

FLORA OF TROPICAL EAST AFRICA

Publication of the *Flora of Tropical East Africa* has been interrupted since the East African Community, which provided funds for printing, was dissolved in 1977. The Goodeniaceae (F. G. Davies), Guttiferae (P. Bamps, N. Robson and B. Verdcourt) and Thymelaeaceae (B. Peterson) were published from a residue of former funds in 1978. Thereafter, no practical advance was made, despite extensive consultation, until changes in U.K. Government policy made it possible to offer the publication to private enterprise. In consequence, A. A. Balkema undertook to publish the Flora from the end of 1980 in a format closely matching previous issues.

The Balsaminaceae (C. Grey-Wilson), Cruciferae (B. Jonsell), Gramineae Part 3 (W. D. Clayton and S. A. Renvoize) and Rutaceae (J. O. Kokwaro) are scheduled to appear early in 1982. The following parts are ready for press (Amaranthaceae (C. C. Townsend), Amaryllidaceae (Inger Bjørnstad), Anacardiaceae (J. O. Kokwaro), Cyclocheilaceae (W. Marais), Erythroxylaceae (N. Robson and B. Verdcourt), Ixonanthaceae (B. Verdcourt), Myrothamnaceae (Marie Bywater), Myrsinaceae (P. Halliday), Nesogenaceae (W. Marais), Orchidaceae Part 2 (P. J. Cribb), Palmae (J. Dransfield), Smilacaceae (E. J. Cowley), Zingiberaceae (J. M. Lock) and Zygophyllaceae (M. N. El Hadidi).

With the publication of these parts, altogether about 1 150 printed pages, the Flora should be more than half complete. There is no cause to revise the estimate in Boissiera 24: 607–608 (1976) of a total vascular flora of 10 000–11 000 species and a completion date around the turn of the century. Nevertheless, the relative escalation of printing costs is worrying. It is convenient at this time to list the parts published with their revised prices. They are obtainable from A. A. Balkema, Box 1675, 3000 BR Rotterdam, Netherlands (for U.S.A. and Canada: 99 Main Street, Salem NH 03079); Publications Department, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 3AB, England; Government Bookshop, Box 569, London SE1 9NH, England; Text Book Centre Ltd., Kijabe Street, Box 47540,

Nairobi, Kenya; Government Publications Agency, Box 1801, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania and Government Printer, Box 33, Entebbe, Uganda.

Parts published to date are as follows:

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£30 the set

The most notable extensions of East African botanical exploration in the last five years have been in the Selous Game Reserve of SE Tanzania [see Vollesen in *Opera Botanica* No. 59 (1980)] and in the northern parts of Kenya around Kulal [see Hepper, Jaeger *et al.*, *An annotated check-list of plants of Mt Kulal*, IPAL Tech. Rep. (1982)] and especially towards the Somali border. Collaboration between the University of Dar es Salaam and Kew has led to expeditions by Cribb, Grey-Wilson and Mwasumbi to the Mahenge region (the type locality of many species named from Schlieben collections) and to the Southern Highlands of Tanzania in 1977, and by Hooper, Mwasumbi and Townsend to western Tanzania in 1980. Cribb and Leedal have produced a well-illustrated popular guide to the *Mountain Flowers of Southern Tanzania*, to be published shortly by A. A. Balkema. The University of Uppsala has continued student exchanges with the local universities, with special emphasis on the medicinal plants of Tanzania.

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