



Rudolf Mansfeld 1901 – 1960



Figure 1. R. Mansfeld on the Chinese–German Biological Collecting Mission in Peking 1956. Photo P. Hanelt.

This issue is dedicated in memory of Rudolf Mansfeld on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of his birthday.

Initially a classical taxonomist at Berlin-Dahlem, after World War II he devoted his life in Gatersleben to crop plant taxonomy, revised e.g. the infraspecific variation of common wheat and barley and established an extremely fruitful synthesis of genebank management and taxonomy of cultivated plants. This year Mansfeld's *Encyclopedia of Agricultural and Horticultural Crops* will see its first English edition (ed. P. Hanelt, Institute of Plant Genetics and Crop Plant Research Gatersleben). Rudolf Mansfeld was also the managing editor of the German periodical "Die Kulturpflanze", predecessor of *GRACE*, from the beginning (vol. 1, 1953) until his untimely death (vol. 8, 1960).

Klaus Pistrick

Karl Hammer