

one of the strongest forces in the evolution of new taxa by adaptive radiation after a period of isolation of the relics from an earlier age. Things may not be as simple as my explanation of them suggests, but understanding of the more intricate patterns will follow as soon as the prevailing trend has been discovered. This trend, almost certainly, has its origin in the evolution of the environment through interaction of major tectonical and climatological events as outlined above with all their numerous consequences for various ecological factors influencing plant-life as a whole.

Literature Cited

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SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

At the V International Symposium on Tropical Root and Tuber Crops held in Manila recently, a unanimous decision was taken by all present to have a Committee responsible for unravelling the existing confusion of the taxonomy of aroids, in particular the cultivated species of *Colocasia* and *Xanthosoma*. Dr. Farah D. Ghani was appointed to head the committee.

Any members of the society who have access to direct observations or literature on these plants as they are cultivated in the tropics are urged to communicate with Dr. Ghani at MCR, Wye College, University of London, Wye nr. Ashford, KENT TN25 5AH, England.

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From Mark Moffler: I am interested in obtaining plant material of *Homalomena* for a revision of the neotropical species. I am especially interested in live new and old world plants of known origin, though plants of unknown origin may be considered. Preserved materials are also solicited. Collectors with plant material for sale or trade please contact: Mark D. Moffler, 2604 E. Yukon St., Tampa, Florida 33604.

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From Dr. Croat: Since my revision of *Anthurium* of Mexico and Central America is now almost finished, duplicates of living plants of some species are available for exchange for South American species, or for sale. See pages 107 and 108 of Volume 2, No. 4 of AROIDE-

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A NEW NAME FOR THE DWARF PURPLE ANTHURIUM

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In a genus as large as *Anthurium* it is often difficult to find a simple, descriptive name that has not been used previously. I could hardly believe that the epithet *lilacinum* was available, but I found no record of its use. Now Dr. Croat informs me that the name was used in 1975 for a Venezeulan species, which requires a new name for the "dwarf purple *Anthurium*." I have chosen *annicola*, or "stream dweller," to replace the preoccupied name.

Anthurium annicola Dressler, nom. nov. - *Anthurium lilacinum* Dressler, *Selbyana* 2: 300. 1978, not *A. lilacinum* Bunting, 1975.

Since describing the species I have received living material of *A. antrophyoides* and what I believe to be *A. antioquiense*. Though these species have been confused in cultivation, they are quite distinct. *Anthurium annicola* is closest to *A. antioquiense*, but differs in longer and slenderer stems, somewhat smaller leaves, wider spathes and thicker spadices. The main differences between the three species are given in the following key.

1. Leaves rhombic, each with 9 veins from the base *A. antrophyoides*
 1. Leaves lanceolate or elliptic, each with only 3 veins from the base 2
 2. Spathe ovate, pink; stems 4-6 mm in diameter *A. annicola*
 2. Spathe lanceolate, white; stems 12-15 mm in diameter. *A. antioquiense*

Short Communications (cont.)

ANA for a list of the species available. Other genera are also available in limited quantities. Anyone interested should contact me for more information. Thomas B. Croat, Missouri Botanical Garden, Box 299, St. Louis, Missouri 63166.

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Craig Phillips, Washington D.C., writes: Odd coincidences are constantly following me. No sooner had I read the accounts in the July AROIDEANA of *Philodendron leal-costae* vs. *P. goeldii*, when I came

across a specimen of the latter (I am 98% certain of this) in, of all places, the plant shelf of a local drugstore! It was labelled as (get this!) 'a cross of *Philodendron seloum* and *Schlefflera*.' Needless to say, I purchased the plant and may well not see another one for sale for a long time.