

# 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 a newsletter whose purpose is to promote communication among research scientists concerned with legume systematics. In this issue Readers' contributions are reported under four headings: From the Editor, News, Gleanings, and Recent Legume Literature. The Recent Legume Literature column which contains published research papers of specific interest to *Bean Bag* Readers has been derived from Readers' contributions in conjunction with an amalgamation of references retrieved from searches on the terms Leguminosae and Fabaceae from The Kew Record of Taxonomic Literature, CABI's bibliographic databases in life science information and the Web of Knowledge. To assist Readers who are searching for papers concerning a particular genus or group of genera, generic names in titles of papers are **emboldened** and the names of genera included in papers are appended to references if not mentioned in the title but given in the abstract. Recent is defined as up to 18 months old and of specific interest to *Bean Bag* Readers is defined as research papers of interest to a worldwide group of legume systematic botanists. At the request of a few readers, I have included some of their slightly older publications.

*The Bean Bag* is delivered to Readers via e-mail. New Readers wishing to receive a copy should send an email to the editor: **B.Mackinder@kew.org** and provide their title, first and last names and area(s) of interest. Contributions for the next issue and requests for copies of past issues to be delivered as email attachments should also be sent to the editor:

## NEWS

### **Fifth International Leguminosae Conference to be held in Argentina, August 2010**

Renée H. Fortunato

All interested parties are welcome to participate in the Fifth International Legume Conference which is held in honour of the memory of Prof. Ing. Arturo Burkart (1906-1975), former Director of the Instituto de Botánica Darwinion (IBODA): Academia Nacional de Ciencias Exactas y Naturales-CONICET (1936-1975). His brilliant career much of which was focussed on the study of Argentine and South American Legumes brought him national and international recognition.

#### **Program:**

Opening Lecture: Antonio Krapovickas: In memory to Arturo Burkart

Symposia confirmed:

Acacia

Plant-Soil interaction

Morpho-anatomy and ecophysiology of roots

Flora

Phylogeny and the new Legume classification (Caesalpinioideae, Mimosoideae, Papilionoideae)

Biome evolution/biogeography

Genetic Resources

Non Traditional Genetic Resources

Evo-Devo in Legumes

Soybean in the XXI Century

VII Latin-American Arachis Meeting

Ethnobotany

Satellite meetings confirmed:

Specialists of the Chaco region

The Symposia presentation at the conference will be published in: *Advances Legumes Systematics* 12 and 13.

The Conference will have simultaneous translations: English-Spanish, Spanish-English, English-Portuguese and Portuguese-English.

Topics include

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Session (1)  | Phylogeny and the new Legume classification  |
| Session (2)  | Phytogeography   |
| Session (3)  | Developmental and Structural studies, Reproductive Biology, Seed and Seedling Biology                |
| Session (4)  | Evolutionary Developmental Biology (Evo-Devo)  |
| Session (5)  | Anatomy, Wood Anatomy, Cytology  |
| Session (6)  | Phytochemistry   |
| Session (7)  | Palynology, Pollination, Paleobotany   |
| Session (8)  | Genetic, Breeding Systems, Species-Populations - Hybrids - Polyploidy                                |
| Session (9)  | Economic Botany, Conservation, Genetics Resources  |
| Session (10) | Floras, Systematic - Taxonomy  |
| Session (11) | Plant - Animal - Microbe Interactions, Functional Evolution in Root Nodules, Plant-Soil Interactions |
| Session (12) | Molecular Ecology and Evolution  |

Abstracts:

Abstracts must be presented in digital format, naming the topic to which they belong together with the registration form and proof of payment. The closing date is June 30. The abstract must be of 250 words maximum (including title, author information and institution), detailed information can be found at: [http://www.leguminosae.com.ar/abstracts\\_en.html](http://www.leguminosae.com.ar/abstracts_en.html)

Languages: Spanish, Portuguese or English

The program will be held at the Universidad Católica Argentina Convention Center, Av. Alicia M. de Justo 1600 (C1107AFF) Ciudad de Buenos Aires

Registration:

Up to date information concerning registration can be found at: [http://www.leguminosae.com.ar/registracion\\_en.html](http://www.leguminosae.com.ar/registracion_en.html)

Accommodation for Legume Conference delegates and accompanying persons has been organized by Chatelet Tours s.r.l. TEL. Fax (5411)-5235-3225  
Marcelo T. de Alvear 429 10° A (C1058AAB) Buenos Aires- ARGENTINA paula@chateletours.com.ar  
[www.chateletours.com.ar](http://www.chateletours.com.ar)

Herbarium visits can be arranged during the conference

For information on post-conference tours see: [http://www.leguminosae.com.ar/esteros\\_en.html](http://www.leguminosae.com.ar/esteros_en.html)

Organizing Committee

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## The Rupert Barneby Award

Dr. Benjamin M. Torke

The 2010 Rupert Barneby Award was awarded to Juliana Santos Silva a Ph.D., candidate in Ana Maria de Tozzi's lab at the the State University of Campinas in Brazil. The award was given in support of her revisionary and phylogenetic studies of *Mimosa* ser. *Leiocarpae*.

The Rupert Barneby Award, named in honour of the late NYBG scientist and renowned legume expert, consists of US\$ 1000.00 granted annually to assist researchers to visit The New York Botanical Garden to study the rich herbarium collections of Leguminosae. Comprising over 320,000 specimens, including ca. 8450 types, the collection is widely considered to be one of the best curated and most comprehensive of its kind, particularly with regard to New World legumes. Graduate students and early career professionals with research in systematics and/or legume diversity are given special consideration. Anyone interested in applying for the award should submit their curriculum vitae, a two-page proposal describing the project for which the award is sought and contact information for 2-3 references. The application should be addressed to Dr. Benjamin M. Torke, 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, 2010. Submission by e-mail is preferred (send to: [btorke@nybg.org](mailto:btorke@nybg.org)). Announcement of the recipient will be made by December 20, 2010. Travel to NYBG should be planned for a period, preferably of at least two weeks, in 2011. Recipients are asked to give a presentation about their research at NYBG.

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. Benjamin Torke ([btorke@nybg.org](mailto:btorke@nybg.org)).

## Restricted access to the RBG Kew Legume herbarium collections until June 2011

Barbara Mackinder

An extension to the existing herbarium and library buildings at RBG Kew was completed in 2009. The extension will accommodate all the herbarium and ancillary collections of RBG Kew's holdings of Leguminosae and Compositae. The relocation of the legumes to the new building has now begun and is expected to take 12 months. The herbarium and ancillary collections will have to be frozen for a minimum of 72 hours before being housed in the new compactor-based storage system. Restricted access to the legume collections is anticipated to continue until June 2011 and we regret we must strongly discourage long-term visits and sabbaticals in legumes until the move has been completed. Anyone planning a short study visit should contact us well in advance so we can advise as to whether access to the relevant collections will be possible. The Caesalpinioideae are moving first, followed by the Mimosoideae and then the Papilionoideae. To assist in planning visits, we will email all readers when the move of each subfamily has been completed.

## GLEANINGS

BABINEAU, M. (University of Montreal) is undertaking a study that aims to clarify the phylogenetic status of the Afromadagascan genus *Delonix*, which is considered to be paraphyletic with regards to two endangered monospecific genera endemic to Madagascar (*Lemuropisum* and *Colvillea*).

GAGNON, E. (University of Montreal) is working on a phylogenetic study of *Caesalpinia* designed to discover what support exists for the recently reinstated generic delimitations proposed in Legumes of the World (2005). She will be testing some nuclear markers and a set of highly variable chloroplast markers to see if they are informative for this group of very closely-related species.

MAESEN, VAN DER, L.J.G. continues work on an account of the Papilionoideae for the Flore du Gabon. He has described a new *Platysepalum* (paper submitted to Webbia March 2010), a new *Eriosema* for Gabon and Congo (with Gretchen WALTERS) and found a new *Crotalaria*. The treatment of *Flemingia* proceeds too. Material from this Cajaninae genus is welcome

SÄRKINEN, T. successfully defended her thesis (April 2010) at University of Oxford. Her doctoral study entitled "Historical assembly of seasonally dry tropical forest diversity in the Tropical Andes" focused on investigating patterns of plant species diversification in the Andean seasonally dry tropical forest (SDTF) biome. Three plant genera were used as study groups: *Amicia* (Leguminosae, Papilionoideae), *Tecoma* (Bignoniaceae), and *Mimosa* (Leguminosae, Mimosoideae). Time-calibrated phylogenies for *Amicia* and *Mimosa* were presented and used to determine patterns of species diversification in time and space.

STIRTON, Prof. C., Research Associate at University of Cape Town, has just completed a two year mentorship in the Botany Department at the University of Cape Town in South Africa (chstirton@tiscali.co.uk). The Mentorship was sponsored by the Mellon Foundation to support Drs. Muthama Muasya: Muthama.Muasya@uct.ac.za & Samson Chimphango: Samson.Chimphango@uct.ac.za, as well as 8 students and one post-doc. One outcome was the creation of a new research group on systematics and nutrition of legumes in the Cape. Mr M. DLUDLU: meshackdludlu@yahoo.com has submitted his M.Sc. on "Systematic studies of Psoraleae"; Mr P.M. MAISTY on "Phosphorus requirements of nitrogen fixing legumes indigenous to the low-P soils of the Cape Floristic Region"; and Mr S. Power on "Do eco-physiological constraints on legumes account for the lack of persistence of this family of plants in late-successional post-fire Cape Floristic region (CFR)?" During the mentoring period the team made over 1200 legume collections and took over 18,000 images of Cape legumes. Charles STIRTON continues to develop Lucid keys to *Aspalathus* (290 spp., Crotalariaeae), *Psoralea* and *Otholobium* (Psoraleae). KUSHMIKA SINGH has begun her M.Sc. study of the phylogeny of *Aspalathus* with emphasis on the systematics of the Lepthantheae group. The research Group has embarked on a long term study of evolutionary drivers in the legume flora of the Cape Floral Kingdom, and on the link between the biogeography of legumes and soil nutrition

## RECENT LEGUME LITERATURE

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