

Review of Recent Literature

Barrie, N. and M. Honda (photos). 1982. Those blooming meat eaters. National Wildlife 20:40-45.

A popular article on Sarracenias with very brief introductory text, but with six color photos, some two page spread. The photos include the obligatory "view from the pit," of course. Moderately interesting.

Disney, R. H. L., *Megaselia corkerae*, a new species from *Nepenthes* in Hong Kong with reevaluation of the genus *Endonepenthia* (Diptera: Phoridae). Orient. Insects 15 (2): 200-206. 1981.

The author found that these insects breed in the pitcher fluid of *N. mirabilis*.

Robertson, A. and B. A. Roberts. 1982. Checklist of the alpine flora of Western Brook Pond and Deer Pond areas, Gros Morne National Park. Rhodora 84:101-115.

Among the plants listed in the diverse habitats of this Newfoundland, Canada coastal montane area are the following CP species: *Sarracenia purpurea*, *S. purpurea*, f. *heterophylla*, *S. purpurea* v. *venosa* (sic), *Drosera rotundifolia* (incl. a f. *breviscapa*), *D. intermedia*, *Utricularia minor*, *U. intermedia* and *Pinguicula vulgaris*. A profile map and brief description of the varying habitats are given. This is a first published location for *S. purpurea* f. *heterophylla* in this area. Note the unlikely and mistaken "v. *venosa*" under *S. purpurea*.

Sibaoka, T. 1980. Action potentials and rapid plant movements. In PLANT GROWTH SUBSTANCES 1979 (F. Skoog, editor), Springer-Verlag, New York. Pp. 462-469.

Mimosa and *Dionaea* are discussed, along with some measurements and comments, with results similar to those presented by Williams, Pickard and others in the past. *Aldrovanda* is new work reported in the paper in which stimuli were applied and sequential

measurements made via insertion of microelectrodes. New figures and observations on speeds, direction and extent of action potentials are presented. The mechanism is somewhat similar to *Dionaea* except for numerical differences, and *Aldrovanda* usually only requires one sensory hair stimulus to initiate closure.

Sutherst, R. W., et. al. 1982. Tropical legumes of the genus *Sytlosanthes* immobilize and kill cattle ticks. Nature 295:320-321.

While the genus has not been demonstrated to be carnivorous per se, it is of interest that tick larvae, which crawl to the tips of vegetation to await an animal host, are both immobilized in the glandular secretions of some species of this genus, and then killed by an aromatic toxin as demonstrated by partition experiments. This property as well as the nutritious character of this legume may prove of value in animal husbandry.

Whitesell, J. K., Matthews, R. S., Minton, M., & A. M. Helbling. Total Synthesis of Sarracenin. J. Am. Chem. Soc. 103 (12): 3468-3472. 1981.

The authors described the synthesis of the iridoid monoterpene sarracenin from *Sarracenia* species.

Williams, S. E. and B. G. Pickard, 1980. The role of action potentials in the control of capture movements of *Drosera* and *Dionaea*. Springer-Verlag, New York. Pp. 470-480.

This and the paper by Sibaoka reviewed elsewhere in this section were read as part of 10th International Conference on Plant Growth Substances held in Madison, WI, 22-26 July, 1979. This paper is an excellent review of the author's work on action potentials in the genera and is a very useful summary of the several papers published by the authors over the years.