

EDITORIAL

Volume 63, part 1, is the first issue under a new editor and a new editorial board. We would like to thank Dr Crinan Alexander, as the former editor of *Edinburgh Journal of Botany*, for his years of service.

We are currently running slightly behind in our publication schedule but plan to get back on track by the beginning of 2007 with volume 64. We shall do this by publishing parts 2 and 3 as a double issue later in 2006. We hope that the period between submission and publication can be considerably speeded up by even more strongly discouraging the sending of hard copy in favour of submission as an e-mail attachment to ejb@rbge.org.uk. Instructions for electronic submission of figures are given in the instructions for authors at the back of this issue. Authors can currently expect to have well written and well reviewed papers published in less than a year.

The format for the citation of taxonomic synonyms has been changed. Rather than all names being cited in chronological order with the type being given after the basionym they are to be cited in paragraphs of homotypic synonyms with the type being given at the end of each paragraph. Other minor stylistic changes can be seen in the papers in this issue, and authors are encouraged to check for style from 63(1) onwards before submitting papers to the Journal.

Authors increasingly and understandably prefer to receive a PDF file of their paper rather than reprints. For volume 63 authors will continue to receive 25 free reprints, plus any they would like to purchase, but will also receive a PDF file of their paper. We will discontinue free reprints altogether from volume 64 but authors will receive the free PDF file.

We encourage authors to submit manuscripts to *Edinburgh Journal of Botany* that address plant systematics and allied subjects, including biodiversity, conservation science and phytogeography. Although the Journal's strengths have traditionally been in the fields of Asian taxonomy and Brazilian vegetation we are open to high-quality work from any part of the world. We would also encourage authors of taxonomic papers to include conservation assessments in all their work. We are also interested in publishing review articles; authors with ideas for such articles should contact the editor.

We look forward to publishing many and varied botanical works over the coming years.

DAVID MIDDLETON