

is made in this new work of a specimen of owl of the genus *Phodilus* taken in the Belgian Congo within the last 20 years which is considered to represent a new species. The treatment of the species within the genus *Otus* has undergone considerable change and six species listed by PETERS have presumably been lost in the synonymy of other species, these six being *Otus brucei*, *O. senegalensis*, (apparently merged with *O. scops*), *O. whiteheadi*, *O. insularis*, *O. hartlaubi* and *O. minimus* (which PETERS recorded on the strength of one specimen only from Bolivia). The genera *Pyrroglaux* and *Mimizuku* are treated as *Otus*, *Pseudoptynx* comes within *Bubo*, the species *Ninox philippensis* takes in what used to be *N. spilonota* and *N. spilocephala*, whilst *Strix davidi* is considered to be a form of *S. uralensis*.

Mention must be made of one or two apparent omissions or mistakes. No mention is made of the return of the osprey to breed in Scotland again as it has over the last few years. Nor is it suggested in the text that the monkey-eating eagle is considered to be in danger of extinction. For the Moluccan hawk owl, the name *Ninox squampilia* is used which is rendered by PETERS *squamipila*. Such minor errors are considerably outweighed by the usefulness of Part 2 of this work and by the excellent photographs in Part 1, where several of the colour photographs are beyond praise. A further valuable inclusion is a colour key and a reasonably extensive bibliography. To everyone interested in birds all over the world or to anyone particularly interested in birds of prey, this book is excellent value for money.

E.C.D.

II. THE REVISION OF THE GENUS *CAPPARIS**

The revision is made for the plants from South and Southeast Asia, Malaysia, Australia and the Pacific. The author finds it convenience to group the plants of these regions into 4 sections: I. *CAPPARIS*, only *C. spinosa*, represented, confines to southeastern Asia;

* JACOBS, M. : The genus *CAPPARIS* (*CAPPARACEAE*) from the Indus to the Pacific in *Blumea* XII. No. 3, 1965 pp. 385-540, 36 figs.

II. *SODADA*, only *C. decidua* represented, also confines to southwestern Asia; III. *MONOSTICHOCALYX*, embracing most species, covers a wide geographical area from the Pacific through Australia, Asia to Africa; members of this section are being arranged into 7 groups basing on their floral characters; IV. *BUSBECKEA*, comprising 7 species, mainly occurs in Australia.

A discussion on the characters in the genus is given with illustrations; the interrelations and subdivision of the genus is also under discussion. As for the origin of the genus, the authors has the opinion that it is likely to originate in South India; after migrating to Australia it came to the Indo-Chinese Peninsula going up further to the northwest and northeast, and later went down into Malaysia.

Identification keys are provided to sections and species; a separate key is also given to the Section *MONOSTICHOCALYX*.

Of the accepted 79 species 7 are new to science, viz. *C. cataphyllosa* (Burma), *cinerea* (India), *koioides* (Thailand), *monantha* (Thailand), *pachyphylla* (Assam), *rigida* (Annam), and *rufidula* (Burma), and two varieties are elevated to specific rank, viz. *C. annamensis* (*C. grandis* var. *annamensis* BAKER F.) and *C. pranensis* (*C. thorelii* var. *pranensis* PIERRE ex GAGN.).

Twenty two species and 3 subspecies are occurring in Thailand, including the 2 new species already mentioned; 8 species are being recorded for the first time from Thailand: *C. cantoniensis*, *diffusa*, *erycibe*, *floribunda*, *pubigera*, *pumila*, and *trinervia*.

The following species, formerly recorded from Thailand, are being reduced to synonym :

<i>C. adunca</i> CRAIB	= <i>C. siamensis</i> KURZ
<i>C. auricans</i> CRAIB	= <i>C. grandis</i> LINN. F.
<i>C. disticha</i> KURZ	= <i>C. tenera</i> DAZZ
<i>C. foetida</i> BL.	= <i>C. pyrifolia</i> LAMK.
<i>C. horrida</i> LINN. F.	= <i>C. zeylanica</i> LINN.
<i>C. kerrii</i> LAMK.	= <i>C. pyrifolia</i> LAMK.
<i>C. latifolia</i> CRAIB	= <i>C. zeylanica</i> LAMK.
<i>C. macropoda</i> PIERRE ex GAGN.	= <i>C. siamensis</i> KURZ

- C. mekongensis* GAGN. var. *crispata*
CRAIB = *C. grandis* LINN. F.
- C. sabiifolia* HK. F. & TH. = *C. acutifolia* SW. ssp. *sabiaefolia*
(HK. F. & TH.) JACOBS
- C. subhorrida* CRAIB = *C. zeylanica* LINN.
- C. thorelii* GAGN. var. *pranensis*
GAGN. = *C. pranensis* (GAGN.) JACOBS
- C. viminea* HK. F. & TH. = *C. acutifolia* SW. ssp. *viminea*
JACOBS
- C. vinitii* CRAIB = *C. siamensis* KURZ

T.S.

III. SCREW PINES IN THAILAND*

Dr. HAROLD ST. JOHN has been working on the genus *PANDANUS* for sometimes touring every countries where this group of plants occurs. He spent one month on a collecting trip to Thailand during June 1960. Working on the older material, he recognises 10 new species from Thailand viz. *P. bifidus*, *biplicatus*, *calcis*, *magnifibrosus*, *obconicus*, *obovatus*, *reticulosus*, *thailandicus*, *toei*, and *unicornutus*; two species are recorded for the first time from Thailand, viz. *C. monoteca*, and *recurvatus*. Owing to his narrow conception the endemism is indeed very great in number.

It is to be hoped that after a thorough study of the new collection, more species will turn up to enrich the botany of the screw pine of Thailand.

T.S.

* ST. JOHN, H.: Revision of the genus *PANDANUS* STICKMAN Part 16: Species Discovered in Thailand and Vietnam. Pac. Sc. XVIII, 4 (1963) 466-492, illus.
— — Part 19: Additional Malayan Species. Pac. Sc. XIX, 2 (1965) 227.