Editorial

Kew Bulletin has a tradition of excellence dating back to 1887, consistently delivering high quality science outputs in plant and fungal taxonomy, systematics and, more recently, conservation. I am honoured to succeed Prof. David Simpson as Editor-in-Chief of Kew Bulletin who filled the role since 2005. The journal now has its first impact factor and, whilst the Editorial Board will examine policies and procedures to improve this, including aiming to process and publish manuscripts more rapidly, it will retain the high standards of scientific quality, copy-editing and production that are the hallmarks of the journal.

A review of the most recent published volume (Vol. 71) gives readers a reasonable sample of the geographic scope and subject matter of the journal. The regional focus is tropical, with 94% of the 55 papers published from the tropics: 25% from Asia, 27% from the Americas, and 42% from Africa. Kew Bulletin has always been a taxonomic journal, and 55% of the papers described new species and genera, whilst 20% were nomenclatural papers (mainly typifications), and 20% were monographs,

revisions and synopses. We will aim to broadly retain this composition providing an important outlet for new species description, but also look to increase the number of longer monographs/revisions, as well as welcome review papers on plant/fungal groups, global and regional floristics, and subjects relevant to a contemporary taxonomic and systematics community.

Kew Bulletin's most important role is to provide a platform for the taxonomic community to publish their findings. As such, the journal could not function without the editors, authors, and reviewers contributing to the journal, and I thank them all for their hard work to make the journal a success. The editors are particularly grateful to our reviewers for their assistance, and hope that they will continue to support Kew Bulletin in the future.

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