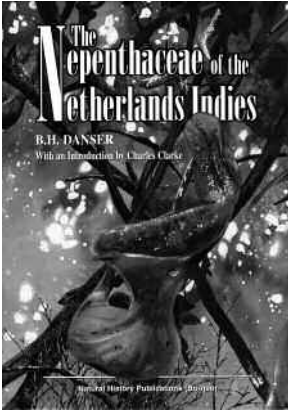


## BOOK REVIEW



Danser, B.H. 2006. *The Nepenthaceae of the Netherlands Indies* (first published in 1928, as *Contributions A L'etude De La Flores Des Indes Neerlandaises. XV*). Natural History Publications (Borneo), Kota Kinabalu 221 pp., 36 black and white figures, ISBN 983-812-115-0. 18.5 × 25.5cm (harcover). US\$41, shipping extra.

Reviewed by Barry Rice

All casual and serious students of *Nepenthes* are familiar with Danser's essential 1928 publication, in which he discussed about 65 species in great detail, and most with quite lovely black and white line drawings. Unfortunately, the work (often just referred to as "Danser") has been out of print for so long that most of us have had to satisfy ourselves with self-made photocopies (or photocopies of copies of copies...) kept in three-ring binders.

While this might be a suitable solution for many old publications, Danser is different. Yes, this book is dated. But Danser was so important in summarizing our understanding of the genus that current works usually use it as a launch point for further discussions. Having a high quality copy of the work is very desirable so you can easily cross reference its contents with subsequent *Nepenthes* monographs. The line drawings are far more nicely presented than can be obtained from photocopied or web versions.

To add further delight to the pleasure, the famous *Nepenthes* expert Dr. Charles Clarke helps lead this voyage of adventure on the high seas of *Nepenthes* history, by prefacing the work with a fifteen page discussion of Danser—both the man and the eponymous work. With Clarke as your Admiral at the helm, Danser is more approachable than ever before.

Unfortunate omissions from this book are further important works by Danser, specifically his 1935 and 1940 publications (both in *Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg*) in which he described *N. spatulata* and *N. densiflora*, respectively, and elucidated his opinions on tricky matters such as *N. pilosa*. We will need to keep these in our three-ring binders! However, the new version of Danser (1928) is still a valuable addition to our ever-enlarging collections of carnivorous plant books.

The work can be purchased from the publisher, at <http://www.nhpborneo.com>.

### 7th Conference of the ICPS in 2008!

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the 2008 International Carnivorous Plant Society Conference will be held in Sydney, Australia. The venue chosen is the Royal Botanic Gardens, in the heart of the city, close to many facilities. Since this is the first time this biennial conference has been held in the Southern Hemisphere it was deemed appropriate for it to be held at a time when the carnivorous plants across most of southern Australia would be at their best, and so the conference will be held from the 25nd to the 28th of September. The conference will include a number of lectures and demonstrations, and there will be some optional field trips to the Blue Mountains and Mt Tomah Botanic Gardens, both within 3 hours drive from Sydney. Provisions are also being made for a field trip to see *Cephalotus*, pygmy sundews and tuberous sundews in South Western Australia for conference attendees able to make it to this part of the country during their stay down under. Stay tuned for further details, and please mark the dates in your diaries; we'd love to see you in Sydney in 2008.

Greg Bourke