

Ross, J. G. vi 1967: Ağrı, Bitlis, Erzincan, Erzurum, Siirt, Van.

Runemark, H., Snogerup, S, et al. 1958: Islands (Ikaria, etc.); 1962: Aydin, Islands (Rodhos, Samos, etc.). LD.

Schultz, M. G. 1967: Turkey. E [c. 200 specimens].

Sorger, F. 1966: Denizli, İçel, Isparta, etc.; 1967: Antalya, Eskişehir, Isparta, etc. Hb. Sorger, Linz.

Stileman, R. vii-viii 1966: Bitlis (Süphandağ). E [c. 60 specimens].

Tobey, C. vi 1967: Erzurum, Gümüşane, Trabzon; viii 1967: Sivas (Yıldız Dağ). E.

Tong, M. 1966: Bitlis, etc. E [c. 520 specimens].

Williams, L. L. Summer 1964: Adana, Maraş (Süleymanli), etc. K.

Winter, J. M. vii 1961, vii 1962: Ağrı, Erzurum, etc.

Collections were also made in transit through Turkey by J. Archibald (1966), J. Lamond (1965), D. Walton (1967), (specimens all at E), and by K. H. Rechinger (1965), w.

BOOK REVIEW

An agaricologist's God-send. Very rarely is a publication produced today which covers upwards of seven hundred pages of long awaited facts and is yet divorced from nomenclatorial argument and phylogenetic speculation. Such a book* has been produced for workers in the higher fungi consisting of descriptions of the type species of all agaric genera. The genera are arranged alphabetically in three groups: i) Verzeichnis der "gültigen" Gattungen; ii) Verzeichnis der synonymen Gattungen; iii) Verzeichnis der "ungültigen" bzw. incertae sedis gestellten Gattungen. The type species of each genus is clearly and accurately described both macroscopically and microscopically as fully as existing type material or substitute material allows and the original diagnosis permits. A standardised scheme has been adopted for the descriptions which allows easy comparison one genus to another; in parts i and ii the descriptions are accompanied in the main by line-drawings of fruit-body, basidia, basidiospores, cystidia and hyphae of the hymenophroral trama and pileus cuticle.

* Synopsis generum Agaricalium (Die Gattungstypen der Agaricales) by E. Horak Beiträge zur Kryptogamenflora der Schweiz, Band XIII. Webern-Bern, Kommissions-verlag Druckerei Büchler + Co AG, 1968. pp. 741, illustrated with line drawings. Price Fr. 60 (Swiss).

A most useful addition to the descriptions is the reproduction of the original diagnosis of the genus and type species as it appeared in the original publication either in latin or in the language of the publication, thus bringing together under one cover diagnoses some of which require considerable searching for in the literature and others which are extremely difficult to obtain. The descriptions are introduced by way of an explanation of the aims and plan of the book followed by a set of keys for the determination of agaric genera but defined by their type species only; the set of keys is primarily based on spore-print colour and is supported by two supplementary keys based on characters other than spore-print colour, particularly the presence or absence of a germ-pore in the basidiospore. The aims of the publication are to provide in a single work an authentic description of the type species of all the genera of Agaricales free from as much personal systematic comment and evolutionary discussion as possible. Thus it is complementary to the works of Donk and Singer; indeed Horak gives full acknowledgment to both these workers for because of them Horak's way was partially paved and simplified by the fact that he had been freed from the wrangles of nomenclatorial disagreement. In his aim the author has been completely successful and there is no doubt the publication will have a long and invaluable working life.

The descriptions are followed by an extensive bibliography over and above the reference to major works which have been added when necessary at the end of the generic entries. These entries will be of very great use.

From a nomenclatorial aspect the reader will find that the interpretation of *Armillaria* (type species *Agaricus luteovirens* and not *A. melleus*) is at variance with current British usage. Also, *Naucoria* is typified by *Agaricus centunculus* and not *A. escharoides*, and thus covers *Simocybe* in the sense of the reviewer; *Simocybe* on the other hand is typified by *Agaricus lugubris* thus synonymising Heim's genus *Phaeocollybia* with it; this is unfortunate and not necessarily true from the facts available, and a minor difference between Horak and the reviewer. The acceptance of *Rhodophyllus* over *Entoloma* is however quite wrong even if, and there is some doubt about this, all rhodophylli are to be included therein. Seeing the descriptions of *Hypsizygus*, *Pleurotellus*, *Phylloporus*, *Panus*, *Panellus* etc.—that is the *Pleurotaceae* of the New Check List of British Agarics & Boleti (1960)—one is again led to the conclusion that the family as conceived by Dennis *et al.* is heterogeneous. However, it must be pointed out that *Panellus* has already been conserved with quite a different type to that selected by Horak; this makes the use of *Lentinopanus* unnecessary. But these are all minor points when the work is taken as a whole and it is gratifying to report how stable thought has been in the genera of the Agaricales over the last twenty years.

Where it has been necessary to select types for agaric genera it is pleasing to note that there is considerable agreement between Donk, Singer and Horak. It is hoped that because Horak has now supplied accurate descriptions to these types the arguments for their retention as lectotypes (e.g. *Boletus edulis*) will be fortified and thus ensure that they are less likely to be replaced in the future by less familiar species based on more tenuous argument.

It is very unfortunate that the binding and paper are not of the same quality as the work therein; this is a little depressing for it is certain that the publication will be constantly consulted.

Secretan, Fayod and Favre are acknowledged at the beginning of the book and we can now justifiably add the name of E. Horak to this group of distinguished mycologists. Many readers will never appreciate the work involved in locating and obtaining the vast amount of material from herbaria throughout the world necessary for this publication, let alone the patience required to examine it. It will, however, show to the sceptical that herbarium material can supply valuable information to the mycologist and often is of untold value; some of the specimens that Horak had to examine were in a poor state of preservation and dated back well into the nineteenth century.

ROY WATLING