

THE FLORA OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA

H. MERXMÜLLER

On our last Meeting, 1966 in Uppsala, I was able to tell you that the first eight issues of our "Prodromus einer Flora von Südwestafrika" were published a few weeks before. In the meantime further 25 issues were published, inclusive the voluminous families of Aizoaceae, Fabaceae and Liliaceae, which were printed a fortnight ago. Because of a delay with the printers I can show you only the first proofs of the last remaining family, the Gramineae by E. LAUNERT; at the end of this month it will be completed. We hope to work out an index for the whole flora until the end of this year; it will be published as the 35th and last issue. Nevertheless we believe to have kept more or less our promise to present at this congress the complete flora.

The "Prodromus" comprises 166 families, 898 genera and 3159 species; by far the most extensive families are the Gramineae and Compositae, each with about 340 species. Of course we realize that with these numbers the richness of this country is not completely expressed; mainly in the north eastern most and north western most parts of the country (and probably also in the southern most parts) one still can expect new discoveries.

Nevertheless it seems that collecting in SWA has somewhat slackened. Important collecting expeditions have been made since 1966, as far as I know, only by KERS, Stockholm, by IHLENFELDT, Hamburg, as well as by P. G. MAYER (for the time being Windhoek). However, we still owe the collections most rich in specimens and scientifically most important to the continuing activity of Mr. Willy GIESS in Windhoek, who during the last years has devoted himself to less known regions such as the Sandveld.

I also cannot say much about German collecting in Africa. Besides the just mentioned collections of IHLENFELDT and MAYER in SWA mainly those of SEBALD (Stuttgart) in Ethiopia, RAUH (Heidelberg) in Madagascar and SCHOLZ (Berlin) in the area of the southern Sahara have to be mentioned.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Mitteilungen der Botanischen Staatssammlung München](#)

Jahr/Year: 1971

Band/Volume: [10](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Merxmüller Hermann

Artikel/Article: [The flora of south west africa 75](#)