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## From the Editorial Office

This is the last issue of 2017 (issue 4) for the *Taiwania Journal* and concludes the 71st year of publication. We will do our best to face all challenges that the journal is likely to face over the coming years and put consistent efforts to ensure the quality and integrity of the articles published.

The *Taiwania* has been particularly strong in the fields of plant systematics since its foundation by a group of taxonomists in 1947. We remain committed to further strengthening our publications in this field while increasing our coverage of other research areas of life sciences. *Taiwania* has been selected for coverage in Clarivate Analytics products and services. Beginning with 2015, information on the contents of this publication will be indexed in: Science Citation Index Expanded, Current Contents®/Agriculture, Biology, and Environmental Sciences. Additionally, *Taiwania* is indexed in Biological Abstracts, BIOSIS Previews and Zoological Record, CAB Abstracts, Directory of Open Access Journal (DOAJ) and Scopus.

In the past 18 years *Taiwania* has effectively disseminated so many interesting and original studies submitted from East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia and other regions. We would like to thank all of our authors for their excellent and high-quality research papers, and without all of you, we would not be able to exist. We would also like to encourage researchers to continue submitting their outstanding scientific papers to our journal. We also welcome papers, especially from areas where much work is still to be done on the biodiversity. We explicitly encourage students and young scientists who are not yet established in the profession to submit their papers to us. In addition, we would highly appreciate feedback from readers, authors, reviewers, and the editorial board, so please share your ideas and thoughts with us on the *Taiwania* facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/TaiwaniaOffice/>) or write directly to the *Taiwania* Editorial Office.

The total number of manuscripts received during the past year was over 100 from 16 countries. Out of all submissions, 53 articles have already been published, including 42 articles dealing with biodiversity. A total of 134 reviewers kindly reviewed the submitted manuscripts. The online submission system substantially reduces editorial processing and reviewing times, and therefore shortens the overall publication time.

Over the past eight years, our articles were made free for viewing and downloading immediately upon publication on the journal website. Since 2017, to cover the cost of printing, color photographs, overlength article and color reprints of an article in the print version, the payment may be required from respective authors or their institutions.

The Editorial Team of *Taiwania* is delighted to welcome new Associate Editor, Dr. Chiou-Rong Sheue from National Chung Hsing University to the editorial team. Dr. Sheue's research interests are in the area of plant taxonomy, plant anatomy and plant physiological ecology. Much of her work has been focused on taxonomic study of and plant structure and adaptation. Her current projects include special novel chloroplasts of deep shade plants, natural foliar variegation, structure and adaptation of mangrove.

Finally, we are grateful to our peer reviewers, editorial board members and editorial staff for volunteering their time in service to the journal, and look forward to continue to work with them. Extraordinary thanks are due to Dr. Jan-Frits Veldkamp, a member of *Taiwania* editorial board, who passed away on November 12, 2017 in Leiden, Neitherland. Jan-Frits was an outstanding Dutch botanist with significant contributions to the taxonomy of Malesian grasses and many other groups. All Editorial Board members of the *Taiwania Journal* will never forget his kindness and editor works.

Wen-Yuan Kao & Chang-Fu Hsieh  
Editor-in-Chief  
*Taiwania* Editorial Office