Thanks to our active members this Newsletter will be filled with various items from job listings to the identification of "oudah". Also notice the 1990-1991 ballot for Board attached to the end of the newsletter. Please detach and return it to the Gail Wagner, the Society Secretary, so results can be tallied and announcements made at the upcoming meeting. The most important news will be the information concerning the upcoming Society conference in Madison, Wisconsin, June 10-13.

ANNUAL MEETING: The 1990 conference will be held June 10-13 in Madison Wisconsin. The Society's local representatives, David Spooner and Hugh Iltis, have arranged outstanding facilities. Several events highlight the meeting: a well planned symposium, stimulating contributed papers, and exciting field trips should entice all of you to participate. Herbert Baker, as the Society's Distinguished Botanist, will address members and guests at the banquet. So, if you haven't stopped reading by now and started searching for your registration sheet, please take the time now and consider presenting a paper. The Society encourages your participation and would be delighted to hear about your research. United Airlines offers a discount to meeting participants.

The Symposium, organized by William Stern and Regis Miller, will focus on the Botany of Forest Products. Papers cover a wide gamut of subject matter and interests and are bring contributed by several of the outstanding scientists at the U.S. Forest Products Laboratory. Included are papers dealing with pulp and paper, biotechnology and wood, international forestry, new products from wood, energy from wood, and naval stores.

The Ethics committee, co-chaired by Christine Padoch and Brian Boom, will sponsor a discussion concerned with some of the major ethical issues facing researchers in economic botany and ethnobotany. Besides the co-chairs, invited participants include, Anna Roosevelt, Arturo Gomez-Pompa, and Jack Kloppenburg. Participants will present their views and then the floor will be open for discussion. It is hoped that an appropriate resolution concerning ethics will emerge from the discussions and be voted on by the members during the business meeting.
ECONOMIC BOTANY CLASSES

Thank you for the eager responses I have received. The following is an updated listing.

Arizona State University
Boulder Graduate School
California Polytechnic, Pomona, California
Chico State, California
College of the Redwoods, Fort Bragg, California
Connecticut College
Cornell University
Humboldt State University
Miami University, Ohio
Middle Tennessee State University
New York Botanical Gardens, Institute of Economic Botany
North Dakota State University
Northern Kentucky University
Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science
Purdue University
Self Heal Herbal Center, Canada
Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Canada
State University College, Oneonta, New York
Southern California College
Texas A&M University
University of Alberta, Canada
University of Auckland, New Zealand
University of British Columbia, Canada
University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
University of California, Los Angeles
Universidad Del Valle, Colombia
University of Florida
University of Hawaii, Manoa, Honolulu
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
University of Massachusetts, Amherst
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
University of Texas, Austin
University of Victoria, Canada
Washington University, St Louis
Yale University

Keep those updates coming. We like to know where our colleagues reside and where students are able to continue their studies. When sending class listings please include syllabi and other relevant class materials including whether the classes are undergraduate or graduate level programs.
SLIDE EXCHANGE

I have received a wonderful list of photographic slides of 343 Indonesian plants. In addition the Center of Research for the Development of Traditional Medicines has slides of mango fruits, pictures of tree latex, photos of the production of "tamu" from soybeans, traditional medicines, circumcision in Java, and photos of salt production from seawater in Bali using coconut trunks.

American Botanical Council would like copies of slides of the historical use of medicinal plants, their address is listed later.

I have been receiving requests and I need slides. Those of you already teaching economic botany classes know the benefits of a good slide presentation. Those of you who are involved in research, especially students, usually have excellent slides and I would hope want to share your research with others. On these cold winter evenings, please take the time to sort your slides or at least send a general list of slides we could copy for a membership exchange. If anyone has suggestions to expedite this exchange or ways to facilitate the program, Please Volunteer. Inexpensive copying is available so once a slide is received many copies will be available.

OLD NEWS

In the SEB Newsletter, Volume III, November 1989 issue under "Ethnobotanews" section page 11, was an article from the Wall Street Journal on "oudah", an aromatic wood burned as incense. Two members have responded with its possible identification. Both agree that it is Aquilaria agallocha Roxb; aloewood or eagle wood, ud l-qmari in Arabic. It was used by the ancient Jews and called "agallochon" by the Greeks and Romans. "The Arabs corrupted this term into Aghalukhi but subsequently adopted the terms Ood (or aud), meaning wood..." Sources used were Bellakdar, Honda, and Miki's Herb, Drugs and Herbalists and Watt's Dictionary of Economic Plants of India. Arthur Tucker, one of the responding members listed oudah in his book Herbs, Spices, and Medicinal Plants; Recent Advances in Botany, Horticulture, and Pharmacology. Volume 2. It is referenced in the chapter, Botanical Nomenclature of Commercial Sources of Essential Oils, Concretes, and Absolutes, p. 217,
JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

A full-time position is available as a research assistant at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. Responsibilities include managing field, greenhouse and laboratory research in the area of new crops; primarily herbs, spices, medicinal plants, and specialty vegetables. Duties include designing field and greenhouse studies, collecting and analyzing data, and coordinating labor. Emphasis of the research program is in the evaluation and introduction of new crops, involving traditional horticultural studies, plus the characterization of natural products, extraction of essential oils, germplasm evaluation and selection, and breeding. Qualifications include MS, experience in conducting field and/or greenhouse research with agronomic or vegetable crops, and knowledge of computers and statistical analysis. Facilities are excellent as are opportunities for creative research. Position is available February 1, 1990. Send resume, copies of publications and transcripts to Jim Simon, Department of Horticulture, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, 47907, (317)494-1328.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLICATIONS: New Sage Publications, Race and Ethnic Relations Series, is soliciting manuscripts. Interdisciplinary perspectives are welcomed. Details of the particulars should be sent to Professor John Stansfield, II, Sage Race and Ethnic Relations Series Editor, Department of Sociology, The College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia, 23185

COURSE OFFERING: A short course in plant genetics will be offered in June 1990. The class is intended for college graduate level students and limited to 25 participants. The class will includes issues, practice of collection strategies, techniques for assessing genetic variability by isozyme analysis and DNA analysis, sterile culture and propagation techniques, techniques for assessing the presence of plant disease, seed preservation methodology, and computer database manipulation. CONTACT: Patrick McGuire, Genetic Resources Conservation Program, University of California, Davis, CA 95616.
COURSE OFFERING: University of California, Davis is offering a six-week course on the recognition, taxonomy, biology, agricultural significance, and management of plant-parasitic, insect-parasitic, and free living soil nematodes. CONTACT: Alice Warrick and Bonnie University Extension, Interantioai Training and Education Center, UC Davis, 95616.

BOTANICAL PEACE CORPS: A leaderless and decentralized group has been established to identify, collect, preserve, trans-ship, and propagate seeds and living specimens of rare and potentially valuable endangered plants. The group plans to train volunteers so that when dedicated travelers have the opportunity they can participate in this goal. A wish list of plants is available from them. Please contact them so when conducting research in foreign countries you may be able to support their efforts. CONTACT: Botanical Peace Corps, P.O. Box 1368, Sebastopol, California, 95473

AMERICAN BOTANICAL COUNCIL is currently collecting for reprint classical botanical reprints. If anyone has copies or would like information CONTACT: Mark Blumenthal, P.O. 201660 Austin, Texas, 78720

AWARD: AAAS/WESTINGHOUSE is asking for nominations for their award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology. CONTACT: Patricia Curlin AAAS Committee on Understanding of Science & Technology, 1333H ST. NW, Washington, D.C., 20005.

GRANT: Starter grants for $10,000 for collaborative research between United States and Chilean laboratories are available. Awards can be used for travel, per diem, and small equipment and scientific research supplies. Apply by April 30, 1990. CONTACT: Western Hemisphere Cooperation Project, Suite 1056, AAAS, 1333H H Street NW, Washington D.C. 20005.

MEETINGS: Association of Systematics Collection will hold their annual meeting in conjunction with AIBS in Richmond, Virginia, August 5-8. CONTACT: AIBS, 630 11th Street NW, 5th Floor, Washington, D.C. 20001

Advances in Labiate Science is the title of the international meeting on the chemistry, taxonomy, and economic botany of the Lamiaceae at Kew Gardens April 2-5 1991. CONTACT: Philip Cantino, Ohio University, Department of Botany, Athens, Ohio, 45701-2979 or Dr. Ray Harley, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB, England
Association for the Taxonomic Study of the Flora of Tropical Africa in April 1991. The three economic botanical symposia are: The Plants of Africa to Solve African Problems/Taxonomic Botany for the People; Medicinal Indigenous Plants; Inventories and Conservation of Indigenous Useful Plants in Africa. CONTACT: AETFAT Secretariat: National Herbarium and Botanic Gardens, PO Box 528, Zomba, Malawi.

The Society of Ethnobiology is meeting on March 21–24 1990 with the Council on Botanical and Horticultural Libraries in Phoenix at the Desert Botanical Gardens. I realize it is too late to attend so if you are interested hearing more about the results of the meeting please CONTACT: Gary Nabhan, Desert Botanical Gardens 1201 North Galvin Parkway, Phoenix, Arizona, 85008 or Trish Flaster SEB Newsletter Editor, 2115 Orchard Ave, Boulder, Colorado 80304.

ETHNOBOTANENEWS

WALL STREET JOURNAL, October 6, 1989: An entrepreneurial success story in Spain results form the promotion of medicinal plant use. After converting his gear-box factory into a medicinal plant factory called Soria Natural. The company has supported the public interest in medicinal plants. His total annual sales of medicinal plants has increased by 15% in Spain. He states that this is due to the amateur herbal medicine practiced by his grandparents.

October 23, 1989: Free aromatherapy was offered to earthquake victims in the Marina district. (ED: Only in California or Boulder...)

NEW YORK TIMES, October 31, 1989: Both the National Academy of Sciences and The National Research Council were quoted saying that ancient civilization's food crops have been overlooked and are beginning to be reintroduced on our dinner tables. Nutritional content and horticultural information has been established on a few crops but much scientific work lies ahead.

WALL STREET JOURNAL, October 30, 1989: Psyllium, Plantago ovata (ED: Plantago afra), primarily known as a laxative, is grown India and Pakistan. However new studies sponsored by the cereal companies are touting the efficacy of psyllium as a cholesterol lowering agent. However the FDA is on the move and wants proof concerning these claims. Meanwhile consumers are bound for the store to clear the grocery shelves until the facts are released.
MEDICAL POST, Toronto, Canada, September 19, 1989: WHO. World Health Organization, is investigating the active ingredients of traditional medicines used throughout the world. This research will promote and support the potential use of traditional medicines in global health services.

DIABETES CARE, Volume 12, Number 8, September 1989: 400 traditional medicines used in the treatment of diabetes mellitus have been recorded. Relatively few have been thoroughly investigated as an insulin replacement. If a botanical substitute is not likely it may be that the research may lead to plants useful in assisting in the treatment of hypoglycemia.

UNKNOWN PERIODICAL: Leaves of the Aspilia are eaten whole by chimps as medicine. After monkeying around, a chemical was isolated that kills worms and fungi. Fig leaves, also used by chimps as a remedy, were verified as affective for psoriasis. Whether these remedies will be useful for humans is questionable and the immediate benefits may be for third world farm animals.

SCIENCE, February 2, 1990: The editorial in this issue was titled "Medicine from Plants". Most of the world relies on plant medicines and with today's superior technology 20,000 plants a year can be screened as potential anticancer plants. Japan and West Germany have surpassed the United States when developing effective phytopharmaceuticals. The loss of the rainforests where many potentially active plants grow is a concern.

NATURAL HISTORY, October 1989, Since the Egyptian papyruses in the 16th century malaria, "bad air," has plagued humans. Cures have been used but they are limited; quinine, used since the 1630's has side effects, DDT is toxic, and forms of malaria are resistant to the drug chloroquine. Used for years for reducing fevers in China, Artemesia annua leaves are a successful treatment. It is less toxic than other known malaria cures but shorter acting. Continued research is being conducted to weed out the problems in establishing artemesia derivative extracts as effective malaria medicines.

SCIENCE NEWS, November 25, 1989: Purslane, Portulaca oleracea, is an excellent source of omega 3-fatty acids used to reduce cholesterol. When purslane is fed to egg producing poultry, the eggs have less fishy taste than when fish oils are used, and 10 times more omega fatty acids than the average supermarket egg.
THE HERBAL HEALTHLINE, a publication of TwinLab, November 1989: The following are research reviews found in this publication: Spicy Food and the Stomach, JAMA 12/16/88: Capsicum frutescens does not adversely affect the stomach lining as previously believed. Studies on Curcumin and Curcuminoids... International Journal of Pharmaceutics 50:1989: Tumeric is effective in treating various inflammatory conditions. Ellagitannins as Active Constituents of Medicinal Plants, Planta Medica, 55:1989: Ellagitannins inhibit the replication of the AIDS virus.

ERRATA: I am most appreciative for this comment. In the Ethnobotanews section the article from the Plenty Bulletin had an error. Hispaniola is not a country as stated but an island and Plenty is active on the island Dominica, a country of the Lesser Antilles.

SEE YOU AT THE SEB CONFERENCE....
The Society for
ECONOMIC BOTANY, INC.
DEVOTED TO THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE USES OF PLANTS BY MAN

PRESENT OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS, AND DATES OF RETIREMENT:

President: David M. Bates (1990)
President-elect: Walter H. Lewis (1990)
Vice President: A. Douglas Kinghorn (1990)
Secretary: Gail E. Wagner (1990)

Council Members:


Past President: Paul A. Fryxell (1990)

OFFICIAL BALLOT -- 1990

Please place a check mark in the appropriate box indicating your choice for the office given. See the biographical notes for each candidate.


VICE PRESIDENT (One Year: 1990-1991):
[ ] Gail E. Wagner [ ] Hugh D. Wilson

SECRETARY (Three Years: 1990-1993):
[ ] Deborah M. Pearsall [ ] Edward E. Schilling

COUNCIL (Three Years: 1991-1994) VOTE FOR TWO:
[ ] Lucille N. Kaplan
[ ] Laura C. Merrick
[ ] Gary F. Nabhan
[ ] Jonathon F. Wendel

** RETURN BALLOT BY FRIDAY, MAY 11, 1990 TO: **
Dr. Gail E. Wagner, Department of Anthropology, University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208.

Suggestions for these or other offices for next year are welcomed by the Nominations Committee; please send to Dr. David M. Bates, L. H. Bailey Hortorium, 467 Mann Library, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853-4301.
DISTINGUISHED ECONOMIC BOTANIST: Please send by 3 June 1990 any nominations together with supporting letters and a curriculum vitae to Dr. Paul A. Fryxell, Agronomy Field Laboratory, Texas A&M Univ, College Station, TX 77843.
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE CANDIDATES

PRESIDENT

A. DOUGLAS KINGHORN: Professor of Medicinal Chemistry and Pharmacognosy, College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois, Chicago. Society for Economic Botany: Council 1983-84; Secretary 1984-87; Organizer of symposia on Toxid Plants 1977, on Legumes 1980. Other Societies: Fellow of Linnean Society of London. Interests: chemistry of plant constituents with sweet taste; plant antiviral, anticancer, and skin-irritant activity; chemotaxonomy; toxic plants.

VICE PRESIDENT

GAIL E. WAGNER: Asst. Professor of Anthropology, University of South Carolina. Society for Economic Botany: Member of Council 1981-85; Secretary 1987-90. Interests: Ethnobotany and paleoethnobotany.


SECRETARY

DEBORAH M. PEARSCALL: Research Associate and Adjunct Asst. Professor of Archaeology, University of Missouri/Columbia. Society for Economic Botany: long-term member. Other Societies: Society for American Archaeology, Fryxell Award Committee member. Interests: paleoethnobotany, phytolith analysis, agricultural origins in the New World; Archaic and Formative period subsistence systems in South America.


COUNCILLORS


LAURA C. MERRICK: Sustainable Agriculture Program, Department of Plant, Soil, and Environmental Sciences, University of Maine. Society for Economic Botany: Membership Committee 1989-90. Other Societies: Board of Directors
of Native Seeds/SEARCH; Consultant, International Board for Plant Genetic Sources. **Interests**: crop evolution, crop germplasm conservation and evaluation, ethno botany, agroecology.

GARY P. NABHAN: Asst. Director, Desert Botanical Garden, Phoenix, AZ; Adjunct Asst. Professor, Arizona State University, and Adjunct Research Associate, University of Arizona. **Society for Economic Botany**: symposium speaker. **Other Societies**: Seed Savers Exchange, Vice President; Native Seeds/SEARCH, Board Chair and Co-founder; Society for Ethnobiology, Editorial Board Member for Journal; committee membership in studies by the National Research Council and the Office of Technology Assessment. **Interests**: ethno botany of arid lands; *in situ* conservation of genetic resources; agroecology of indigenous crops; new desert crops.