

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH

and

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Division of Biological Sciences

MSc/Diploma

The Biodiversity and Taxonomy of Plants

Principles, Practice and Management

This one-year course, bridging traditional and modern approaches, equips biologists, conservationists and ecologists with a high level of skill in pure and applied plant taxonomy, a wide knowledge of plant biodiversity and its investigation, combined with instruction in the function, management and funding of taxonomic collections and institutes.

The following major areas are covered:

- ~ Functions and philosophy of taxonomy
- ~ Evolution and biodiversity of plant groups
- ~ Adaptive radiation in angiosperms
- ~ Elements and origins of biodiversity
- ~ Plant geography and biodiversity
- ~ Introduction to selected environments
- ~ Surveys and monitoring
- ~ Expeditions and plant collecting
- ~ Production and use of taxonomic tools
- ~ Handling and processing data by computer
- ~ Taxometrics and cladistics
- ~ Nomenclature of wild and cultivated plants
- ~ Artificial selection, breeding strategies and genetic manipulation
- ~ Tissue culture and micropropagation
- ~ Chemical estimation of variation
- ~ Managing and funding taxonomic institutes
- ~ Herbarium curation
- ~ Taxonomic libraries
- ~ Curation of living collections
- ~ Public services and public relations

There are also workshops or training sessions on cladistics, identification, cytology, computing, numerical taxonomy, molecular methods, herbarium and horticultural techniques, and bibliographic methodology.

A programme of visits to other institutes and fieldwork includes a 10-day field course in Portugal.

MSc students proceed to a 5-month research project in April, leading to submission of a written dissertation in September; Diploma students finish in June following a 2-month project.

Entry requirements: university degree or equivalent in a biological or environmental science; evidence of proficiency in English.

Further details and application forms from: Fiona Curle, Institute of Cell and Molecular Biology, University of Edinburgh, Daniel Rutherford Building, Mayfield Road, Edinburgh EH9 3JH, UK. Tel: 0131 650 5329. Fax: 0131 650 5392.

Edinburgh Journal of Botany is an international journal of plant systematics and related aspects of biodiversity and conservation science. Contributions relating to plant systematics and allied subjects, including biodiversity, conservation science and phytogeography, will be considered. Papers reporting the results of research that links traditional and modern techniques are especially welcomed. Both full length papers and short communications (i.e. usually no more than two printed pages) are acceptable. All manuscripts will be subject to multiple peer review before publication. Submitted manuscripts should not have been accepted for publication or be under consideration elsewhere.

Manuscripts should be sent in triplicate to: The Editorial Office (Edinburgh Journal of Botany), Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR, UK.

There are **no page charges**. 25 **offprints** will be supplied free of charge. Further offprints may be purchased through the publisher (e.g. 25 copies of 1–4 pages = £20.50; 50 copies of 9–16 pages = £57.50). No offprints will be available for Short Communications. **Colour plates** may be included but these will be charged to the author: £500 and £550 for half and full page respectively. Halftone plates are free of charge.

Manuscripts should be typewritten using double spacing throughout (including references, tables and legends) with wide margins. All pages should be numbered serially, with the title and abstract on the first. Species names should be italicised (or underlined) and should be followed by the authority when first used in the main text. SI (metric) units must be used other than in specimen citations where appropriate. The editors reserve the right to decide that a paper may be treated as a Short Communication.

The title page should include the title, the name(s) and address(es) of the author(s), the abstract, a short running title and up to five keywords (other than those appearing in the title). Authors of scientific names should not be included in the title unless there is good reason. It will be assumed that correspondence and requests for offprints should be addressed to the first author unless otherwise indicated. The Abstract should be concise, informative and intelligible without reference to the main text.

Within the main text, **author abbreviations** should follow: BRUMMITT, R. K. & POWELL, C. E. (eds) (1992). *Authors of Plant Names*. Kew: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; KIRK, P. M. & ANSELL, A. E. (1992). *Authors of Fungal Names* [Index to Fungi Supplement]. Wallingford: CAB International.

Abbreviations for herbaria should follow: HOLMGREN, P. K., HOLMGREN, N. H. & BARNETT, L. C. (eds) (1990). *Index Herbariorum. Part I: The Herbaria of the World* [Regnum Veg. vol. 120]. New York: New York Botanical Garden.

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Abbreviations for book titles should follow: STAFLEU, F. A. & COWAN, R. S. (eds) (1976–88). *Taxonomic Literature*. 2nd edition. 7 vols [Regnum Veg. vols 94, 98, 105, 110, 112, 115, 116]; STAFLEU, F. A. & MENNEGA, E. A. (eds) (1992–). *Taxonomic Literature*. Supplements [Regnum Veg. vols 125, 130, 132], except that all abbreviated words should be capitalized, e.g. Sp. Pl. not Sp. pl.

References in the text should be cited by author and publication date: (Long, 1994) or 'as stated by Long (1994)'. Multiple references should be arranged chronologically. For three or more authors use *et al.*

In the **reference list**, references should be typed in alphabetical order and should appear in the following style:

JONG, K. (1993). Variation in chromosome number in the Manuleae and its cytotaxonomic implications. *Edinb. J. Bot.* 50: 365–379.

MABBERLEY, D. J. (1987). *The Plant-Book. A Portable Dictionary of the Higher Plants*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

ENDLER, J. A. (1982). Pleistocene forest refuges: Fact or fancy? In: PRANCE, G. T. (ed.) *Biological Diversification in the Tropics*, pp. 641–657. New York: Plenum Press.

Tables should be numbered in arabic numerals and each should carry a descriptive title above. Each table should be typed on a separate page. The places for insertion of tables in the text should be clearly marked in the margin.

Figures, whether line drawings or photographs, should be numbered consecutively in arabic numerals and referred to in the text thus: (Fig. 1), (Figs 2, 3), (Figs 1–4). Each figure should be marked on the reverse with the author's name and the figure number. Line drawings and diagrams should be submitted on stout white paper or tracing paper and should allow for one third reduction. A measured scale mark should be included on each illustration to indicate magnification. The places for insertion of figures in the text should be clearly marked in the margin. The page area for figures is 12.5 × 19.5cm to include caption.

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The cover illustration, drawn by Mary Bates, is of the diminutive alpine plant *Sibbaldia procumbens*, named in honour of one of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh's founders Robert Sibbald. This plant is used, in a stylised form, as the Garden's official logo.

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