

LITERATURE REVIEWS

By Doug Darnowski and Jan Schlauer.

Fleischmann, A., Wistuba, A., & McPherson, S. 2007. *Drosera solaris* (Droseraceae), a new sundew from the Guyana Highlands. *Wildenowia*, 37, 551-555.

The authors, all ICPS members, discovered this new species on Mt. Yakontipu, Guyana, near the Brazilian border. This is in *Heliamphora* country, near the famous Mt. Roraima, and it was indeed found growing in company with *H. glabra* and *H. nutans*. The closest relatives are two other species from the same general region, *D. felix* and *D. kaieteurensis*, which share short scapes opening into cup-like structures promoting seed dispersal by rain. *D. solaris* was only found in openings in the cloud forest near the summit, not in nearby wetlands containing *D. roraimae*. Some readers' hearts might skip a beat on seeing Figure 1 and the apparent resemblance between *D. solaris* and the fabled *D. meristocaulis* shown in that figure. However, the authors assure readers that the resemblance is superficial. The specific epithet has to do with the brightness of the plant and not the badly-received movie starring George Clooney. (DWD)

Lowrie, A., and Conran, J.G. 2008. *Byblis guehoi* (Byblidaceae), a new species from the Kimberley, Western Australia. *Telopea*, 12, 23-29.

The Western Australian botanist known to all carnivorous plant enthusiasts for his three books has again increased the number of species in *Byblis*, previously having added three northern, ephemeral species and one southern, perennial species to the genus. This new, compact species grows low to the ground and branches frequently, with abundant flowers. It will be interesting to see what the Japanese horticulturalists do with this species and their existing hybrids. It, like *B. liniflora*, and unlike the other three northern species, is a tetraploid. The specific epithet is derived from the name of the original discoverer, Russ Guého. (DWD)

Lowrie, A., Cowie, I. D., and Conran, J. G. 2008. A new species and section of *Utricularia* (Lentibulariaceae) from northern Australia. *Telopea*, 12, 31-46.

A truly amazing new bladderwort, *Utricularia simmonsii*, has been discovered in northern Australia which gives *U. olivacea* a run for its money as the world's smallest flowering plant. The flowers are tiny and red/purple, with a reduced structure compared to what many carnivorous plant fans are accustomed to from the genus. The traps are also very small, with greatly reduced hairs near the trap opening. This species is named for Paul Simmons, a naturalist and school teacher from Queensland who showed one reviewer (DWD) his first live triggerplant. Paul has done many a service to the carnivorous plant community and is highly deserving of this honor. *Utricularia simmonsii* is placed in a new section *Minutae* by the authors and two sections quite remote from each other are discussed as possible relatives, viz. sect. *Pleiochasia* (type: *U. dichotoma*) and *Enskide* (type: *U. chrysantha*). But except for geographical coincidence and the apparently consistent absence of scales on the scape, *Pleiochasia* displays more significant differences than similarities to *U. simmonsii*, of which the traps originate irregularly on rhizoids, stolons and on the lower portion of the foliar organs (predominantly at nodes side by side with foliar organs and inflorescences in *Pleiochasia*), have short stalks (long to very long in *Pleiochasia*), no ventral wings and a blunt dorsal beak without trigger or guiding hairs (frequently ventrally winged, pronouncedly beaked and usually densely glandular or with antennae in *Pleiochasia*). The bracts and the distinctly smaller bracteoles are basifixed in *U. simmonsii* (similar to each other and frequently peltate or basally swollen in *Pleiochasia*) and its pollen is 5-6 colpi (usually 3-colpate in *Pleiochasia*). On the other hand the minute corolla, almost without a spur and with entire rounded lips without palate, the elliptic capsule pore (pandurate in *Enskide*) and the unique seed testa structure with elongated cells "longitudinally striate-swirled cells, resembling a fingerprint" appear to be the only systematically significant differences to separate *Minutae* from *Enskide*. (DWD & JS)