

PREFACE

The purpose of this occasional series is to provide a vehicle for the publication of monographic studies in the field of systematic botany. With the application of techniques such as scanning electron microscopy and phytochemistry to taxonomic research, the need for extended treatments, often heavily illustrated, has become a major problem, especially as such developments have coincided with an increasing inability of scientific journals to accept more than papers of restricted length. This series will publish papers of this nature which are considered to be of especial merit.

In this volume the first paper by Dr Sharon L. Hanks and Professor David E. Fairbrothers applies light and scanning electron microscopy to the study of the pollen of the genera *Fagus* and *Nothofagus* and uses the relatively untried technique of computerized key-making to the resultant data. The second paper, by Dr Roger M. Polhill, is a detailed and broadly based analysis of the Leguminous tribe Genisteae and allied groups which have been a source of controversy for over a century. This elegant and superbly illustrated study provides a systematic treatment down to generic and sectional level which will be widely welcomed as a major reassessment of the group.

February, 1976

V. H. Heywood