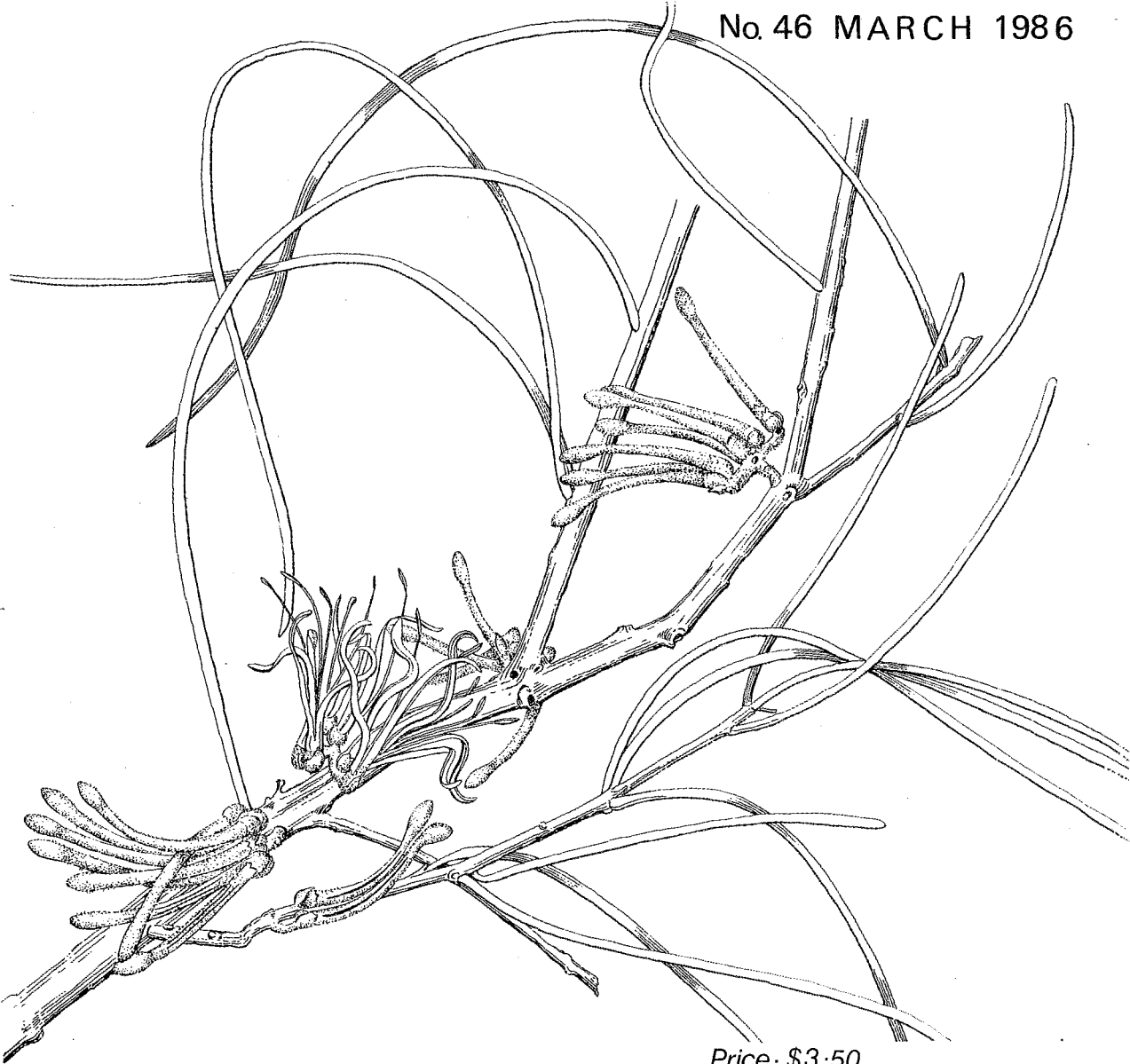


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*Amyema linophyllum* (Fenzl) Tieghem  
subsp. *orientale* Barlow

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AN INDEX TO W.V. FITZGERALD'S ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST PUBLISHED  
IN "THE BOTANY OF THE KIMBERLEYS, NORTH-WEST AUSTRALIA"

Kevin F. Kenneally, Western Australian Herbarium  
George Street, South Perth 6151

INTRODUCTION

In the Western Australian Government Gazette of 12 April 1905 it was announced that William Vincent Fitzgerald had been temporarily appointed to the Department of Lands and Surveys as naturalist to the Kimberley trigonometrical survey party. The party was led by Charles Crossland, a contract surveyor, and departed Fremantle on 5 April 1905 on board the "Bullarra" returning on the same vessel on 25 October 1905.

On 13 July 1906 under the direction of the Minister of Lands, Fitzgerald again set out "for the purposes of examining and reporting on the cultivable capabilities of portions of the river valleys in the Kimberleys" (Fitzgerald 1907).

During these expeditions Fitzgerald made important plant collections. The botanical results of these two expeditions culminated in a significant contribution to Australian tropical botany with the publication of his paper "The botany of the Kimberleys, North-West Australia: (Fitzgerald 1919). This paper, communicated by J. H. Maiden, included descriptions of 2 new genera, 88 new species and 5 new varieties.

On 1 March 1907, in a letter to the W.A. Surveyor General, the Director of the Western Australian Museum, Bernard Woodward, acknowledged receipt "of two parcels of dried specimens of the Flora of the Kimberley sent here on your behalf by Mr. W. Fitzgerald". These specimens were later transferred to the Western Australian Herbarium (PERTH). Other Fitzgerald Kimberley specimens are housed in herb. NSW having been purchased by J.H. Maiden "from a person into whose hands they had passed" (Maiden 1917). Maiden (op. cit.) also stated that many of the Kimberley specimens "have been very much dispersed, and no complete set of them exists; this is to be regretted as the collection is the most important tropical West Australian one ever made".

In the published list the specimens are systematically arranged. An index is provided to enable ready access to this important taxonomic publication. A reprint was issued but with separate pagination.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

I am indebted to Derek Sloman (temporary technical assistant), Daphne Choules Edinger and Ursula Preston (honorary research assistants) for assistance with the compilation and checking of the list.

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Fitzgerald, W.V. 1919. The botany of the Kimberleys, North-West Australia. J. Proc. Roy. Soc. West. Aust. 3: 102-224.  
Maiden, J.H. 1917. Notes on Acacia, No. 2 - Tropical Western Australia. J. Proc. Roy. Soc. N.S.W. 51: 71-124.

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THE IDENTITY OF GENOSIRIS ERIOSTEPHANA F.MUELL.

D.A. Cooke  
State Herbarium, Adelaide

Genosiris Labill. is a synonym of Patersonia R.Br., the conserved name of the largest genus of Australian Iridaceae. Genosiris eriostephana, with the alternative status of G. occidentalis var. eriostephana, was described by Mueller (1869) on floral characters alone. Unfortunately, Patersonia species are rather uniform in floral morphology, being more readily determined on vegetative and seed characters. The protologue of eriostephana does not clearly differentiate it from the widespread and variable occidentalis or from several other species; however, the mention of the woolly floral tube and the linear-subulate inner tepals suggest a resemblance to Patersonia limbata Endl. Geerinck (1974) treated G. eriostephana as a species incertae sedis.

Examination of the holotype during a review of the genus for Flora of Australia (Cooke, in press) showed it to consist of 2 detached flowers only. These agree in size and shape with those of P. limbata; most tellingly, the dense tomentum of the floral tubes consists of branched hairs as in P. limbata. In all other Patersonia species in the Albany area the floral tube is glabrous or bears simple hairs only. The synonymy of this species is set out below.

Patersonia limbata Endl. in Lehm., P1. Preiss. 2:29 (1846).

Taxonomic synonym: Genosiris eriostephana F. Muell., Fragm. 7:32 (1869); G. occidentalis (R. Br.) F. Muell. var. eriostephana F. Muell. loc. cit.; Patersonia occidentalis R. Br. var. eriostephana (F. Muell.) Domin, J. Linn. Soc., Bot. 41:254 (1912), synon. nov.

Type: King George Sound, x.1867, F. Mueller; holo: MEL 40601!

## GRADUS AD PARNASSUM or A STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH TO BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE

A. Kanis, Australian National Herbarium

If there are any plant taxonomists left, who do not accept the necessity to adhere to the Rules of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature (ICBN) in their communications, they must surely be few and far between. On the other hand, there are probably quite a few who do so only grudgingly, and who feel that the time they have to spend on matters nomenclatural would be better used in the pursuit of some real taxonomic or related scientific research. There are also those who have become to some extent specialists in this field, either by choice or by default, as colleagues called more and more on their accumulated experience.

Initial training in the use of the ICBN, even as part of a formal course in botany, rarely goes beyond the barest of rudiments. One usually acquires a degree of expertise over the years by assessing various names as an adjunct to one's research. As every taxonomist may come across complicated cases from time to time, it is advisable to discuss nomenclatural matters as often as possible with experienced colleagues. However, every worker in the field of systematic botany should aim at developing skill and self-confidence in relevant procedures, as it is not desirable that a majority should be too dependent on a small "priesthood" of nomenclaturalists.

The ICBN adopted in Sydney in 1981 is the most recent result of many international discussions and compromises between different approaches made over a period of more than a century. It is therefore not surprising that the current 73 Articles and 60 Recommendations do not add up to a simple recipe book. Even as it stands, the Code does not provide a unique unassailable solution for every nomenclatural problem, and some matters, e.g. the confusability of names (see Art. 64.2), are best submitted for consideration by a relevant standing committee. Decisions by such bodies regarding conservation and/or rejection of names even require endorsement by one of the successive International Botanical Congresses (next to be held in Berlin, 1987).

Unfortunately, it is not possible to distil from the ICBN a simplified set of guidelines that would be adequate in all circumstances. Nevertheless, questions from colleagues have led to this attempt at a synopsis of the step-by-step procedure of assessing the status of names under the Code. It was quite an educational exercise to work out a suitable presentation, as it led to the realisation that the three basic questions of nomenclature - viz. is a name (a) effectively published (b) validly published and (c) legitimate? - do not cover all the requirements for availability satisfactorily. It is hoped that the "flow-chart" questionnaire presented here will be useful, particularly to those who may consider themselves relatively inexperienced. References to relevant Articles may assist further as a kind of index to the Code.

PROCEDURE FOR ASSESSING THE NOMENCLATORIAL STATUS OF SCIENTIFIC PLANT NAMES (with references to relevant articles of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature)

1. Is the name effectively published? (i.e. printed and distributed as required: see Arts. 29-31)
  - No → unpublished name (to be ignored: see Rec. 34A)
  - Yes ↓
2. Is the name admissible? (i.e. in a form as specified - or correctable - for a particular taxonomic rank: see Arts. 16-28)
  - No → inadmissible name
  - Yes ↓
3. Is the name validly published with (a) description - and/or illustration - or relevant reference as required? (b) indication of the nomenclatural type as required? (see Arts. 32-45; for typification see Arts. 7-10)
  - No → nomen nudum (no status under Code: see Art. 12; may be validly published subsequently, either 'ex' or independently)
  - Yes (i.e. a name in the sense of the Code) ↓
4. Is the name operative? (i.e. with a clear indication of rank: see Art. 35.2)
  - No → inoperative name (if published before 01.01 1953; may become operative subsequently)
  - Yes ↓
5. Is the name legitimate? (i.e. 'available' under the Rules of the Code: see Arts. 62-69; for conservation see Arts. 14-15)
  - No → illegitimate name (superfluous names & later homonyms can be legitimized by conservation only; rejected taxonomic synonyms of conserved names may be available in another circumscription)
  - Yes ↓
6. Is the name correct for a taxon with a particular circumscription, position and rank? (Arts. 51-61; for priority see Arts. 11-15, 72; for orthography see Arts. 73, 75)
  - No → incorrect synonym (either nomenclatural or taxonomic, may become correct subsequently)
  - Yes ↓
7. If the name is accepted, which authors' names are to be cited with it? (see Arts. 46-50)

N.B. The Rules of the Code are variously limited as to retroactivity: consult the relevant Articles, or the following lists, for the respective starting dates. For the names of hybrids some special provisions apply: see Arts. H1 - H12 in Appendix I of the Code.

Most readers will be familiar with the fact that some of the Rules concerning nomenclatural requirements are variously limited as to retroactivity. It would actually be desirable to memorize a number of crucial dates, which may vary somewhat depending on what group of plants one is studying. However, as many would probably be helped with a time-saving summary of "starting dates", three chronological lists are presented here under different categorical headings. Under the respective dates are given the numbers of the relevant Articles as well as their contents. The chosen wording often deviates from the text of the actual Articles, but should convey their meaning accurately.

#### DATES LIMITING THE OPERATION OF PARTICULAR RULES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE OF BOTANICAL NOMENCLATURE (with references to relevant articles)

##### I. Representing "starting points for valid publication of names (see Art. 13)"

###### A. For non-fossil plants

1 May 1753 (Linnaeus, *Species Plantarum* ed. 1) concerning Spermatophyta, Pteridophyta, Bryophyta p.p. (Sphagnaceae, Hepaticaceae), Fungi (but note names of some groups, accepted in certain publications by Persoon (1801) and Fries (1821), to be treated as if conserved). Algae (excl. Nostocaceae, Desmidiaceae, Oedogoniaceae).

1 Jan 1801 (Hedwig, *Species Muscorum*) concerning Musci (excl. Sphagnaceae).

1 Jan 1848 (Ralfs, *British Desmidae*) concerning Desmidiaceae (Chlorophyta).

1 Jan 1886 (Bornet & Flahault, *Révision des Nostocacées hétérocystées*) concerning Nostocaceae heterocysteeae (Cyanophyta).

1 Jan 1892 (Gomont, *Monographie des Oscillariées*) concerning Nostocaceae homocysteeae (Cyanophyta).

1 Jan 1900 (Hirn, *Monographie und Iconographie der Oedogoniaceen*) concerning Oedogoniaceae (Chlorophyta).

###### B. For fossil plants (all groups)

31 Dec 1820 (Sternberg, *Flora der Vorwelt. Versuch 1: 1-24, t. 1* 13).

##### II. Concerning effective publication of names

From 1 Jan 1953 the following means of publication are no longer allowed:

- (a) indelible autograph (see Art. 29.3),
- (b) trademen's catalogues and non-scientific newspapers (see Art. 29.5),
- (c) printed matter distributed together with exsiccatae only (see Art. 31.1).

From 1 Jan 1973 seed exchange lists are no longer allowed (see Art. 29.5).

III. Concerning valid publication of names

From 1 Jan 1890 an infra-specific taxon published in a work accepting only one undetermined rank below species can no longer be accepted automatically as a variety (see Art. 35.3).

From 1 Jan 1908 an illustration of any kind can no longer be a substitute for a written description or diagnosis as required (see Arts. 42.2, 44.1/2).

From 1 Jan 1912 the following Rules are operative:

- (a) a newly published generic name may no longer coincide with a technical term currently used in morphology (see Art. 20.2),
- (b) for a new taxon of fossil plants at specific or lower rank an illustration is required, or a reference to one published previously and effectively, showing its essential characters (see Art. 38.1).

From 1 Jan 1935 for a new taxon, except in the Algae and all fossil groups, a Latin description or diagnosis is required or a reference to one published previously and effectively (see Art. 36.1).

From 1 Jan 1953 the following Rules are operative:

- (a) a new combination, or a new name, must be accompanied by a clear indication of its basionym, or replaced synonym, with a full and direct reference to author, place of valid publication and date (see Art. 33.2),
- (b) a name may no longer be published simultaneously with a so-called "alternative name" for the same taxon by the same author (see Art. 34.4),
- (c) a name may no longer be published without a clear indication of the rank of the taxon concerned (if published before that date, and validly so by all other criteria, such a name is treated as inoperative: see Art. 35.1/2).

From 1 Jan 1958 the following Rules are operative:

- (a) the name of a new taxon of the rank of family or below must be accompanied by an indication of the nomenclatural type (see Art. 37.1),
- (b) for a new taxon of non-fossil Algae a Latin description or diagnosis is required or a reference to one published previously and effectively (see Art. 36.2),
- (c) for a new taxon of non-fossil Algae at specific or lower rank an illustration is required, or a reference to one published previously and effectively, showing its distinctive morphological features (see Art. 39.1).

From 1 Jan 1973 all requirements for valid publication must be met simultaneously or full references to places where particular conditions were met earlier must be given with the completing publication (see Art. 45.1).

References

- Leussink, J.A. (1975) Dates in the Rules of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. Taxon 24: 194-199.
- Leussink, J.A. (1978) Dates in the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. Taxon 27: 561-562.
- McVaugh, R., & al. (1968) An annotated glossary of botanical nomenclature. Regnum Vegetabile vol. 56.
- Voss, E.G., & al., (eds.) (1933) International Code of Botanical Nomenclature. Regnum Vegetabile vol. 111.

## NOTES

### AN ELEMENTARY INDEX TO AUSTRALIAN HERBARIUM JOURNALS

For my own purposes I have prepared an elementary index to all articles (excluding book reviews) in all journals published by Australian herbaria and covering each journal from its inception to the end of 1985. Selected articles from the ASBS Newsletters Nos 1 to 45 are also included.

The index is intended simply as an on-the-desk working tool for various botanical and curatorial purposes. It has been prepared on an Appleworks database programme and is arranged in several listings for access to taxonomy, vegetation studies, checklists, biographies, history, herbaria and some sundries. Size is approximately 78 A4 pages.

Hard copy will be printed in its final form by the end of February 1986 and in spite of its imperfections and limitations I believe it could be a useful guide to others besides myself. I am therefore interested in obtaining an indication of how many people, if any, might like copies. If a positive response is received I will look into the possibility of organising multiple copies for distribution at cost price. Could anyone interested please reply to this "feeler"?

Helen Aston, c/o National Herbarium of Victoria, Birdwood Avenue, South Yarra, Victoria 3141.

### NEW NAMES IN GREVILLEA (PROTEACEAE)

This publication, published and distributed by the author, D.J. McGillivray on 24 February, 1986, may have raised some questions. It complies with the requirements of the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature for the valid publication of new names, so will have a place in the taxonomic literature. I and my colleagues at NSW look forward to co-operating with Don McGillivray to ensure that his extensive and thorough work on this important plant genus will eventually be published in full.

Naturally, so extensive a treatment of a group of this size will be a large work that will require considerable time in the editing and publication stages. However, we look forward to receiving Don's manuscript, and will proceed from that point with the aim of seeing it published in a way that does justice to his work.

B.G. Briggs  
National Herbarium of New South Wales.

## SOCIETY BUSINESS

### INCORPORATION OF THE SOCIETY

The Constitution Committee of Council has been identifying the changes necessary to the Constitution in order to meet requirements for Incorporation. It has been convenient, therefore, also to consider other possible changes which may make the Constitution clearer or otherwise more satisfactory. A proposed new Constitution is set out below. Clauses which would be changed are marked (\*), and comments on the proposed changes follow the draft Constitution. Opinions of Members are sought.

(DRAFT)

#### CONSTITUTION AND RULES OF THE

\* AUSTRALIAN SYSTEMATIC BOTANY SOCIETY INCORPORATED

#### CONSTITUTION

1. NAME:

- \* (a) The organisation shall be called the Australian Systematic Botany Society Incorporated (hereinafter the "Society").

2. AIM:

- \* (a) The aim of the Society is to promote the study of plant systematics.

3. MEMBERSHIP:

- \* (a) Membership shall be open to anyone interested in plant systematics.

4. CONDUCT OF THE AFFAIRS OF THE SOCIETY:

- (a) The affairs of the Society shall be managed by a Council of six (6) members, consisting of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and two other Councillors (hereinafter the "Council"). No member can simultaneously hold more than one position on Council.
- (b) A term of office on Council shall be the period between two successive General Meetings.
- (c) The President and Vice-President shall not serve more than two consecutive full terms of office.
- (d) No member of Council shall serve more than four consecutive full terms of office.

- (e) Nominations will be called for the Council offices and members may submit nominations for these offices.
- \* (f) Voting shall be restricted to members of the Society. Only votes from financial members can be valid.
- (g) The Council shall have power to appoint Committees. Such Committees are responsible to Council.
- \* (h) The Council shall appoint Editor(s) for any Society publication. Such Editor(s) shall not be part of the membership of Council unless independently elected to one of the designated positions on Council by members.
- \* (i) There shall be an annual subscription payable by all but Honorary members. The amount of the subscription shall be subject to determination at each General Meeting.
- \* (j) Income of the Society shall be used solely for promoting the interests of the society.
- \* (k) The Council shall appoint Auditors to audit the Society accounts.
- (l) A General Meeting of the Society will be held at least once every two years.
- \* (m) Any change of Constitution or Rules shall be determined by at least 65% majority vote. Any group of at least four (4) members may propose such changes.
- \* 5. INCORPORATION:
  - (a) The Council shall appoint a Public Officer for the purpose of Society incorporation, as required by the Australian Capital Territory Associations Incorporation Ordinance 1953 with amendments (hereinafter the "Incorporation Ordinance").
  - (b) The Society Public Officer shall
    - \* 1. be a financial member of the Society.
    - \* 2. not be part of the membership of Council unless independently elected to one of the designated positions on Council by members.
    - 3. be permanently resident in the Australian Capital Territory.
    - \* 4. be responsible to Council for meeting relevant requirements of the Society Public officer under the Incorporation Ordinance.
  - (c) The Council shall appoint a replacement within 14 days should the appointed Public Officer become ineligible, or resigns in writing as such. or whose appointment is rescinded by Council.
  - \* (d) The Council shall be bound to meet all requirements not otherwise mentioned, of the current Incorporation Ordinance. For this purpose,



the current Incorporation Ordinance is to be considered an annexure.

\* 6. COMMON SEAL:

- (a) The Common Seal of the Society shall not be affixed to any instrument except by the authority of the Council and in the presence of the President or Vice-President and the Secretary or such other Officer as Council may appoint for the purpose; and the President or Vice-President, as the case may be, and the Secretary or other Officer shall sign every instrument to which the Common Seal of the Society is so affixed in their presence.

RULES

1. MEMBERSHIP:

- \* (a) Any person may become a member of the Society by forwarding the annual subscription to the Treasurer. Annual subscriptions are due on 1st January of each year.
- (b) Any person who is two (2) years in arrears with subscriptions ceases to be a member, but will be eligible for a re-admission to membership on payment of these arrears.
- (c) Any member wishing to resign may do so by sending written notice of this intention to the Secretary with all sums due to the Society.
- \* (d) Any membership can be terminated by majority vote of financial members.
- \* (e) Student membership with reduced subscription rate is available to bona fide full-time students of secondary or tertiary educational institutions.
  - 1. Student subscription rate shall be not less than 50% of regular membership rate.
  - 2. Rates of subscription for Student members shall be determined by Council immediately following each General Meeting.
  - 3. Student members shall have the same rights and privileges as Regular members.
- \* (f) Honorary membership is available for distinguished botanists who have excelled in plant systematics.
  - 1. Any member can nominate a distinguished botanist for Honorary membership.
  - 2. Council shall determine recipients of Honorary membership.
  - 3. Recipients of Honorary membership shall be announced at the subsequent General Meeting.

4. Honorary members are deemed financial members without requirement for payment of subscriptions and have the same rights and privileges as financial Regular members.

5. The number of Honorary members shall not exceed 5 at any one time.

## 2. COUNCIL:

(a) The Council shall meet as convened by the President. Any three (3) Council members may require the President to convene a Council meeting. A quorum for such meetings shall be four (4) members present or otherwise expressing their views.

\* (b) Each member of Council shall have a single vote. The person chairing any Council meeting may have a casting (second) vote.

(c) In the event of a vacancy occurring on Council, the Council is empowered to fill the vacancy.

\* (d) The Council is empowered to rescind any appointments to Society positions made by the current or previous Councils.

## 3. ELECTION OF COUNCIL:

\* (a) The Secretary shall call for nominations for membership of Council at least four (4) months before each General Meeting. Each nomination must be proposed by at least two (2) members. Any nomination, accompanied by the nominee's acceptance, must be in the hands of the Secretary at least eight (8) weeks before the date of the General Meeting.

\* (b) Where there are more nominees for a position than the position requires, the Secretary shall distribute ballot papers to all members at least six (6) weeks before each General Meeting, together with an address to which they are to be returned and a closing date for the ballot.

\* (c) A nominee requires a simple majority of votes received to be elected to the relevant position on Council.

(d) The result of the ballot for members of the Council shall be declared at each General Meeting.

### \* Option 1

(e) A tied vote for any position shall require an additional secret ballot of members attending the General Meeting. The result will be declared following a suitable adjournment to tally votes.

### \* Option 2

(e) 1. A re-election will be called by the Secretary for any Council position if a simple majority of received votes is not obtained by any nominated member. A call for nominations for any undecided Council position will be no later than four (4) weeks

after the General Meeting. Each nominee must be proposed by at least two (2) financial members. The nomination, accompanied by the nominee's acceptance, must be in the hands of the Secretary no later than eight (8) weeks after the General Meeting.

2. The Secretary shall distribute ballot papers to all financial members no later than ten (10) weeks after the General Meeting, together with an address to which they are to be returned no later than twelve (12) weeks after the General Meeting.

3. The result of the ballot for the re-election(s) shall be declared as soon as practicable thereafter.

4. FINANCE:

(a) The financial year of the Society shall be from January 1st to December 31st.

(b) Auditing of Accounts

1. The Accounts of the Society shall be prepared by the Treasurer and shall be submitted to appointed Auditor(s) each year.

2. Auditor(s) of the Society Accounts can not be part of the membership of the Society.

3. The Council, through the Treasurer, shall cause to be prepared each year, a balance-sheet setting out the assets and liabilities of the Society.

4. The Council, through the Public Officer, shall within one month of preparation of a balance-sheet, file a copy, duly certified as correct by the appointed Auditor(s), with the Australian Capital Territory "Corporate Affairs Commission".

5. Audited accounts shall be presented at each General Meeting.

(c) Withdrawal forms and cheques shall be signed by the Treasurer and countersigned by another member of Council.

5. GENERAL MEETING:

(a) Notice of each General Meeting shall be circulated to all members at least four (4) months in advance.

(b) Any member wishing to place any item on the agenda shall notify the Secretary in writing at least two (2) weeks before the date of the General Meeting.

(c) A quorum for a General Meeting shall be thirteen (13) members.

6. PUBLICATION:

(a) The Australian Systematic Botany Society Newsletter is the official publication of the Society which is regularly and automatically

distributed to all financial members.

- (b) The Society may issue such other publications as will further its aim.

7. ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION OR RULES:

- \* (a) 1. Proposed alterations to the Society Constitution or Rules must be submitted in writing to the Secretary at least four (4) months prior to a General Meeting and signed by at least four (4) financial members.
- \* 2. Such proposals must be communicated to all members prior to the General Meeting.
- 3. Such proposals shall be placed on the agenda of the General Meeting.
- \* 4. Such proposals with any modification from the General Meeting, unless withdrawn, together with appropriate voting papers shall be sent to all members not more than four (4) weeks after the General Meeting.
- 5. Voting papers shall be returned to the Secretary by a specified date.
- \* 6. An alteration shall take effect as soon as practicable after approval by at least 65% of financial membership, providing no less than 13 valid votes are cast.
- \* (b) The Council, through the Public Officer, shall within one month of any constitutional alteration of the Constitution or Rules of the Society, file with the Corporate Affairs Commission notice of such alteration, a copy of the altered Constitution and Rules and a statutory declaration made by the Public Officer declaring that it is a true copy of the altered Constitution and Rules, and that alterations were made constitutionally.

8. INTERPRETATION:

- (a) Any matter not covered by these Rules and any question of interpretation of them, shall be decided upon by the Council.

\* 9. DISSOLUTION:

- (a) The Society shall not be dissolved nor its funds or other assets appropriated to any purpose other than those set forth in the foregoing Constitution and Rules so long as at least twenty (20) members remain clear on the membership list, or unless an affirmative vote for dissolution shall have been first obtained by postal ballot of all members with at least two-thirds voting in favour thereof.
- (b) Should membership become less than 20, a vote for dissolution will be put by postal ballot to all members. Affirmative action shall

require only a simple majority.

- (c) Should any vote for dissolution be passed, winding-up of the Society and dispersal of its assets shall be in accordance with the Australian Capital Territory Companies Act (1981), or its amended equivalent, and the current Incorporation Ordinance.

#### COMMENTS

Numbering of items of the present Constitution and Rules has been retained (except in Constitution 4, j-m, and Rule 2) to reduce any likelihood of confusion between the "old" (current) and "new" versions.

Title. Changed to accord with requirements of the current ACT Associations Incorporation Ordinance (IO).

#### Constitution

1. (a) Changed to accord with IO. Modified also for brevity and clarity.
2. (a) Modification to specify "plants" in Society's aim in line with Society's title. This doesn't limit the Society in promoting any relevant activity in the broader sphere of biology.
3. (a) Modification for similar reasons to those in 2(a).
4. (f) Comments please. Restricting decision-making in relation to operation of the Society to financial members has been considered desirable. The second sentence here will require any voting procedure to be based on financial members voting. This makes no distinction between general membership or council membership. It could give the Treasurer and Secretary more onerous work but as the membership list is in computer storage determining financial members should become less of a problem.  
  
"can" rather than "will" as financial members' votes will be invalid too if they do not comply with specified requirements.
4. (h) Clarification of principle(s) involved.
  1. Council to appoint Editor(s) for Society publications.
  2. Such appointees are not members of Council thereby.
4. (i) See new Rule 1(f).
4. (j) IO requirement.
4. (k) Separation of principle from rule so Rule 4 on Society Finance will contain all relevant directions (see also Rule 4).
4. (m) Constitutional changes should require considerably more than 50% of voting members in favour before made. Most other associations' constitutions specify a higher figure. Required majorities seem to

range from 60% to 75%. A two-thirds majority is favoured. Any comments?

5. This is a new clause to state the Minimum requirements of the IO. Additional requirements considered desirable have been included.
5. (b) 1. IO requires that Public Officer be at least eligible for membership of Society. We feel the Society PO should be a financial member. Any comment?
5. (b) 2. To be consistent with Clause 4(h).
5. (b) 4. To be consistent with Clause 4(g).
5. (d) Catch-all sub-clause, similar in intent to Rule 8, to reduce the size of the constitution and rules.
6. IO requirement.

#### RULES

1. (a) Modification to clarify meaning.
1. (d) All other constitutions/rules seen have a mechanism for terminating membership. What is considered a democratic procedure is inserted. Any comments?
1. (e) This formalises what is present practice for the Society. Any comment on the 50% minimum? Should it be higher (or lower)?
1. (f) Most associations appear to have an honorary category for venerated members or persons rendering or who have rendered assistance to that association. It is proposed that botanists distinguished in plant systematics be eligible for Honorary membership of ASBS Inc. Any comment on the limit of 5?
2. (b) Formalises existing procedures for decision-making by Council.
2. (d) Added mechanism for Council to ensure efficient running of the affairs of the Society. Applies to positions of Chair of Committee(s), Editor(s) of publications, and Public Officers.
3. (a) Modification for clarity.
3. (b) Clarification of procedure.
3. (c) Addition clarifying election procedure.
3. (e) Procedure for dealing with tied ballots. Further guidance on this is requested. Any comments?
4. (b) 1. IO requirement.
4. (b) 2. IO requirement.

4. (b) 3. IO requirement.
4. (b) 4. IO requirement.
4. (b) 5. Moved from Constitution Clause 4(k) in existing Constitution and Rules.
7. (a) Modification for clarity.
  1. Changed to 4 months (currently 2 weeks) to allow for all membership to view all proposed changes by way of the newsletter before they are discussed at the General Meeting.
  2. Ensures that all membership has opportunity to view proposed changes before the General Meeting.
  4. The General Meeting should have the opportunity to make modifications to proposed constitutional changes before being put to membership vote.
  6. Modification to agree with new Constitution Clause 4(1). Note that Constitution Clause 4(f) rules that only votes from financial members can be considered.  
  
There needs to be a minimum number of votes cast for the 65% majority vote to be considered. As 13 is mentioned for a quorum for a General Meeting the same number is listed here. Any comments?
7. (b) IO requirement.
9. IO requires certain things to occur should an Incorporated Association be dissolved. This new rule has been included to specify how any vote for dissolution of our Society should be handled. Any comments?

R.J. Henderson

for Constitution Committee

MEMBERSHIP

NOTE: If you have not yet paid your Membership Fee, your 1986 Fee will now cost you \$15. (Full-time Students - \$10). Please remit to Treasurer.

GENERAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS

1986 - 1987

In accordance with the Constitution of the Society, nominations are called for all positions on the Council for the 1986 - 1987 term of office:- President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, 2 Councillors.

Each nominee must be proposed by two members and his/her acceptance of nomination must accompany the nomination itself. Nominations must be on the form in the back of this Newsletter (or a facsimile of that form).

Of the present office bearers, Bryan Barlow and Barbara Briggs (each having served 2 consecutive terms) are not eligible for re-election to their respective positions. Phillip Short does not wish to stand for re-election as Treasurer. The remaining office bearers are available and willing to stand for re-election.

All nominations must be in the hands of the Secretary, Dr L. Haegi, The Botanic Gardens of Adelaide and State Herbarium, North Terrace, Adelaide, S.A. 5000 by FRIDAY, 16th MAY 1986.

Ballot papers will be sent out in June and the results of the elections will be announced at the Society's General Meeting in Brisbane, August.

RECORD OF A.S.B.S. CONCIL MEMBERSHIP									
P: President, VP: Vice-President, S: Secretary, T: Treasurer, C: Councillor, E: Editor (included here for completion of record but not a member of Council)									
Limit of term: P and VP = 2 consecutive terms; others = 4 consecutive terms									
	1973 -75	1975 -76	1976 -77	1977 -79	1979 -80	1980 -81	1981 -83	1983 -85	1985 -86
Mr J. Armstrong		C	C						
Dr B. Barlow							VP	P	P
Mr D. Boyland	C,E								
Dr. B. Briggs								VP	VP
Prof. R. Carolin			P	P	VP	VP			
Prof. D. Carr	VP								
Prof. T. Clifford							P		
Dr B. Conn						T,E	T,E		
Dr M. Crisp									C
Mr A. George	C	C	C	C,E	E	E			
Dr G. Guymer							E	E	E
Dr L. Haegi							C	C	S
Mr R. Henderson		VP,E	E	VP,E			C	C	C
Dr H. Hewson									E
Dr R. Hnatiuk						C			
Dr J. Jessop				C	P	P			
Dr A. Kanis	T								
Mr M. Lazarides		T	T	T	T				
Mr D. McGillivray	S								
Mr A. Mitchell					C	C			
Dr P. Short								T	T
Dr J. West					S	S	S	S	
Dr T. Whiffen	P	P	VP						
Mrs K. Wilson		S	S	S	C				



## CHAPTER NEWS

### CANBERRA CHAPTER

The Chapter has been relatively quiet, although members were busily involved with the Boden Conference at Thredbo and associated visitors from interstate and overseas.

Recent meetings have been  
 23 July 1985 - Ian Telford on the Flora of the Cocos (Keeling Islands);  
 17 September 1985 - Andy Gillison on *Heritiera* and *Argyrodendron*, an ecological analogue in Terra Australis;  
 10 October 1985 - Bob Chinnoek on his studies in *Eremophila*;  
 17 December 1985 - a Christmas gathering at which George Chippendale reminisced on his years at Alice Springs;  
 10 February 1986 - Charles Jeffrey on the International Code of Botanical Nomenclature.

### MELBOURNE CHAPTER

#### MELBOURNE CHAPTER PROGRAM FOR 1986

Meetings at 6.00 p.m. at National Herbarium, first Thursday of month, unless otherwise advertised.

Thurs. March 6th, 6.00 p.m.	"An introduction to the Compositae" - Philip Short (MEL)
Thurs. April 10th, 6.00 p.m.	"Floral development in the
*2nd Thurs. due to Easter	Eucalypts" - Andrew Drinnan (MELU)
Thurs. May 1st, 6.00 p.m.	"All's well in the garden isn't it?" - James Hitchmough (VCAH-Burnley)
Thurs. June 5th, 6.00 p.m.	"Botanists I have known" - Jim Willis
Thurs. July 3rd, 6.00 p.m.	"A taxonomist's look at cladistics" - Trevor Whiffin (LTU)
Thurs. August 7th, 6.00 p.m.	"Floral and reproductive biology in <u><i>Dendrobium speciosum</i></u> " - Tony Slater (MELU)
Thurs. Sept. 4th, 6.00 p.m.	"Studies in <u><i>Eucalyptus aromaphloia</i></u> and Section <u><i>Maidenaria</i></u> " - Jenny Chappell (MELU)
Thurs. Oct. 2nd, 6.00 p.m.	"Photographing difficult subjects" - Bruce Fuhrer (MONU)
Saturday Oct. 4th	Photography excursion
Thurs. Nov. 6th, 6.00 p.m.	"The impact of introduced weeds on the native flora" - Geoff Carr
Thurs. Dec. 4th, 6.00 p.m.	"A botanist in Africa" - Jim Ross (MEL)

#### VISITORS WELCOME

Enquiries to Stephen Forbes, David Albrecht or Barry Conn - 639424

## BUREAU OF FLORA & FAUNA REPORT

1. Yes, another volume of Flora of Australia has come out! It is Vol. 25, covering Melianthaceae (H.J. Hewson), Akaniaceae (H.J. Hewson), Sapindaceae (S.T. Reynolds and J.G. West), Aceraceae (H.J. Hewson), Burseraceae (H.J. Hewson), Anacardiaceae (L.W. Jessup), and Simaroubaceae (H.J. Hewson). Although Helen Hewson wrote 5 of the 7 families, they covered only 14 of the 193 species. Flora writing by BFF staff accounts for about 20% of the published volumes, but is averaging 5-10% of recent volumes.

2. Also published and available from AGPS are Australian Flora & Fauna Series No 2: Southern Australian Liverworts (by G.A.M. Scott) and No 3: Phytogeography of Eucalyptus (A.M. Gill, L. Belbin & G. Chippendale). We hope that the "Liverwort" handbook will greatly stimulate collection and research in this group so that when the Flora volume is written it can be a better reflection of the Australian liverworts than would be the case if written now. The "Eucalyptus" number gives an interesting analysis of the geographic distribution of the informal subgenera of Eucalyptus, and should assist in developing a sound assessment of this important genus.

3. We are happy to report that most new manuscripts for the Flora are now coming in a form suitable for automatic entry. We are attempting to establish, with each major contributing institution, a clear mechanism for providing suitable manuscript (either OCR readable, or disc form). Please check with us if you are in doubt, or contact a colleague who may already "know the ropes". Near-letter-quality dot matrix copy is NOT readable on the machine.

## REQUESTS

### ANATOMICAL STUDY OF PROTEACEAE : Request for material

Following discussions with several Australian botanists, it has been suggested that members of the ASBS might be prepared to help with the provision of wood and leaf material of Proteaceae.

The family is being studied on a world-wide basis for the revised account in "Anatomy of the Dicotyledons" by C.R. Metcalfe and L. Chalk. Much of the work will be carried out by Miss D.M. Catling during research for her PhD, under the joint supervision of Prof V.H. Heywood and myself.

We should value your co-operation. We aim to work only with properly vouchered material of known wild origin. Ideally we should prefer FAA fixed leafy twigs and dry mature secondary wood samples. We anticipate that the herbarium vouchers would be retained in Australia.

If we could collaborate with anyone revising genera, we should be delighted.

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## CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

### BOTANIC GARDENS AND THE WORLD CONSERVATION STRATEGY

We were fortunate to be among more than 200 delegates from over 40 countries who attended a conference "Botanic Gardens and the World Conservation Strategy" at Las Palmas, Canary Islands 26-30 November 1985.

The Conference was organised under the sponsorship of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) to discuss the role of botanic gardens in plant conservation, including the development of a Botanic Gardens Conservation Strategy. A draft of this Strategy had been prepared by Professor Vernon Heywood of Reading University and the final document amended in the light of discussions at the Conference, will be submitted to IUCN and other international bodies in 1986.

The brunt of the organisation of the Conference fell on Dr David Bramwell, Director Jardín Canario "Viera y Clavigo" Las Palmas. David is well known for his research on island floras including the endemic flora of the Canary Islands, much of which is under serious threat from agriculture, forestry, urban development and tourism.

It was clear from discussions at the Conference that many botanic gardens, particularly those in the tropics, are playing important roles in plant conservation. It was agreed that where botanic gardens profess an interest in conservation they should accept a commitment to adopt certain principles in relation to record keeping, maintenance of seed banks and ex situ collections.

There was unanimous agreement that plant conservation must be based on protection of wild habitats. It was interesting to learn that some gardens, particularly in the tropics are responsible for managing areas of native vegetation providing them with opportunities to practice both in situ and ex situ conservation.

Surprisingly the role of plant systematics had not been strongly identified in the conservation strategy although it was stressed in discussion of the draft document. In addition one of the 14 recommendations arising from the Conference seeks to redress this. The recommendations, which will be edited and published by IUCN shortly, also cover topics such as plant records, seed banks, free exchange of germ plasm and conservation research.

Education and community awareness received considerable attention, with botanic gardens agreeing that collectively they have an audience of over 100 million visitors each year. Most of these visitors are city and urban dwellers with very limited daily contact with nature. Botanic gardens therefore have a unique opportunity to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of plants. Whilst it was agreed that education programmes must meet the needs of children, the taxpayers of tomorrow, they must also be relevant and attractive to today's decision makers. The value of political support was clearly evident in the Canary Islands by the attendance and obvious interest of senior members of the Island Governments in the Conference and in botanic gardens on the islands.

Carmelo Artiles Bolanos, Presidente Cabildo Insular de Gran Canaria opened the Conference and urged delegates to produce something tangible from their discussions. The Declaration of Gran Canaria was one such outcome. It is hoped that botanic gardens will be able to use this Declaration and the recommendations from the meeting to foster greater interest in their role in plant conservation.

Finally, it was agreed that the Canary Islands meeting be known as the First Botanic Gardens Conservation Congress with the second Congress being held in three years' time. IUCN was asked to organise this Congress and also assist in setting up a Secretariat to co-ordinate and promote the implementation of the Botanic Gardens World Conservation Strategy. The Secretariat should ultimately become self-supporting and the measure of its value will be the extent to which botanic gardens themselves contribute towards achieving this.

Robert Boden  
Australian National  
Botanic Gardens  
Canberra

Barbara Briggs  
Royal Botanic Gardens  
Sydney

#### The Declaration of Gran Canaria

For centuries, Botanic Gardens have been major centres for the scientific study of plant diversity, providing a mechanism for introduction and assessment of plants for agriculture, horticulture, forestry and medicine.

They attract more than 100 million visitors a year, affording havens of beauty and tranquillity for an increasingly urban society, and a spiritual link with the plant world on which we all depend.

They inform and educate; they are showcases for the living world, places where science and people meet.

For historical reasons, most Botanic Gardens are in the cooler, more industrialised countries of the world, but two thirds of all plant species occur in the tropics and subtropics. More than 60,000 species risk extinction within our lifetimes because of the destruction and degradation of the earth's vegetation, which is the basis of human survival. Recently many of the world's Botanic Gardens have mobilised their resources for conservation action to avert this threat. They are conserving plants in the wild, cultivating them in the gardens themselves, and preserving them in gene banks.

Recognising that they can only succeed in achieving these objectives if they work together, Botanic Gardens throughout the world are uniting to apply the World Conservation Strategy to the special predicament of plants. Basing their efforts on this global plan for sustainable development and conservation of living resources, they will produce, adopt and implement a Botanic Gardens Conservation Strategy.

This declaration is the result of the 1985 Las Palmas Conference on Botanic Gardens and the World Conservation Strategy, involving more than 200 leading specialists from countries throughout the world.

They as a body assert their determination to work together to defend plant life for the benefit of all people now and in the future. They call upon Governments to provide the necessary support and resources, in accordance with their responsibilities.

#### BODEN CONFERENCE: THE SYSTEMATIC STATUS OF LARGE FLOWERING PLANT GENERA

In February, the Society (together with the Australian Academy of Science) sponsored a Boden Conference to discuss the systematic status of large genera. Forty participants from Australia and overseas attended. C. Jeffrey (UK) and P. Stevens (USA) discussed the concept of a genus. J. West (ACT), T. Whiffin (Vic.), B. Barlow (ACT), J. Armstrong (ACT) and C. Webb (NZ) presented modes of determining generic delimitation :- cladistics, chemistry, biogeography, pollination syndromes and breeding systems, respectively. H. Robinson (USA), C. Jeffrey and H. Irwin (USA) discussed generic status in Asteraceae and Cassia s.l. From Australia J. Powell (NSW), R. Chinnock (SA), P. Wilson (WA), L. Pedley (Qld) and L. Johnson (NSW) discussed generic status in Epacridaceae, Eremophila Chenopodiaceae, Acacia s.l. and the Eucalypts, respectively.

The conference neither raised any new solutions nor solved any old problems but did help to put several "things" into perspective. Abstracts of papers and transcriptions of discussions will be published by the Society (probably as a supplement to the Newsletter) in due course.

#### REPORT ON SYMPOSIUM ON ZOOLOGICAL NOMENCLATURE

On 19-20 February 1986, the Fauna Section of the Bureau of Flora and Fauna conducted a workshop on the new International Code of Zoological Nomenclature. The discussions of the new code were led by the two Australian Commissioners, Dr W.D.L. Ride, President of the Commission and Dr H.G. Cogger. Some fifty registrants attended the workshop. The participants included not only zoologists, but botanists and microbiologists. Discussions, therefore, were broadened and comparisons of the various codes made possible. In addition to technical aspects of the Zoological Code, the Commissioners placed the Code in its historical perspective and provided stimulating and provocative thoughts on the future of biological nomenclature.

D. Walton  
Bureau of Flora and Fauna.

## ICSEB IV - FOR YOUR LONG TERM PLANS

The fourth International Congress of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology will be held at the University of Maryland, U.S.A. on 1-7 July, 1990.

ICSEB III, at Brighton, U.K. 4-10 July 1985 was a very successful and stimulating meeting. It was an excellent opportunity for botanical and zoological systematists to become more aware of developments in each other's fields and of relevant theoretical aspects of genetics, population biology and palaeontology.

Barbara G. Briggs  
National Herbarium of New South Wales

## A BOTANICAL HISTORY SYMPOSIUM?

I wish to seek members' opinions as to whether they would like to have a Symposium re. Botanical History in Australia (or Australasia).

Venue: National Herbarium of Victoria  
Time: 2-3 days duration, ? 1986, ? 1987, ? 1988

Topics discussed to include the following:

A. Journeys and Collecting localities of botanists/collectors e.g.s Allan Cunningham, Ferdinand von Mueller and the Gregory Expedition, Oldfield's activities in Australia.

B. The present day locality of collections, particularly types, which were gathered in Australia. For example the Russian botanist Turczaninow, who described many species from specimens collected by James Drummond, could be discussed. Other topics could include the distribution of Preiss collections and the holdings in O.W. Sonder's & J. Steetz's herbaria in MEL.

C. Cultivation of Australian plants overseas. Many species were described from material cultivated in Europe. In which gardens were they cultivated? Were herbarium specimens retained? Obviously such a topic is extremely large and depending on response some limit re. specific topics may need to be imposed. Should we for example restrict ourselves to maritime exploration e.g. the French expeditions, Robert Brown etc. (although they are perhaps comparatively well covered) or to Inland exploration only e.g.s B.H. Babbage, W.E.P. Giles. On the otherhand a set time e.g. the 19th century, may be best.

Many of us could contribute to such discussions and I see no reason why papers could not vary in presentation time from 10-60 minutes.

If it's deemed desirable a display of historically important MEL collections could be arranged.

The organisation of this symposium will only proceed if I receive a good response from members. If you think it is a worthwhile project and wish to contribute, could you please discuss it at a future ASBS chapter or herbarium meeting and forward your comments to me by the 16th of May.

Philip S.Short,  
National Herbarium of Victoria

## The Society

The Australian Systematic Botany Society is an association of over 300 people with professional or amateur interest in Botany. The aim of the Society is to promote the study of plant systematics.

## Membership

Membership is open to all those interested in plant systematics and entitles the member to attend general and chapter meetings and to receive the Newsletter. Any person may become a member by forwarding the annual subscription to the Treasurer. Subscriptions become due on the 1st January.

## The Newsletter

The Newsletter appears quarterly and keeps members informed of Society events and news, and provides a vehicle for debate and discussion. In addition original articles, notes and letters (not exceeding ten pages in length) will be published. Contributions should be sent to the Editor at the address given below, preferably typed in duplicate and double-spaced. All items incorporated in the Newsletter will be duly acknowledged. Authors are alone responsible for the views expressed. The deadline for contributions is the last day of February, May, August and November.

## Notes

- The deadline for the next Newsletter is 31st May.
- ASBS Annual Membership is \$13 (Aust.) if paid by 31st March, \$15 thereafter. Students (Full-time) \$10. Please remit to the Treasurer.
- Advertising space is available for products or services of interest to ASBS members. Current rates are 30 per full page. Contact the Newsletter Editor for further information.
- All address changes should be sent to the Treasurer or the Editor.

## Editor et al.

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