

Plants of Central Asia; Plant Collections from China and Mongolia Volume 5: Verbenaceae–Scrophulariaceae by V. I. Grubov, L. I. Ivanina, and O. V. Tscherneva. 2002. 241 pp. ISBN 1-57808-116-5. \$89.00 (hbk). Science Publishers, PO Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748; < <http://www.scipub.net> > .

Plants of Central Asia; Plant Collections from China and Mongolia Volume 6: Equisetaceae–Butomaceae, Bibliography (Supplement 1) by V. I. Grubov, A. E. Matzenko, and M. G. Pachomova. 2002. 87 pp. ISBN 1-57808-117-3. \$55.00 (hbk). Science Publishers, PO Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748; < <http://www.scipub.net> > .

Sida, Botanical Miscellany 22—Lloyd Herbert Shinnery: By Himself by Ruth Ginsburg. 2002. 183 pp. ISBN 1-889878-10-3. \$28.00 (pbk). Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Ft. Worth, TX 76102-4060; < <http://www.brit.org> > .

Sida, Botanical Miscellany 23—Taxonomy, Distribution, and Ecology of the Genus Phaseolus (Leguminosae–Papilionoideae) in North America, Mexico, and Central America by George F. Freytag and Daniel G. Debouck. 2002. 298 pp. ISBN 1-889878-11-1. \$40.00 (pbk). Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Ft. Worth, TX 76102-4060; < <http://www.brit.org> > .

Sida, Botanical Miscellany 24—Atlas of the Vascular Plants of Texas, Volume 1: Dicots; Volume 2: Monocots, Ferns, Gymnosperms by B.L. Turner, Holly Nichols, Geoffrey Denny, and Oded Doron. 2003. 648 pp. (Vol. 1), 240 pp (Vol. 2). \$50.00 (Vol. 1, pbk), \$40.00 (Vol. 2, pbk), \$80.00 the set. ISBN 1-889878-08-1 (Vol. 1), 1-889878-09-X (Vol. 2). Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Ft. Worth, TX 76102-4060; < <http://www.brit.org> > .

Tarweeds and Silverswords: Evolution of the Madiinae (Asteraceae) by Sherwin Carlquist, Bruce G. Baldwin, and Gerald D. Carr (eds.). 2003. 294 pp. ISBN 1-930723-20-2. \$29.95 (pbk). Missouri Botanical Garden Press, PO Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299; < <http://www.mobot.org> > .

Vascular Plants of the Russian Far East Volume 1: Lycopodiophyta, Juncaceae, Poaceae (Gramineae) by N. N. Tzvelev. 2003. 506 pp. ISBN 1-57808-290-0. \$165.00 (hbk). Science Publishers, PO Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748; < <http://www.scipub.net> > .

Weeds in My Garden, Observations on Some Misunderstood Plants by Charles B. Heiser. 2003. 247 pp. ISBN 0-88192-292-4. \$22.95 (hbk). Timber Press, 133 S.W. Second Avenue, Suite 450, Portland, OR 97204-3527; < <http://www.timberpress.com> > .

NEW WEB SITES

There are many links on other Web sites (start with <http://www.csdl.tamu.edu/FLORA/tfp/tfplinks.html>) to pages that have information applicable to plant taxonomy. On this current page, we will add new sites as they come to our attention. If you have a new or revised Web site that may be of interest to the membership of ASPT, please send the URL address to the editor of the newsletter. This section is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all sites useful to plant taxonomists.

New Web Site for the Center for Plant Conservation.

The Center for Plant Conservation has a new Web site at < <http://www.centerforplantconservation.org> > . The Center for Plant Conservation (CPC) is dedicated solely to preventing the extinction of U.S. native plants. The center was one of the first organizations created to meet this need. The center is a network of more than 30 leading botanic institutions and operates the only coordinated national program of off-site (ex situ) conservation of rare plant material. This conservation collection ensures that material is available for restoration and recovery efforts for these species. The center also works in research, restoration, technical assistance, education, and advocacy through the efforts of the network and the national office.

Information about the concept of **Biodiversity Hotspots** is available at < <http://www.biodiversityhotspots.org/xp/Hotspots> > . In a world where conservation budgets are insufficient given the number of species threatened with extinction, identifying conservation priorities is crucial. British ecologist Norman Myers defined the biodiversity hotspot concept in 1988 to address the dilemma that conservationists face: what areas are the most important for preserving species? Two factors are considered for hotspot designation. Hotspots are regions that harbor a great diversity of endemic species and, at the same time, have been significantly impacted and altered by human activities. Plant diversity is the biological basis for hotspot designation; to qualify as a hotspot, a region must support 1,500 endemic plant species, 0.5 percent of the global total. Existing primary vegetation is the basis for assessing human impact in a region; to qualify as a hotspot, a region must have lost more than 70 percent of its original habitat. Plants have been used as qualifiers because they are the basis for diversity in other taxonomic groups and are well known to researchers. Typically, the diversity of endemic vertebrates in hotspot regions is also extraordinarily high. The hotspot concept targets regions where the threat is greatest to the greatest number of species and allows conservationists to focus cost-effective efforts there. The 25 biodiversity hotspots contain 44 percent of all plant species and 35 percent of all terrestrial vertebrate species in only 1.4 percent of the planet's land area.

On-line Articles of Plant Talk. Selected articles that have appeared in *Plant Talk*, are now available on-line. *Plant Talk* is a magazine that provides—on a world scale—information, encouragement, and advice on plant conservation; it is also the *Bulletin of the National Tropical Botanical Garden*. The Web site for the articles

