

Preface to Volume Two of the Second Edition of *Bergey's Manual® of Systematic Bacteriology*

There is a long-standing tradition for the Editors of *Bergey's Manual* to open their respective editions with the observation that the new edition is a departure from the earlier ones. As this volume goes to press, however, we recognize a need to deviate from this practice, by offering a separate preface to each volume within this edition. In part, this departure is necessary because the size and complexity of this edition far exceeded our expectations, as has the amount of time that has elapsed between publication of the first volume of this edition and this volume.

Earlier, we noted that systematic procaryotic biology is a dynamic field, driven by constant theoretical and methodological advances that will ultimately lead to a more perfect and useful classification scheme. Clearly, the pace has been accelerating as evidenced in the super-linear rate at which new taxa are being described. Much of the increase can be attributed to rapid advances in sequencing technology, which has brought about a major shift in how we view the relationships among *Bacteria* and *Archaea*. While the possibility of a universally applicable natural classification was evident as the First Edition was in preparation, it is only recently that the sequence databases became large enough, and the taxonomic coverage broad enough to make such an arrangement feasible. We have relied heavily upon these data in organizing the contents of this edition of *Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology*, which will follow a phylogenetic framework based on analysis of the nucleotide sequence of the small ribosomal subunit RNA, rather than a phenotypic structure. This departs from the First Edition, as well as the Eighth and Ninth Editions of the *Determinative Manual*. While the rationale for presenting the content of this edition in such a manner should be evident to most readers, they should bear in mind that this edition, as in all preceding ones represents a progress report, rather than a final classification of procaryotes.

The Editors remind the readers that the *Systematics Manual* is a peer-reviewed collection of chapters, contributed by authors who were invited by the Trust to share their knowledge and expertise of specific taxa. Citation should refer to the author, the chapter title, and inclusive pages rather than to the Editors. The Trust is indebted to all of the contributors and reviewers, without whom this work would not be possible. The Editors are grateful for the time and effort that each expended on behalf of the entire scientific community. We also thank the authors for their good grace in accepting comments, criticisms, and editing of

their manuscripts. We would also like to thank Drs. Hans Trüper, Brian Tindall, and Jean Euzéby for their assistance on matters of nomenclature and etymology.

We would like to express our thanks to the Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics at Michigan State University for housing our headquarters and editorial office and for providing a congenial and supportive environment for microbial systematics. We would also like to thank Connie Williams not only for her expert secretarial assistance, but also for unflagging dedication to the mission of Bergey's Manual Trust and Drs. Julia Bell and Denise Searles for their expert editorial assistance and diligence in verifying countless pieces of critical information and to Dr. Timothy G. Lilburn for constructing many of the phylogenetic trees used in this volume. We also extend our thanks to Alissa Wesche, Matt Chval and Kristen Johnson for their assistance in compilation of the bibliography.

A project such as the *Systematics Manual* also requires the strong and continued support of a dedicated publisher, and we have been most fortunate in this regard. We would also like to express our gratitude to Springer-Verlag for supporting our efforts and for the development of the Bergey's Document Type Definition (DTD). We would especially like to thank our Executive Editor, Dr. William Curtis for his courage, patience, understanding, and support; Catherine Lyons for her expertise in designing and developing our DTD, and Jeri Lambert and Leslie Grossberg of Impressions Book and Journal Services for their efforts during the pre-production and production phases. We would also like to acknowledge the support of ArborText, Inc., for providing us with state-of-the-art SGML development and editing tools at reduced cost. Lastly, I would like to express my personal thanks to my fellow trustees for providing me with the opportunity to participate in this effort, to Drs. Don Brenner, Noel Krieg, and James Staley for their enormous efforts as volume editors and to my wife, Nancy, and daughter, Jane, for their continued patience, tolerance and support.

Comments on this edition are welcomed and should be directed to Bergey's Manual Trust, Department of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, 6162 Biomedical and Physical Sciences Building, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA 48824-4320. Email: garrity@msu.edu

George M. Garrity

Preface to the First Edition of *Bergey's Manual*[®] of *Systematic Bacteriology*

Many microbiologists advised the Trust that a new edition of the *Manual* was urgently needed. Of great concern to us was the steadily increasing time interval between editions; this interval reached a maximum of 17 years between the seventh and eighth editions. To be useful the *Manual* must reflect relatively recent information; a new edition is soon dated or obsolete in parts because of the nearly exponential rate at which new information accumulates. A new approach to publication was needed, and from this conviction came our plan to publish the *Manual* as a sequence of four subvolumes concerned with systematic bacteriology as it applies to taxonomy. The four subvolumes are divided roughly as follows: (a) the Gram-negatives of general, medical or industrial importance; (b) the Gram-positives other than actinomycetes; (c) the archaeobacteria, cyanobacteria and remaining Gram-negatives; and (d) the actinomycetes. The Trust believed that more attention and care could be given to preparation of the various descriptions within each subvolume, and also that each subvolume could be prepared, published, and revised as the area demanded, more rapidly than could be the case if the *Manual* were to remain as a single, comprehensive volume as in the past. Moreover, microbiologists would have the option of purchasing only that particular subvolume containing the organisms in which they were interested.

The Trust also believed that the scope of the *Manual* needed to be expanded to include more information of importance for systematic bacteriology and bring together information dealing with ecology, enrichment and isolation, descriptions of species and their determinative characters, maintenance and preservation, all focused on the illumination of bacterial taxonomy. To reflect this change in scope, the title of the *Manual* was changed and the primary publication becomes *Bergey's Manual of Systematic Bacteriology*. This contains not only determinative material such as diagnostic keys and tables useful for identification, but also all of the detailed descriptive information and taxonomic comments. Upon completion of each subvolume, the purely determinative information will be assembled for eventual incorporation into a much smaller publication which will continue the original name of the *Manual*, *Bergey's Manual of Determinative Bacteriology*, which will be a similar but improved version of the present *Shorter Bergey's Manual*. So, in the end there will be two publications, one systematic and one determinative in character.

An important task of the Trust was to decide which genera should be covered in the first and subsequent subvolumes. We were assisted in this decision by the recommendations of our Advisory Committees, composed of prominent taxonomic au-

thorities to whom we are most grateful. Authors were chosen on the basis of constant surveillance of the literature of bacterial systematics and by recommendations from our Advisory Committees.

The activation of the 1976 Code had introduced some novel problems. We decided to include not only those genera that had been published in the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names in January 1980 or that had been subsequently validly published, but also certain genera whose names had no current standing in nomenclature. We also decided to include descriptions of certain organisms which had no formal taxonomic nomenclature, such as the endosymbionts of insects. Our goal was to omit no important group of cultivated bacteria and also to stimulate taxonomic research on "neglected" groups and on some groups of undoubted bacteria that have not yet been cultivated and subjected to conventional studies.

The invited authors were provided with instructions and exemplary chapters in June 1980 and, although the intended deadline for receipt of manuscripts was March 1981, all contributions were assembled in January 1982 for the final preparations. The *Manual* was forwarded to the publisher in June 1982.

Some readers will note the consistent use of the stem -var instead of -type in words such as biovar, serovar and pathovar. This is in keeping with the recommendations of the Bacteriological Code and was done against the wishes of some of the authors.

We have deleted much of the synonymy of scientific names which was contained in past editions. The adoption of the new starting date of January 1, 1980 and publication of the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names has made mention of past synonymy obsolete. We have included synonyms of a name only if they have been published since the new starting date, or if they were also on the Approved Lists and, in rare cases with certain pathogens, if the mention of an old name would help readers associate the organism with a clinical problem. If the reader is interested in tracing the history of a name we suggest he or she consult past editions of the *Manual* or the *Index Bergeyana* and its *Supplement*. In citations of names we have used the abbreviation AL to denote the inclusion of the name on the Approved Lists of Bacterial Names and VP to show the name has been validly published.

In the matter of citation of the *Manual* in the scientific literature we again stress the fact that the *Manual* is a collection of authored chapters and the citation should refer to the author, the chapter title and its inclusive pages, not the Editor.

To all contributors, the sincere thanks of the Trust is due; the Editor is especially grateful for the good grace with which the authors accepted comments, criticisms and editing of their manuscripts. It is only because of the voluntary and dedicated efforts of these authors that the *Manual* can continue to serve the science of bacteriology on an international basis.

A number of institutions and individuals deserve special acknowledgment from the Trust for their help in bringing about the publication of this volume. We are grateful to the Department of Biology of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University for providing space, facilities and, above all, tolerance for the diverted time taken by the Editor during the preparation of the book. The Department of Microbiology at Iowa State University of Science and Technology continues to provide a welcome home for the main editorial offices and archives of the Trust and we acknowledge their continued support. A grant (LM-03707) from the National Library of Medicine, National

Institutes of Health to assist in the preparation of this and the next volume of the *Manual* is gratefully acknowledged.

A number of individuals deserve special mention and thanks for their help. Professor Thomas O. McAdoo of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University has given invaluable advice on the etymology and correctness of scientific names. Those assisting the Editor in the Blacksburg office were R. Martin Roop II, Don D. Lee, Eileen C. Falk and Michael W. Friedman and their help is sincerely appreciated. In the Ames office we were ably assisted by Gretchen Colletti and Diane Triggs during the early period of preparation and by Cynthia Pease during the major portion of the editing process. Mrs. Pease has been responsible for the construction of the List of References and her willingness to handle the cumbersome details of text editing on a big computer is gratefully acknowledged.

John G. Holt

Preface to the First Edition of *Bergey's Manual*[®] of *Determinative Bacteriology*

The elaborate system of classification of the bacteria into families, tribes and genera by a Committee on Characterization and Classification of the Society of American Bacteriologists (1911, 1920) has made it very desirable to be able to place in the hands of students a more detailed key for the identification of species than any that is available at present. The valuable book on "Determinative Bacteriology" by Professor F. D. Chester, published in 1901, is now of very little assistance to the student, and all previous classifications are of still less value, especially as earlier systems of classification were based entirely on morphologic characters.

It is hoped that this manual will serve to stimulate efforts to perfect the classification of bacteria, especially by emphasizing the valuable features as well as the weaker points in the new system which the Committee of the Society of American Bacteriologists has promulgated. The Committee does not regard the classification of species offered here as in any sense final, but merely a progress report leading to more satisfactory classification in the future.

The Committee desires to express its appreciation and thanks to those members of the society who gave valuable aid in the compilation of material and the classification of certain species. . . .

The assistance of all bacteriologists is earnestly solicited in the correction of possible errors in the text; in the collection of descriptions of all bacteria that may have been omitted from the text; in supplying more detailed descriptions of such organisms as are described incompletely; and in furnishing complete descriptions of new organisms that may be discovered, or in directing the attention of the Committee to publications of such newly described bacteria.

David H. Bergey, *Chairman*
Francis C. Harrison
Robert S. Breed
Bernard W. Hammer
Frank M. Huntoon
Committee on Manual.
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