

Review of Recent Literature

Conn, B.J. Review of the infraspecific classification of *Drosera macrantha* Endl. *Muelleria* 5(5): 347-349 (1984).

There are two geographically distinct subspecies of *D. macrantha* said to exist in Australia mainly in Western Australia and another in Southeastern Australia. They were distinguished merely on the size and shape of the sepals. This author refutes this distinction on the basis of actually measuring the length to sepal width ratio of 160 specimens. Therefore, *ssp. macrantha* and *ssp. planchonii* are morphologically indistinguishable.

Daniels, Patricia. 1984. Eating on the fly. *National Wildlife* 22:4-5.

A brief (one half page) popular article on Utricularias, featuring a one and a half page of *U. radiata* color photo of flowering plants in a pond, and two smaller photographs of traps (photos by Makoto Honda). DES

Hutchinson, J.F. 1984. In vitro propagation of *Dionaea muscipula* Ellis (Venus fly trap). *Scientia Horticulturae* 22:189-194.

Variations that improved shoot proliferation of the species on Linsmaier and Skoog medium were use of kinetin, pH 5.7, maintaining nitrogen in formula, use of salt concentrations prescribed, or replacement of the latter two factors with casein hydrolysate. DES

Taylor, Peter and Martin Cheek, 1983. *Pinguicula agnata*. *Curtis's Botanical Magazine* 184:159-161 (plus plate).

This article gives a complete description of the above species along with details of its habitat and successful cultivation. A feature of the article is a full page color drawing print. DES

BOOK REVIEW

Shivas, Roger C. Pitcher plants of Peninsular Malaysia and Singapore. Maruzen Asia, Singapore. 1984.

This 58-page book is packed with information on *Nepenthes* from the forests of Malaysia. Organized into 6 chapters, this book describes the general biology, where to find them, a key, an individual description of the species and hybrids and finally a short course on cultivation. There are some 21 plates reproduced in full color and a half dozen shown in B&W. It was the author's intention to make this book serve as a field guide and he succeeded in this by giving us good closeup pictures of upper, lower and sometimes intermediate pitchers of all 12 species that are described. Although the book is small, and ideal for field use, it does not lack any of the essential information that one needs to use in finding these plants and admiring them. I recommend this book to anyone who is seriously turned on by the *Nepenthes* genus, as I am. This book may be ordered from the above publisher, 51 Ayer Rajah Crescent # 07-09, Singapore 0513. The cost is U.S. \$9.80.



Nepenthes dyeriana

Drawing by Ron Fleming