序言

2012年5月22日,我們敬愛的胡秀英教授與世長辭。從此,植物學界的一 顆巨星隕落,損失無可彌補。她對植物的淵博早已聞名;後輩有問題請教,她 是從不推搪的,故此她十分忙碌,但也是其助人之道。

在她身體不適的時候,中文大學崇基學院已為她安排了另一起居之所,使她 不用攀上樓梯。她的參考書和用品也隨著她移進新居所,除了多年來,為了教學 和研究需要經常和同事外出採集,全部經她鑒定的大量本地植物標本,還有和外 地交換的珍貴標本。標本本是採自郊野,經過精心的裝裱,連同準確無誤的鑒定 後,便成為無價之寶,必須嚴格除蟲、去霉,還須保存在適當的溫度、濕度之 下,總之經過一系列的專業處理後,仍留在她辦公室的標本櫃內。

隨著教授的離開,還有多少人認識、感悟到這批標本的價值?關心的人是 有的,而且不在少數,尤其是平時和教授在工作上接觸較多的人,但解決辦法 卻不易尋求。此事千頭萬緒,牽涉多方面,中大生命科學學院時任院長朱嘉濠 教授明白到標本室的重要性和關鍵性,所以一開始便和各相關人員,包括關心 標本室的人士,研究成立胡秀英植物標本館的可能。幸好胡教授的人緣甚佳, 樂於幫助的人也不少,所以決定分頭進行,以促成此事。

其後,劉啓文博士接到中大大學李賢祉博士來電,被告知此事,李博士與 他在植物學範疇上素有聯繫,略知他與伍氏家族成員的關係,所以電告有關情 況,希望劉博士可以尋求一些辦法。劉博士原受益於胡教授的指導很深,但礙 於日常工作,只可以短時期工作於胡教授的辦公室,其中一項工作是協助她為 籌備「香港植物誌計劃」而編寫菊科有關艾納香屬的部分。胡教授是冬青科、錦 葵科、菊科和蘭科的專家,負責為《香港植物誌》編寫此四科,工作壓力很大。 劉博士常覺得,未能夠更多減輕胡教授在編寫菊科方面的負擔,是一大遺憾。 而在鑒定香港蛇菰的過程中,胡教授憑著豐富的經驗和知識,最終證實了香港 蛇菰為一個新品種,並得以在權威的植物學報上發表。這些事情在在都說明標 本室對基礎研究的重要性。

幸運地,當劉博士和伍絜宜慈善基金會的成員討論這個問題時,他們都認 為標本室的工作十分有意義,應該支持。加上在許多其他人的參與下,其中最 主要人士如胡教授的尊崇者吳紀嬅女士,經費來源因而得到保障,標本館在原 胡教授的辦公室有了一個工作地點。

在胡教授逝世十周年之際,香港中文大學校方決定在39區新科學大樓撥地 給予標本館作永久館址,表現出卓越的遠見,本基金會謹致以熱烈祝賀。此舉 有助延續胡教授的美名,為後來者展示一個榜樣,希望胡教授在天之靈,能認 同我們的做法。大學標本館的目標顧名思義,除了服務社會之外,還應當包括 教學在內,涵蓋意義廣泛。

《香港原生植物圖鑑》於標本館成立十周年這時候出版,意義非凡,將科學 與藝術兩者結合融入教育當中,傳承了胡秀英教授畢生追求和傳播知識的熱忱。

本會付出微力,能夠參與標本館的工作,覺得無比光榮,同時極希望有其 EX. 他機構或基金、個人一齊參與這份有意義的工作。

伍絜宜慈善基金會 2022年春

Foreword

On the 22nd of May 2012, our beloved Professor Shiu-Ying Hu left us. A bright star in the botanical field has fallen, causing an irreplaceable loss to us. Her wide-ranging grasp of knowledge in the botanical field is well-known. Enquiries from the younger generation were never denied, so she was kept busy most of the time, but she thoroughly enjoyed this way of life and being of help to others.

When Prof Hu was feeling unwell, Chung Chi College of The Chinese University of Hong Kong assigned a ground-floor accommodation for her, so she did not have to climb stairs to reach her apartment. All her books and belongings were transferred to this accommodation, except the specimens. These specimens, which were collected locally by her and her colleagues over many years for teaching and research purposes, and which were all identified by her—plus many others which were exchanged with outside herbaria had to stay in the specimen racks in her departmental office. Specimens collected in the wild, after being carefully mounted, then accurately identified, become invaluable assets. A strict set of measures must be followed to ensure that the herbarium specimens are clear of harmful matter, then kept at an appropriate temperature and humidity.

With the departure of Prof Hu, there were initial uncertainties about the herbarium specimens. However, there were still many people who were steadfast about the values of a herbarium, especially those who had worked closely with Prof Hu. Professor Ka-Hou Chu, the then Director of the School of Life Sciences at CUHK, from the beginning realized the value and the important position that the herbarium would hold for the University, and advocated for the establishment of the Shiu-Ying Hu Herbarium. There were many others who did much work in this regard as well. Despite her fame, Professor Hu was kind to many people when she was alive, and the amount of help that people offered in return was widespread.

Dr Eric Y. T. Lee at CUHK, who met Dr Kai-Man Lau on occasions relating to botanical matters, had some idea about Dr Lau's relationship with the Wu family that runs this charitable foundation; he then contacted Dr Lau and talked about support of the Herbarium. It happened that Dr Lau had worked with Prof Hu, though briefly, and benefited from the experience. Due to his regular job, Dr Lau could work only for short periods in Prof Hu's office. He was assisting Prof Hu on the genus Blumea in her work on the family of Compositae (Asteraceae) in the Flora of Hong Kong Project. Prof Hu was an acknowledged expert of Aquifoliaceae, Malvaceae, Compositae (Asteraceae), and Orchidaceae, and she was asked to take on writing up these four families for the Flora of Hong Kong, a heavy responsibility indeed. Dr Lau has often felt regret for not being able to do more on Asteraceaea and so to relieve Prof Hu's heavy load. Another experience relates to the identification and publication of the new species of Balanophora hongkongensis K. M. Lau, N. H. Li & S. Y. Hu, which was facilitated with Prof Hu's rich experience and extensive knowledge of the subject. Both these events demonstrated the indispensability of the Herbarium to basic research. Fortunately, when the topic of support was discussed with members of the Wu Jieh Yee Charitable Foundation, the members all felt the work of the Herbarium was very meaningful and should be supported. With the participation of many other donors, among whom we must mention Ms Jenny Ng, an admirer of Prof Hu, the sponsorship was thus assured, and the Herbarium started to function in Prof Hu's original office.

On the 10th anniversary of Prof Hu's passing away, we note with gratification the provisioning of a permanent site for the Herbarium in the new Biomedical Sciences Building of Area 39, showing the University's exceptional vision for the future. It is a remembrance of Prof Hu, carrying with it an exemplary message for excellence, coupled with kindness and generosity. For this we offer our heartfelt congratulations.

The publication of *Botanical Illustrated Guide to Hong Kong Native Plants* is of extraordinary significance, not only in that the year 2022 marks the 10th anniversary of the Herbarium, but also because it integrates science and arts in public education; in this way, the legacy of Prof Hu's life-long passion to pursue and transmit knowledge is being preserved for future generations.

Our contribution is small, but we have an immense feeling of pride and satisfaction in being able to participate in the work of the Herbarium. It is our ardent wish that other organizations, foundations, or individuals may find it worthwhile to participate in the work of the Herbarium in the same way as ours.

> Wu Jieh Yee Charitable Foundation Spring 2022

序言

植物繪圖一直以來是分享資訊和教育的一種溝通媒介,香港中文大學胡秀 英植物標本館自2012年成立後,其館長與館員繼續發揮植物繪圖這種作為提供 資訊與教育的傳統。在本圖鑑,他們精選了二十幅出色的植物繪圖,細致地呈 現出不被大部分人所關注、或慣常被忽略的詳細植物形態。在這種情況下,我 們所看到的,是植物在其自然生長環境的形態、植物結構的近距離照片,以及 往往被鏡頭所隱蔽、被一般人眼睛所錯過的植物細部,現在卻能以精美的墨線 圖所強調和凸顯出來。

這本圖鑑同時亦闡明了畫家需要使用植物樣品,照片與標本館標本,以及 採集和在防蟲防腐的環境下保存憑證標本的需要。憑證標本是作為繪圖的永久 性紀錄,要是對照片或繪圖中植物的品種存疑,憑證標本可提供資訊,同時可 與其接近的品種進行比較,藉此確認其品種的準確性。

本書亦展示了詳盡、細致的繪圖的重要。繪圖者慎密的眼睛往往能注意到 被植物學者所遺漏的細節。植物學者在辨識植物品種或鑒定其關係時,可能只 專注於植物的某個部分,但是繪圖者則沒有這種偏見,而能均等地觀察到植物 的各個部分,因此可以揭示植物學者所完全忽視的,以及微距照片所不能清楚 展現的細節。

看著這些美麗的植物繪圖、照片及與之相關的解説,都讓我們期盼香港豐厚、多樣性的植物物種亦能得到同樣的詳細科學記錄。

David E. Boufford 哈佛大學植物標本館高級研究科學家 《中國植物誌》編輯委員 2022年春

Foreword

Botanical illustrations have always been a means to communicate, to share information and to educate. Since its founding in 2012, the curators and staff of the Shiu-Ying Hu Herbarium at The Chinese University of Hong Kong have continued this tradition of providing illustrations and information about plants. In this book they have selected 20 outstanding botanical illustrations to show morphological details that most of us were unaware of, or routinely overlooked. In this case, we are shown the plants as they appear in nature, closeup photographs of the parts of those plants and exquisitely beautiful illustrations that highlight and emphasize details that a camera often obscures and the average human eye misses.

The book also explains the artist's need to use live plants, photos and herbarium specimens, and the need to collect and preserve a voucher specimen in a safe, insectand fungus-free environment. The voucher specimen serves as a permanent record for the illustrations. If the identity of the plant in the photo or in the illustration is ever questioned, the voucher specimen can be consulted and compared with closely related species to make certain that the identity is correct.

This book also shows the importance of having detailed illustrations. The careful eye of the illustrator often sees details that a botanist misses. A botanist may concentrate only on particular parts of a plant to identify it or to determine its relationships, but the artist has no such bias and sees all part of the plant equally, thereby revealing details that the botanist may overlook entirely and which micrographs do not show clearly.

To see these beautiful illustrations, the photos and the commentary about the plants that accompany them makes us wish that all of the rich and diverse flora of Hong Kong could be treated similarly.

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