

中国植物分类学纪事

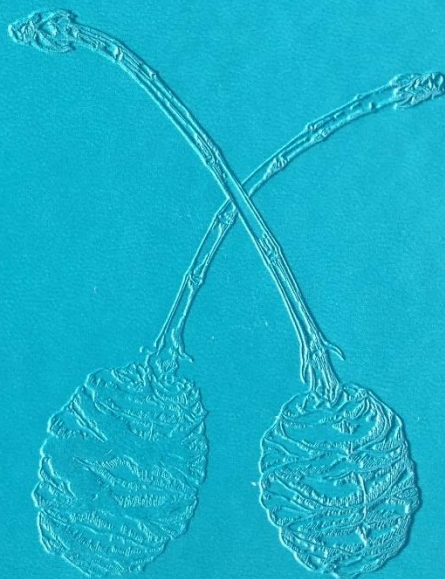
A Chronicle of Plant Taxonomy in China

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Introduction

This chronicle is an account of the taxonomic institutions, key taxonomists and their major achievements, taxonomic books, journals and other important publications, national and international congresses, and important botanical expeditions and collections underlying modern plant taxonomy in China.

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Authors

First, the western calendar is used in this chronicle. A comparison with the Chinese calendar, giving dates for both the Chinese empires (pre 1912) and the Republic (1912 to 1949), is provided in Appendix I. The major contents are arranged by year, month and day. Events without detailed dates are listed last either by the authors or by the names alphabetically. If a work is incomplete, but still in production, or a part of continuing series, a plus sign (+) follows the starting year, for example, 1988+.

Second, the chronicle runs from the time of Carl Linnaeus (i.e. 1753) through the first modern taxonomic paper written by a Chinese botanist one hundred years ago (i.e. Chien 1916), to the Nineteenth International Botanical Congress held in Shenzhen in July 31, 2017. The major objective of the chronicle is to provide an outline and a brief account of the leading institutions, botanical publications, major activities and collections, the significant players in the history of Chinese plant taxonomy and the subjects related to their interests and activities.

Third, publications recorded in this chronicle are only those at and above the province level in China, including floras, checklists, keys, icones or illustrations, manuals as well as handbooks, but excluded various monographs of special taxa. Collections numbering more than 10,000

specimens by Chinese botanists are included. International activities are covered as far as possible, since details of those activities and events are often lacking. The important herbaria related to Chinese specimens both in China and abroad, as well as major collectors, are provided in Appendix II.

Fourth, all Romanized spelling of personal names are recorded as given name followed by family name, for both Chinese and non-Chinese, with the family name written in upper case for Chinese scientists; the given name has only the first letter in upper case, for example, Zheng-Yi WU or Cheng-Yih WU. If more than one Romanized spelling, based on different rules for transliterating Chinese, was used by the same person, both are provided as stated by original transliteration, such as Cheng-Yih WU, also as Zheng-Yi WU. To assist the reader in understanding the system of transliteration of Chinese names (such as the Wade-Giles Romanization) used historically in China, both the older spelling and the modern pinyin spelling used by some of the older scholars is provided in Appendix III.

Fifth, The major publications with a focus on taxonomy are recorded, but various multidisciplinary publications from universities and colleges are not included. Specialty publications in plant taxonomy are mainly limited to the scope of the International Code of Nomenclature, although some unofficial publications, including internal publications and printings, as well as various references without an ISBN, are also recorded. For historical reasons, a few landmark textbooks published in the early days are also included, but modern textbooks, works for public education and works for college and university students are not included.

Sixth, Chinese students who went abroad to study botany, mainly those who received doctoral degrees and returned to China after graduating, are introduced without considering if their works are taxonomic either before or after. This chronicle mainly accounts for those who have passed away or who have retired, following the standard used in an *Outline of Taxonomic Literature of Higher Plants from East Asia* (Jin-Shuang MA, 2011). Students from China who went abroad for graduate studies after 1990 are not included here.

Seventh, the chronicle is in English (or Latin, including other languages translated into English) and Chinese. Items listed in the two languages are arranged with the original language first, followed by the translation to the other language. For example, if an original article was published in Chinese, the Chinese entry is placed first, and vice versa (Original publications lacking a title in a western language will be indicated by single quotes to ‘translated title’).

Last, the chronicle is based on historical facts as far as possible. Unverifiable accounts are either mentioned briefly or omitted without comment or explanation unless deemed absolutely necessary.