

Buchbesprechungen / Book reviews

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Erratum

The book reviews published in Willdenowia 42: 143–144, 2012 on McPherson & al., *Sarraceniaceae* of South America and McPherson & Schnell, *Sarraceniaceae* of North America are authored by Nils Köster, Berlin, BGBM. The editor apologizes to this author and the readers that his name was inadvertently deleted during editing.

Baldwin B. G., Goldman D. H., Keil D. J., Patterson R., Rosatti T. J. & Wilken D. H.: *The Jepson Manual: Vascular Plants of California*, Second Edition. – Berkeley: University of California Press, 2012. – ISBN 978-0-5202531-2-4. – xxii + 1568 p., numerous figures (including 272 line drawing plates); hardcover or e-book. – Price: EUR 102.99.

Eighty-seven years after publication of Willis Linn Jepson's *Manual of the Flowering Plants of California* and nearly twenty years after *The Jepson Manual: Higher Plants of California* edited by James C. Hickman (1993), a second edition of the latter was published under a slightly modified title, available both as print edition and e-book. A team of six editors and far more than 300 authors contributed in an international collaboration to this revised and expanded edition of the authoritative field guide for the botanically richest part of the United States. Comprising 7600 species, subspecies, and varieties, the new edition recognizes about 340 more taxa compared to the first edition. Interestingly, this increase refers mainly to the 6500 native taxa (about 310 more) and to a much lesser extent to the 1100 naturalized taxa (about 30 more). Besides new species records for the area and taxonomic changes increasing the total number of recognized taxa, intensive field and herbarium work on the Californian flora resulted in the description of about 150 new taxa since 1993.

Nearly two-thirds of the taxa (i.e. over 4800) are illustrated with magnificent line drawings arranged in 272 plates (compared to 242 in the first edition). For many taxa, distinctly more ecological information on habitat, range, and phenology is given, along with practical in-

formation as horticultural requirements, endangerment, toxicity, and weed status. Together with the inclusion of a new chapter on geologic, climatic and vegetation history of the area, these additions increased the number of pages by nearly 170. To avoid an even higher increment in the number of pages and to maintain *The Jepson Manual* as a field-portable flora, some new space-saving conventions were applied to the already abbreviation-rich format of the first edition. Most importantly, this includes about 100 additional technical terms shortening the morphological descriptions of the taxa. As a matter of course, these terms are clearly explained in the glossary, and for the regular user it should be easy to become rapidly familiar with the slightly modified format. In general, the structure and layout of the manual were largely maintained, avoiding unnecessary confusion of the accustomed reader who has been using *The Jepson Manual* for many years. Only the systematic arrangement largely changed, integrating the latest findings of phylogenetic studies and being probably the most fundamental modification in the new edition. Following the criterion of monophyly, these advances in systematics also resulted in many name changes for taxonomic reasons, complemented by a number of renamings due to nomenclatural matters.

The Jepson Manual continues to convince its users through the tried and tested combination of detailed diagnostic illustrations and – now further improved – identification keys. However, as Willis Linn Jepson himself emphasized many decades ago, a floristic work is never truly complete and final. Therefore, the print manual is linked to associated electronic resources as specimen data from Californian herbaria and, maybe most remarkably, the *Jepson eFlora*. This open-access online flora currently parallels the print edition but is expected to develop constantly further as knowledge in the field advances. And even the present print edition itself already benefited from the electronic features: treatments had been posted on the Jepson Herbarium website well prior to publication, allowing for many helpful checks and resulting comments by botanists all over the world. For all these reasons much more than just a simple update, the second edition of *The Jepson Manual* is again a must-have for everybody interested in the vascular plants of California – the professional and the amateur alike.

Nils Köster (Berlin, BGBM)

Lambinon J. & Verloove F.: Nouvelle flore de la Belgique, du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg, du nord de la France et des régions voisines (Ptéridophytes et Spermatophytes), ed. 6. – Meise: Edition du Jardin Botanique National de Belgique, 2012. – ISBN 978-9-0726198-8-4. – cxxxix + 1195 p.; Harteinband. – Preis: EUR 47,50.

Acht Jahre nach der letzten und 39 Jahre nach der ersten Auflage liegt diese wichtige europäische Flora in einer neuen Version vor. Am Rande sei noch erwähnt, dass es parallel zu der französischsprachigen Edition drei niederländische Übersetzungen gegeben hat. Die „Nouvelle Flore“ zählt somit zusammen mit den vergleichbaren Bestimmungswerken von den Britischen Inseln, aus den Niederlanden, der Schweiz und Deutschland zu den am häufigsten überarbeiteten und offenbar auch am besten nachgefragten Taschenflora Europas. Von fast allen Florenwerken des Kontinents unterscheidet sich die Flora immer noch vor allem durch den naturräumlichen Ansatz. Sie behandelt auch weiterhin nicht nur die kompletten Staatsgebiete von Belgien und Luxemburg, sondern fast zur Gänze diejenigen Großnaturräume, die sich bis jenseits der Grenzen erstrecken. Der Bezugsraum reicht also weit bis in das Pariser Becken, umfasst den kompletten Süden der Niederlande und einen breiten Streifen des westlichsten Deutschlands vom Niederrheingebiet über die Eifel bis in das westliche Saarland.

Zu Jacques Lambinon, der von Beginn an alle Auflagen mitbearbeitete, gesellte sich erstmals Filip Verloove als Hauptautor. Zahlreiche weitere Botaniker steuerten Daten und Bearbeitungen von Teilaspekten bei. Die Neuauflage berücksichtigt vor allem die Ergebnisse der fortschreitenden floristischen Kartierung in Belgien und seinen Nachbarregionen. Die in Belgien in den letzten Jahren sehr forcierte Forschung an Neophyten findet in der Neuaufnahme zahlreicher Sippen ihren Niederschlag. Viele sind in die Schlüssel integriert, andere in Anmerkungen abgehandelt, viele nur kurz aufgelistet. Allerdings werden bei einigen Gattungen wie *Cotoneaster* nur enttäuschend wenige Sippen verschlüsselt, in diesem konkreten Fall lediglich eine fremdländische Art. Hingegen werden erfreulich viele Varietäten verschlüsselt oder zumindest kommentiert, was zeigt, dass „Hochkombinationen“ zu Unterarten oder Arten unnötig sind, um die Beachtung von Sippen in Checklisten und Floren zu erzwingen. Auf der anderen Seite macht die Flora nahezu exzessiven Gebrauch der Rangstufe Subspezies, wenn man sie mit allen in jüngster Zeit erschienenen Floren und Checklisten West-, Mittel- und Nordeuropas vergleicht. Die Liste ist lang, und es seien *Arabis hirsuta*, *Lamium galeobdolon* und *Veronica anagallis-aquatica* beispielhaft als sehr weit gefasste Arten genannt. Ein Gegenbeispiel stellt der in Arten zergliederte Verwandtschaftskreis um *Hypericum maculatum* dar. Insgesamt präsentieren sich die dargebotenen Informationen sehr umfangreich, ein Beispiel: *Salicornia* mit drei akzeptierten Sippen wird inklusive Abbildungen auf knapp vier

engbedruckten, anmerksungsreichen Seiten abgehandelt; im deutschen Pendant, dem Rothmalers, muss sich die Gattung (vier Sippen) mit knapp einer Seite bescheiden.

Zu einer Übernahme der APG-Systematik haben sich die Autoren noch nicht durchringen können. Das ist verständlich, da nicht nur einige Umbenennungen und Umsortierungen erforderlich sind, sondern eine beachtliche Zahl von Schlüsseln komplett umkonstruiert werden müssen. Die Klassifikationen werden jedoch in einer tabellarischen Übersicht vergleichend dargestellt. Die Flora ist also vermutlich eine Übergangsausgabe, da die großsystematischen Umbrüche einer späteren Ausgabe vorbehalten bleiben müssen – im Abschlusskapitel der Einleitung deuten die Autoren es selbst an. Auch bei einigen Gattungen und Artengruppen wären Aktualisierungen, teils gar nicht mehr so neuer Forschung wünschenswert (z. B. *Torilis arvensis*, *Lithospermum* s.l., *Thlaspi* s.l.), da die Ergebnisse konsolidiert erscheinen.

Die Flora ist inzwischen rund 5,5 cm dick und auch vom Gewicht her fast schon zu schwer für eine Geländeflora. Dieser Trend lässt sich jedoch auch in anderen europäischen Ländern beobachten. Es sind fast immer neu auftretende Neophyten, die die Zuwächse erzwingen. Das Dilemma zwischen Vollständigkeitsanspruch und Geländegängigkeit von Taschenflora zu lösen, wird auch in Zukunft für Florenschreiber keine leichte Aufgabe bleiben. Für Belgien wird der Online-Katalog zu Neophyten (mit Bestimmungshilfen) jedoch für eine gewisse Entspannung sorgen.

Die Neuauflage ist nicht nur als Bestimmungsflora für weite Teile West- und Mitteleuropas sehr zu empfehlen. Die ausführlichen Kommentare zu kritischen Sippen, die Berücksichtigung zahlreicher sonst kaum in Floren erwähnter Neophyten und infraspezifischer Sippen, bei einigen Taxa auch wenig beachtete Unterscheidungsmerkmale machen das Werk auch zu einer Fundgrube für europäische Geländebotaniker, Taxonomen und Florenschreiber.

Ralf Hand (Berlin, BGBM)

Seitz B., Ristow M., Prasse R., Machatzi B., Klemm G., Böcker R. & Sukopp H.: Der Berliner Florenatlas. – Verhandlungen des Botanischen Vereins von Berlin und Brandenburg, Beihefte 7. 2012. – ISBN: 978-3-942062-08-4. – 533 p., 1900 col. maps + col. phot.; hardcover. – Price: EUR 27.00.

Times when botany focused on “genuine” natural environments are long behind us. In the 1970s, ecologists also began to turn their interest towards ecological interactions taking place in, and caused by, urban environments. In the past decades, distribution atlases, floras and/or plant lists for numerous European and extra-European cities (large as well as small) were published, for instance for Amsterdam, Brussels, Kiev, London, Rome, Zurich, etc. The city of Berlin has always played, from the very beginning, an important role in studies on urban ecology,

mostly thanks to Herbert Sukopp, one of the pioneers of urban ecology. However, a distribution atlas for vascular plants in the Berlin area was not available, until now.

After about 25 years of gathering data (new as well as historical) a distribution atlas for the vascular flora of the Berlin area is presented. In a concise introduction, general information on the study area is provided (geology, climate, etc.), followed by an overview of the history of botany in Berlin (with Paul Ascherson as one of the important founding fathers). Attention is also paid to “Red List” species and conservation in general. Materials and methods are briefly explained.

Altogether 2495 taxa are dealt with, 1900 of which have distribution maps (alphabetically arranged). A further 528 taxa are very rare or ephemeral aliens and are merely listed (p. 55–60). In most cases the distribution maps speak for themselves, but for several hundred taxa (species, species groups, infraspecific taxa, genera, etc.) additional interesting information is provided, mostly referring to complex taxonomy, poorly understood taxa, insufficiently studied taxa, etc. (p. 63–95). The main part of the book, however, logically is the distribution atlas itself (p. 97–489, including a short explanatory introduction: abbreviations, symbols, etc.). An overview of literature cited and an alphabetical index with both Latin and German names are found at the end of the book.

The “Berliner Florenatlas” surely is an attractive book: it is tastefully and sometimes even artfully illustrated (an overview of all photos is provided on p. 504–507) and the distribution maps are in full colour. Taxonomy and nomenclature are up-to-date and in accordance with the “Florenliste von Deutschland” (Buttler K.-P. & Thieme M. 2011: Florenliste von Deutschland – Gefäßpflanzen. Version 3.) and/or the latest edition of Rothmaler’s Flora (Jäger E. J. 2011: Exkursionsflora von Deutschland. Gefäßpflanzen. München: Springer Spektrum). The genus *Thlaspi*, for instance, is broken up in several smaller genera (*Microthlaspi*, *Noccaea* and *Thlaspi* s.str.), *Solanum decipiens* and *Veronica sublobata* are accepted at species rank while they are perhaps better known at a lower taxonomic rank (respectively as *Solanum nigrum* subsp. *schultesii* and *Veronica hederifolia* subsp. *lucorum*), *V. maritima* replaces the more commonly known *V. longifolia*, the genera *Dasiphora* and *Symphyotrichum* are accepted (as segregates of *Potentilla* and *Aster* respectively), etc. In most cases this nomenclature is in accordance with molecular studies and will become / have become widely accepted. The name *Solanum cornutum*, however, is here applied in a wrong sense and should have been

replaced by *S. rostratum*. As a rule, the authors obviously are well aware of current challenges in particular species groups and they have either studied these more closely or intend to do so in the future (e.g. *Buglossoides arvensis* group, *Erigeron acris* group, etc.). For several taxonomically difficult genera specialist help was acknowledged: G. Gottschlich identified many species of *Hieracium* and *Pilosella*, I. Belyaeva did so for some species of *Salix*, K. Van de Weyer for *Potamogeton*, etc.

A major problem in plant distribution studies these days is the heterogeneity of the data. As a result of a booming horticultural trade, an increasing number of species is escaping. When originally native species are involved, the interpretation of data becomes highly complicated. Yet, it is essential for conservation management purposes to maintain this distinction between original (“wild”) and secondary (“escaped”) populations. The authors therefore developed a rather complex set of 20 (!) different symbols combining residence status (ranging from native to ephemeral alien) and time (the darker the symbol, the more recent the population). This enables one, in many cases, to clearly distinguish between wild and escaped populations. However, in lots of other cases the authors admit that it has become impossible to make this distinction (e.g. *Butomus umbellatus*, *Viburnum opulus*).

Despite the urban character of the study area and the high degree of human influence, the flora of the Berlin area is surprisingly rich, not only in terms of number of species (including, of course, many alien species) but also in the number of rarities. A list with species of interest (“Zielarten”) comprises about 230 taxa (p. 31–33) some of which are critically endangered in large parts of Europe!

The publication of this distribution atlas for the Berlin area inevitably is a mere reflection of the current state of knowledge. In many species groups additional investigations and a better general understanding are required. The authors themselves refer to, for instance, the *Leucanthemum vulgare* group, the *Lamium argentatum* group, the *Valeriana officinalis* group, the genera *Parthenocissus* and *Symphyotrichum*, etc. These (and doubtlessly many other) taxonomically complex groups combined with the ever-changing flora of a (sub-)urban area clearly constitute excellent challenges for the authors to proceed their excellent work.

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