as a distinct species without a close ally either among the few other Nepalese species of *Lamium* or throughout the genus.

As figs. 1 and 2 show, there are considerable general similarities in floral structure between *L. staintonii* and *L. nepalense* although in corolla size and more detailed structure they differ appreciably. The two species described

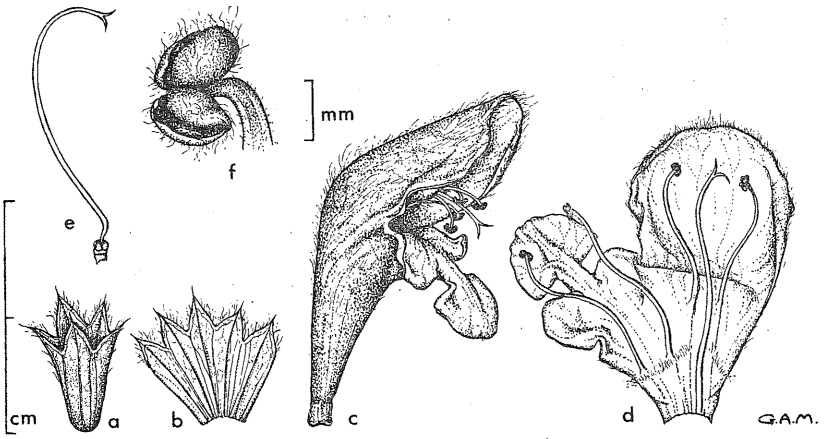


FIG. 2. *Lamium nepalense* Hedge: a, calyx; b, calyx opened out; c, corolla; d, corolla opened out; e, ovary and style; f, anther.

here together with *L. tuberosum* and the high alpine *L. rhomboideum* Benth. share the feature—very unusual in the genus—of large lateral labellum lobes almost equal in size to the middle lobe. Although this is the only feature that they share in common, it may be that these four species should be considered within the same section; fruiting specimens, however, are needed before assessing their inter-relationships.

Greenland's Flora. The flora of Greenland has probably been as intensively investigated taxonomically and phytogeographically as that of any part of the Arctic. The three authors of this Flora are pre-eminent in this field having been actively engaged in research for many years; in fact, Professor Böcher's first paper on this subject was published in 1933. "Grönlands Flora" was originally published in 1957; a second edition appeared in 1966 and this has now been translated into English by Dr. Elkington and Dr. Lewis.

In the first edition, 485 species of vascular plants native to Greenland were described together with nearly 90 introduced species, mostly members of the Cruciferae and Leguminosae. The descriptions were accompanied by brief notes on ecology and distribution within Greenland, using the abbreviations to the floristic districts, a map of which was included. Keys were provided and the 54 figures of accurate and clear line drawings and two coloured plates illustrated wholly or in part about 300 species.

The second Danish edition is essentially the same, though the pages are slightly larger, the type is somewhat smaller and clearer, and the binding more robust and extremely attractive. Both editions, being intended for use in schools, use the vernacular Danish names, Latin names being parenthesised, and there is a substantial introductory section dealing with plant structure and morphology. It incorporates a considerable amount of data on chromosome numbers, based largely on Greenland material, and there is a useful list of references to distribution maps.

This long-awaited and admirably translated English edition* differs little from the second Danish one. Latin names only are used, the introductory section has been omitted but the note on vegetational zones and plant communities is retained. 496 native species are described. Some of the introduced species featured in the first edition are omitted, others are new. I noticed 16 native species which were not in the first edition. Five of these are apomictic microspecies of *Antennaria*, *Hieracium* and *Taraxacum*. Another, *Rhododendron vanhoeffenii*, is a possible hybrid between *R. lapponicum* and *Ledum palustre*. The remaining 10 species: *Botrychium simplex*, *Vaccinium myrtillus* (!), *Agrostis scabra*, *Potamogeton perfoliatus*, *P. praelongus*, *Carex chordorhiza* (vegetative only), *C. abdita*, *C. disperma*, *C. trisperma* and *Roegneria pauciflora* are mostly extremely rare and, with the exception of the two *Potamogeton* species, are restricted to the south and southwest, an area worked intensively by Danish botanists during the last ten years.

There are 12 new figures, the most useful being of *Salix glauca* ssp. *callicarpaea*, *Braya* fruits and *Puccinellia* spikelets. The distributions by floristic districts have been brought up to date, though the stated northern or southern limits have not always been revised accordingly. *Deschampsia pumila*, for example, extends on the east coast about 175 miles south of Hold With Hope.

A number of the name changes will, it is hoped, become familiar through "Flora Europaea" but others, such as *Phegopteris connectilis* (*Thelypteris phegopteris*) and *Thymus praecox* ssp. *arcticus* (*T. drucei*) are less well known. It is a pity that the names for the three Greenland species of *Melandrium* used by Bocquet in his revision of *Silene* are not given as synonyms.

This English edition has given the authors the opportunity to allow Hultén to validate the combination *Potentilla hookeriana* ssp. *chamissonis* which was attributed to him in the first edition. Unfortunately *Festuca hyperborea* has still not been validated. The index would have benefited from the inclusion of specific names; there are, for example, 47 species of *Carex*.

A considerable amount of recent taxonomic work has been incorporated in this edition. There is Porsild's revision of *Antennaria*, Hulten's investigation of the *Cerastium alpinum —arcticum—regelii* complex and Elkington's study of *Dryas*. Professor Böcher has himself recently worked on the *Campanula rotundifolia* complex and on *Draba cinerea*. As a result, Vahl's *Draba arctica* has been reinstated, *D. ostenfeldii* and *D. groenlandica* are relegated to subspecies of *D. arctica*, while *D. obibovina* becomes only a variety of ssp. *ostenfeldii*.

In view of the authors' considerable experience of the various critical groups, there is often surprisingly little comment. Hultén's *Cerastium* treatment is adopted but there is no reference to his interpretation of the problem or even to the existence of hybridisation. It is very probable that hybridisation is also the cause of the difficulties encountered in distinguishing between *Erigeron borealis*, *E. uniflorus* and *E. eriocephalus*.

These are, however, only minor criticisms of an extremely sound and beautifully produced Flora, which maintains the high standards we have come to expect of Scandinavian publishing. This book is indispensible for all botanists interested in the vascular flora of Greenland. Yet how many will be able to afford it? It is unfortunately priced beyond the reach of the many English-speaking botanists who visit Greenland every year, and inevitably there will be many libraries which, in the present financial climate, will hesitate before ordering it.

G. HALLIDAY.

*Böcher, T. W., Holmen, K. & Jakobsen, K. (1968). The Flora of Greenland. English translation by T. T. Elkington and M. C. Lewis. 8¼ × 5 in. Pp. 312, with 2 plates, 66 figures and 1 map. Copenhagen: Haase; London: Wm. Dawson. Price £5.