

Preface

(Fourth Edition)

The book was out of print long back. The senior author was busy in publication of other books, hence was the delay in revising this book. This is also the reason for co-opting the second author for this revision.

Recent development in the field of Plant Taxonomy, coupled with new and exciting discoveries contributing to the progress in the disciplines that provide information used in new classification, have created the need for a fourth edition of Taxonomy of Angiosperms. The fourth edition is designed to present the updated APG-IV angiosperm classification, describing the developing taxonomic fields of DNA barcoding, cybertaxonomy or digital taxonomy and diversity informatics. Earlier we included orders but now we changed the pattern and selected some important angiosperm families for the taxonomic account. The aim of this book is to provide a broad over view of angiosperm taxonomy with updated data for undergraduate and post graduate students. Also, this book will prove stimulating to serious amateurs, taxonomy aspirants, teachers and professionals who specialise in other fields but utilize updated classification and other recent taxonomic information about flowering plants.

We are indebted to several colleagues, friends and students for fruitful discussion over the years which have crystallized many of the ideas incorporated in this book. We also express sincere gratitude to all those who have helped for conceiving the ideas for preparation of this book.

We take responsibility for errors that remain, we would be grateful if they are brought to our notice.

Anantapur

Madurai

T. PULLAIAH
pullaiah.thammineni@gmail.com

S. KARUPPUSAMY
ksamytaxonomy@gmail.com

Preface

(Third Edition)

I would like to share my feeling of satisfaction in the fact that the second edition of this book is out of print in such a short period. Instead of going for reprint I thought it good to revise the book. Most of the chapters have been thoroughly revised. The chapter on Biodiversity has been revised by Dr. B.Ravi Prasad Rao. Takhtajan's latest classification of 1997 has been included. Two more examples of lowest chromosome numbers have also been included.

I thank all those teachers who gave suggestions for improvement of the book. My Post-Doctoral student Dr. Karuppusamy deserves special mention for stimulating discussion and also a source of inspiration.

3-11-2006

T. PULLAIAH

Preface

(Second Edition)

It is heartening to note that the first edition of this book got good response. Several teachers and readers gave suggestions for improvement of this book. Most of these suggestions have been incorporated in the present edition.

Recent developments in sequencing of genetic material has its echo in Taxonomy. A chapter on Molecular taxonomy has been included. The Internet and computer revolution has necessitated the inclusion of a chapter on Computer applications in Taxonomy. A separate chapter on Biodiversity in India with all statistical details has also been given. Information on Taxonomic literature and taxonomists in India has been added. All other chapters have been thoroughly revised.

23.03.2003

T. PULLAIAH

Preface

(First Edition)

Taxonomy was a much neglected science in the Twentieth Century. This may be due to advancement of technology and development of newer branches like Biotechnology, Molecular Biology etc. This has resulted in such a situation where there are not enough people to identify plants. Taxonomy teaching in many Universities is much neglected, more so in India. This trend has to be reversed.

Biodiversity and its proper exploitation is gaining ground since last decade. Because of this there is a revival of interest of Plant Taxonomy. There are not enough books to cater to the needs of the students of Botany in India. The present book is an attempt in this direction.

Apart from traditional aspects of plant taxonomy, modern methods have also been discussed. In many universities Biodiversity, forest types of India, Botanical Survey of India, Ethnobotany and Economic Botany has been included in Plant Taxonomy paper, hence these aspects have also been included in this Book.

I thank my teachers and also my students who helped me in preparing this text. I am thankful to Mr. K. Sri Rama Murthy for drawing the diagrams.

I request all the teachers and users of this book to give suggestions for improvement of this Book.

10.12.1997

Anantpur
T. PULLAIAH