.org](mailto:fabian@nybg.org)) or by mail at Institute of Systematic Botany, The New York Botanical Garden, 200th Street and Kazimiroff Blvd., Bronx, NY 10458-5126 USA, and received no later than December 1 2008. Electronic applications are preferred. Announcement of the recipient will be made by December 15th.

Anyone interested in making a contribution to THE RUPERT BARNEBY FUND IN LEGUME SYSTEMATICS, which supports this award, may send their check, payable to The New York Botanical Garden, to Dr. Michelangeli.

### Botany 2008 Legume Colloquium

Anne Bruneau and Barbara Mackinder

During Botany 2008, a joint meeting of the Canadian Botanical Association/L'Association Botanique du Canada, The American Fern Society, The American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the Botanical Society of America, a half day session dedicated to legume systematics (phylogenetics) has been organised by Patrick Herendeen, the program organiser for ASPT (American Society of Plant Taxonomists). There will be about twelve presentations followed by a short period for discussion at the end of the session. All interested colleagues are welcome. However, as this an "informal colloquium" there is no funding available for travel or registration. The session will take place on the morning of Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July. More information about Botany 2008 can be found at <http://2008.botanyconference.org/>

### New publication about "The Lentil"

Philip C Stevenson

**Lentil: an ancient crop for modern times. Yadav, McNeil and Stevenson. 2007. Springer, Dordrecht, The Netherlands.**

The lentil has been cultivated for over 8,000 years and it has since maintained a very important place in the diet of a substantial proportion of the world's population. Consequently lentil is a major crop and food in over 35 countries including many developed as well as developing countries. The international market in recent years has increased and the crop is gaining an important place in cropping systems under a wider variety of different ecologies so the publication of a book to bring together recent advances in research and lentil production around the world makes this comprehensive volume even more important today. The book covers all aspects of diversity, breeding and production technologies, and the contents include; origin, adaptation, ecology and diversity, utilization, nutrition and production technologies, genetic enhancement, mutation and wild relatives, breeding methods and lensomics, productivity, profitability and world trade. This book presents the most comprehensive and up to date review of research on lentil production systems, biotic and abiotic stresses management, quality seed production, storage techniques and lentil growing around the world and will be of value to legume

breeders, scientists, nutritionists, academic researchers, graduate students, farmers, traders and consumers in the developed and the developing world (p.c.stevenson@gre.ac.uk)

<http://www.springer.com/life+sci/plant+sciences/book/978-1-4020-6312-1>

## NODULATION AND NITROGEN FIXATION

Legume Nodulation Reports not in Allen and Allen (1981)

Janet I. Sprent & Euan. K. James

The following Mexican species of *Mimosa* have been recorded as nodulated for the first time, in the field, by James, Elliott, Bontemps, Grether, Martinez-Romero, Martinez-Bernal, Camargo-Ricalde and Simon (pers comm. to Janet Sprent).

*M. mollis* Benth.  
*M. lactiflua* Benth.  
*M. tricephala* Cham. & Schldtl.  
*M. depauperata* Benth.  
*M. lacerata* Rose  
*M. monancistra* Benth.  
*M. tequilana* S. Watson

The following mimosoid legumes have been recorded as nodulating in laboratory conditions by James, Elliott, Hughes & Sprent. All formed effective nodules, except the species of *Leucaena*, whose nodules were ineffective, but this is thought to be due to the rhizobial strains and / or conditions used.

*Calliandra acapulcensis* (Britton & Rose) Standl.  
*C. longipedicellata* Macqueen & H.M.Hern  
*C. rubescens* (M.Martens & Galeotti) Standl.  
*C. trinervia* Benth, var *arborea* (Standley) Barneby  
*Leucaena cuspidata* Standl.  
*L. esculenta* (DC.) Benth.  
*L. multicapitula* Schery  
*L. pulverulenta* (Schldtl.) Benth.  
*Pityrocarpa obliqua* (Pers.) Brenan, subsp *obliqua*

In a study of the legumes of the Thar desert in India, Panwar, Gehlot and Shekhawat have recorded the following species as nodulated for the first time ((pers comm. to Janet Sprent).

*Acacia jacquemontii* Benth.  
*Rhynchosia aurea* (Willd.)DC.  
*Tephrosia leptoclada* Benth.  
*Tephrosia falciformis* S.V. Ramaswamy

## GLEANINGS

ADOMOU from Benin visited WAG during Nov.-Dec. 2007 to complete his revision of the African *Millettia* sections *Efulgentes* and *Opacae*. A publication is in preparation for submission to Blumea.

PODLECH is preparing a revision of all Old World species of the genus *Astragalus* (ca. 2400 species). Most of the work is done. Duplicates of unnamed material of the whole area are highly appreciated and will be named quickly.

STIRTON retired from business in mid-2007 and has returned to systematic research. He has recently been appointed an Honorary Research Associate at the University of Cape Town (UCT) and a Mellon Foundation Mentor in the Botany Department. He is a mentor to Drs. Muthama Muasya and Samson Chimphango and their students and is involved in joint

research on Cape Phaseoleoid and Psoraleoid legumes. He is an external supervisor to Mishak Dlodlu (UCT) who has begun a Ph.D. study on the molecular systematics of *Otholobium*. He is currently completing a monograph of *Otholobium* for publication in 2009 and has just spent 3 months in South Africa doing fieldwork on *Otholobium* and *Psoralea* (contact: [chstirton@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:chstirton@tiscali.co.uk)).

VAN DER MAESEN continues his revision of *Flemingia* and is in want of (freshly collected) well-documented herbarium, particularly of Asia. The treatments for the Flora of Australia and Flora Malesiana have been concluded, but are not yet published. He is also preparing an account of the Leguminosae-Papilionoideae for the Flore du Gabon.

VAN DER MAESEN continues the preparation of the account of Leguminosae for Flora du Benin including all legume genera except *Crotalaria* (R.M. POLHILL) and *Indigofera* (B. SCHRIRE), while important inputs are acknowledged of M. LOCK (*Cassia*, *Chamaechrista* and *Senna*); A. Adomou (*Millettia*) and R. PASQUET (*Vigna*).

Angela M. Studart da F. VAZ is working on a "Revision of *Phanera* from Brazil" and preparing descriptions of some new species of Leguminosae, Cercidae. Also in progress are two other projects: "A Checklist of Leguminosae, Cercidae from Brazil: Arborescent species" with Rose Bortoluzzi and "*Bauhinia* from Mato Grosso do Sul", with Geciani Silva and Angela Sartori.

## RECENT LEGUME LITERATURE

Ed. Note: Every effort has been made to ensure authors' names are correctly cited but please notify the editor if your name is misspelled. Author's names in all capital letters are *Bean Bag* Readers. Slight changes to the format of references reflect format changes in outputs from the Kew Bibliographic database.

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