

Foreword

Some years ago I sent Prof. Kuijt a photograph of a mistletoe of a genus that is endemic to southern Chile and Argentina, and largely restricted to the tree genus *Nothofagus* as its host. Upon this first contact we found out that we shared great love for the forests of austral South America, and with some discretion I could familiarize Dr. Kuijt with the scope and objective of my book series. Throughout his career Dr. Kuijt has made significant contributions to the morphology, biology and systematics of Santalales, which in my opinion made him the born author of Santalales for this book series. Nevertheless, because of the difficulties of the contentious family classification resulting from the apparently insurmountable differences between morphological and molecular data sets, he would have shied from this task had I not helped him to overcome these difficulties by pointing to the goal of the series, which is not so much aiming at a definitive family classification but rather trying to provide a broad factual basis that allows the reader to follow the arguments and form an own concept. I am particularly thankful to Dr. Kuijt who apart from the taxonomic treatment of Santalales has also given broad attention to the phenomenon of parasitism with all its manifestations such as primary haustoria and ramal parasitism, secondary haustoria and root parasitism, and the haustorial connection and tissue continuity between host and parasite, important topics that all have been the subject of Dr. Kuijt's lifelong studies. Thus, it remains for me to express to Dr. Kuijt my deepest gratitude for agreeing to author the present treatment and bringing it to a fortunate end. I am sure that the present volume will be the pride of my entire series!

The treatment of Balanophoraceae is based on a manuscript prepared about 35 years ago by the late Dr. B. Hansen as one of the first contributions to this book series. Unfortunately, the author did not live to see publication of his work but his later publications on the subject allowed me to include further original information both from his papers and also from other sources. Dr. Hansen will be remembered by the lasting imprint he left upon this book series, for which his original draft had served as a kind of starter.

I am also most grateful to the copyright holders who so readily allowed us to reprint in this volume most valuable illustrations published under their responsibility, including the Director and Board of Trustees, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, the Secretary of The Flora Malesiana Foundation, Leiden, the New York Botanical Garden Press, Bronx, New York, and the University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles.

As usual, the present volume has greatly profited from the critical eyes of the copy editor Dr. Monique Delafontaine, to whom I am continually grateful for her dedicated work. Dr. Sabine von Mering deserves my thanks for compiling the index of the volume. I would also like to gratefully acknowledge the agreeable collaboration with Dr. Andrea Schlitzberger from the staff of Springer Verlag, and with SPi Technologies India TvP Limited for type setting and page laying.

Flowering Plants. Eudicots

Santalales, Balanophorales

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2015, X, 213 p. 82 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-09295-9