

Notes from the Otago Herbarium (OTA), May 2000

Herbarium Activities:

A second successful herbarium workshop was held in late February. More than 20 participants, mainly post-graduate students, were instructed on collecting and mounting techniques for both vascular and non vascular plants. It was noted at the workshop that adventive species are underrepresented in the collection. Herbaria can contribute much to the study of invasions by systematically collecting adventives and recording their habitat and abundance. We would like to build up OTA's regional adventive collection to provide a better resource for identifying new adventives and documenting their spread, so bring in those weeds!

The fungal collection is receiving much-needed attention and additions owing to the enthusiasm of David Orlovich and his post-graduate students. We are very fortunate to have such an active mycologist on the staff.

Farewell to a past curator:

In February of this year Ray Tangney left New Zealand to take a herbarium curatorship at the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff. We wish him well in his new position. Ray was the curator of OTA for a number of years and during that time he worked on many members of the Lembophyllaceae and Polytrichaceae and their allies. His new address is: Department of Biodiversity and Systematic Biology, National Museum and Gallery Cardiff, Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP, U.K.

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