REVIEWS

W.P. DE WINTER & V.B. AMOROSO (eds.): **Plant Resources of South-East Asia. 15 (2). Cryptogams: Ferns and Fern allies.** Backhuys Publishers, Leiden. 2003. 268 pp., illus. ISBN 90-5782-128-1. Price: EUR 75. [A paperback edition will be available for c. EUR 40 as from March 2005. For developing countries a much cheaper paperback edition (ISBN 979-8316-45-2) will be available by the middle of 2003 from the PROSEA Network Office, P.O. Box 332, Bogor 16122, Indonesia.]

This second volume on cryptogams treats the ferns and fern allies (Equisetaceae, Lycopodiaceae, Psilotaceae, Selaginellaceae). However, not indicated in the title, also some mosses (Musci) are included. Treated are: Of the ferns 44 (13) genera, 32 species; of Lycopodiaceae 3 genera, 4 species; of Selaginellaceae 1 genus; of Equisetaceae 1 genus, 1 species; of mosses 3 (2) genera and 1 species. The numbers in brackets with ferns and mosses indicate the number of genera treated as genus with the major species mentioned.

The introduction discusses the differences between the ferns and the various fern allies under 'Definition and diversity' (1.1) as well as under 'Botany' (1.4). Various aspects of the vegetative and generative stages are described and illustrated. The introduction also discusses the various chemical compounds and their uses. The mosses get their own introduction (Chapter 3). The introduction is followed by the alphabetical treatment of genera and species (Chapter 2 for fern and fern allies; Chapter 3.2 for mosses). The volume is concluded by a list of references, a glossary, and various indices.

Not needed to say, but this volume is as well designed and edited as the whole series of PROSEA-volumes. A must for everyone interested in ferns, fern allies and mosses, and their uses.

FRITS ADEMA

MICHAEL G. PIMENOV, MARINA G. VASIL'EVA, MICHAEL V. LEONOV & JULIA V. DAUSHKEVICH: **Karyotaxonomical Analysis in the Umbelliferae.** Science Publishers, Inc., Enfield (NH), USA; Plymouth, UK, 2002. vii + 468 pp. ISBN 1-57808-222-6. Price: USD 118.

The main part of this book is formed by two appendices. Appendix 1 gives an overview of all chromosome numbers known for Umbelliferae (Apiaceae); Appendix 2 lists morphometric data of some umbelliferae karyotypes. These appendices are preceded by an introduction of 5 chapters that discusses modern plant karyotaxonomy, current taxonomic problems of Umbelliferae, a brief history of umbelliferous karyosystematics, the computer database 'CARUM' and the systematic implications of chromosome numbers and karyotypes. The book is concluded by an extensive list of references.

FRITS ADEMA