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#### *About the Institute*

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.



Department of Botany  
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE  
BATON ROUGE · LOUISIANA · 70803-1705

504/388-8485

16-II-1989

Dear John,

Nature has again been flaunting her strength in the face of mere human endeavors. I hope that Highland Heights by virtue of its name alone has escaped disaster, and that you have not floated away downstream!

Bennett

~~Department of Botany~~  
~~Univ. of Massachusetts~~  
~~Amherst, MA 01003~~

Dear Dr. Lowy:

Thank you for your review of Wild Edible Mushrooms  
in Kenya.

I am sure the author(s) will appreciate your suggestions.

17  
John W. Thieret  
~~Oswald Tippo~~  
Editor, *Economic Botany*

To reviewers: Please provide the data requested below. Thank you.

REVIEWED BY: B. Lowy

DATE: 15-IV-1988

ADDRESS: Botany Department, LSU  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803-1705

PHONE: ( 504 ) 388 - 2123

The names of reviewers are not revealed to authors.

Economic Botany publishes, in the fourth number of each volume, a list of names of reviewers for that year.

8. Is there consistency in reference citation? -----

9. What is your rating of this paper?

Outstanding\_\_\_\_\_ Very Good\_\_\_\_\_ Good\_\_\_\_\_ Fair\_\_\_\_\_ Reject <sup>X</sup>\_\_\_\_\_

10. If you recommend publication, what improvements do you suggest?

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Additional remarks: \_\_\_\_\_ attached

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\*Economic Botany accepts and publishes summary-type articles. Thus a negative answer to this question does not constitute cause for rejection of a manuscript.

Comments on "Wild Edible Mushrooms ...."

by R. Gatumbi et al.

Table 1 is misleading and incomplete. For example, on p. 8, beside the Yoruba tribe, 5 native names are given plus "etc." All of these are indicated as referring to both "general," and "specific" names for mushrooms. Reference to Oso's paper, however, (1975) shows that he clearly differentiates these terms. "Olu" is the only general term for mushrooms, whereas the remaining ones each refer to a particular species. Example: ewe = *Termitomyces microcarpus* (Berk. & Broom) Heim. Additional local names are also given, including "wowo," "oluoran," and "etiologbo," each identified with a species, but these and others are omitted from the Yoruba list. Yet these names are far from being superfluous. In fact, this is precisely the kind of information that would make this paper valuable. Consequently, since this paper is largely a compilation of tribal names for fungi from many regions of Africa, it would be far more illuminating to list each tribal name together with its Latin equivalent where this is known.

Table 2 leaves the reader with the unanswered question: which fungi?

The information in table 3 can be further consolidated. For example: the Kalenjin use "bobek" as their general term for mushrooms, also for 3 of the 5 species identified. Similarly for other tribes listed.

p.3,1.6 - "Mushrooms or bracket fungi were eaten ....(table 2)!" Neither "mushrooms" nor "bracket fungi" are found in table 2.

P.3,par.2 - "...Kenyans who collected ...." Are these men, women, or children? A significant cultural point is missed here.

P.4, par.3 - "...Kenyan mushroom collectors visited an anthill..." Is this not a termite mound rather than an ant hill? Some fungi are cultivated by ants (leaf cutters), but both are subterranean.

B. Lowy

REVIEWER'S APPRAISAL FORM FOR ECONOMIC BOTANY

The author(s) would, of course, be grateful for an early decision; therefore we hope that you will be able to review this paper and return it by 1 May 1988. Thank you.

Please answer the following questions whenever they are pertinent. (Notes may also be made on a separate sheet or the manuscript itself.)

TITLE OF PAPER: Wild Edible Mushrooms in Kenya

AUTHOR: R. Gatumbi, W. Karia, & S. Aaronson

1. Is this a new and original contribution? \* largely not
2. Is the paper of interest to a broad cross-section of economic botanists and related scientists? not in its present form
3. Are the conclusions and interpretations valid? incomplete
4. Is the paper clear \_\_\_\_\_ and well organized? no
5. Are the illustrations legible \_\_\_\_\_ and pertinent? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Can the text yes \_\_\_\_\_ or illustrations be condensed? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Are the references adequate \_\_\_\_\_ and accurate? seem OK
8. Is there consistency in reference citation? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is your rating of this paper?  
Outstanding \_\_\_\_\_ Very Good \_\_\_\_\_ Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Reject X
10. If you recommend publication, what improvements do you suggest?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Additional remarks: attached

\*Economic Botany accepts and publishes summary-type articles. Thus a negative answer to this question does not constitute cause for rejection of a manuscript.

17-III-1988

John,

In my correspondence with Warren, dolmens were never mentioned. Since he spent some time in India, this seems unusual. He may have dismissed them as having no ethnomythological significance.

I believe that not all dolmens are mushroom-shaped. Others are constructed of flat or rounded stones atop two or more upright, supporting stone columns. All (?) are burial sites, so separating the mushroomic ones as uniquely significant may be a case of special pleading. I admit my ignorance, which reminds me of Ogden Nash —

I know two things about a horse  
 And one of them is rather coarse.

There are hardly two things I know about dolmens,  
 so thanks for the record. But just a word about

one of Manilal's references. Anyone who would cite Christensen as an authority on ethnomycological matters must have access only to the most primitive library, and shows very poor judgement, to boot. As for the shape in plate 20 which "closely resembles that of some mushrooms like Psilocybe, Amanita, etc.", the figure could represent literally dozens of genera, but the least likely among them are the two indicated.

Do you know anything about Thomas J. Riedlinger? He is organizing a Festschrift for Wesson, and asked me to contribute something, which I did, but have not heard from him since.

as ever,

Bernard



Northern Kentucky University  
Highland Heights, Kentucky 41076

Dept. \_\_\_\_\_

**BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

Dr. Bernard Lowy

Department of Botany

Life Science Building

Louisiana State University

BATON ROUGE, LA 70803

**Address Correction Requested**

unsealed printed matter  
 books, educational matter  
 letter enclosed

insured contents  
 sealed, 1st class

(CS:N0090)11/82

Bernard,

I presume that you  
are aware of the  
enclosed -- but just in  
case.

In Warsson's Soma I  
can find no mention  
of Dolmens.

John Thieret

ly lost. This process  
wealth of empirical  
icularly with respect  
ed for family limita-  
n of the flora, there  
ledge on the useful  
that ethnobotanical  
serve and save the  
e the plants them-  
t for land to raise

(1956), Glossary of  
ntific and Industrial

teers—The Nilgiris,

S.K. Jain, ed. 1981. *Glumpes  
of Indian Ethnobotany.*  
New Delhi.

## 28. An Ethnobotanic Connection between Mushrooms and Dolmens

K.S. Manilal

### ABSTRACT

*A unique type of dolmens in the shape of mushrooms are found in several localities in Kerala. These structures, called umbrella-stones, are megalithic burial monuments made out of hard lateritic stone by the ancient people in 1000-500 B. C. The main feature of interest about these dolmens is considered here as their characteristic shape itself, which closely resembles that of some mushrooms like Psilocybe, Amanita, etc., several species of which contain hallucinogenic chemical compounds. Some of the tribals who eat such mushrooms are found to worship them, hold them as possessing mysterious powers and properties and consider them as a means to communicate with their Deity and with the spirits of the dead. It is suggested that it is their respect and fear towards these types of mushrooms which prompted the ancient people to construct the stone monuments in a similar shape for their departed leaders so that the tribes may expect to continue to receive their able leadership and guidance from beyond.*

Some characteristic megalithic lateritic monuments in the form of large mushrooms are found in several localities in Kerala, such as Porculam, Kunnamkulam, Eyyal, Morayoor, Devikulam, Mayanaad, Tirur, etc. These structures are known as *Kudakkallu* or umbrella-stones (Krishnaswami, 1949; Rao, 1972). These are the burial structures constructed by ancient

men in 1000-500 B. C. and belong to the type called dolmens. The dolmens, in general, are found along a long belt on earth, including such regions as southern and western Europe, northern Africa, central Asia and extending up to Malaysia. In India, dolmens are found mainly in Kerala. No conclusive evidence has yet been found to prove why the ancient people of such diverse cultures and far-apart regions of the earth were constructing identical types of monuments to bury their dead.

There are mainly three types of dolmens: (1) with a square chamber, covered on all four sides with flat stone pieces and with another flat stone piece for a roof, (2) with a square chamber as in the first type but with one side open, and (3) with a tapering conical pillar-like structure made of four stone pieces so as to make a circular outer side and another, circular stone with a flat bottom and a convex upper side as a roof piece. In the central chamber inside the dolmens, the ashes, bones and other mortal remains of the person are buried. Some of his belongings may also be kept. The last type of dolmen which looks exactly like a giant mushroom or an umbrella and is called the umbrella-stone is found in Kerala alone (Plate 20).

The shape of the umbrella-stone megaliths is of particular interest. It is not known why this shape was preferred for the monuments, when countless numbers of designs for such a construction could be imagined. It could of course, be said that the geology of the region had a part to play in this, as it is sometimes found easier to cut circular pieces, rather than flat slabs, from laterite formations. In Kerala which may geologically be divided into three main regions, viz., the coastal sandy region, the midland lateritic region and the highland granite region, the umbrella-stones are mainly found in the midlands. However, many of them are found to be located in the coastal regions as well as in the highlands. Similarly, it is also evident that protecting the ashes and other remains of the dead from the vagaries of the climate has not been the main aim because this could have been achieved more easily and with greater perfection using other types of simple designs. Strength of the structure could also not have been the primary concern of their builders, because evidently the roof piece in the umbrella-stone, placed at the pointed tip of the four-stone basal structure, is not planned for its stability. Therefore, it may be

concluded that the most important feature in this type of dolmens has been the shape itself. This leads one to wonder whether there was any significance or speciality for this particular shape to capture the imagination of the ancient men.

The only common things in nature with a similar shape are the mushrooms. Although there are many types of mushrooms, from the striking similarity in their external appearance it may be seen that the toadstools belonging to the genera such as *Psilocybe*, *Amanita*, etc., were the ones which were taken as the models for these dolmens. If this is so, these mushrooms would have had some special relations with those people who constructed the monuments. We have, at present, very limited knowledge about the philosophies on which the ancient men based their burial customs but, some strange beliefs and customs which are still existing among some tribals of Kerala (and, surprisingly, among some natives of southern Mexico) throw some light in this direction.

Modern chemistry has identified many chemical substances which, when consumed, are fatal to humans or affect the nervous system of men creating hallucination, unreasonable sense of happiness, etc. Most of the latter types of chemical compounds contain indole or are closely related to it. Important among such chemicals are Psilocybin, found to be present in *Psilocybe*, and L.S.D. (lysergic acid diethylamide) which is contained in another fungus called *Claviceps*. Several tribals in Kerala like Malapandarams, Paniyas, Kanikkars, etc., who eat such types of mushrooms are found to have a reverence towards them and a reluctance to talk about them. Malapandarams are known to make small dolmen-like structures for their worship on certain occasions. It has been recorded that the species of *Psilocybe* have for thousands of years been eaten by the native tribes of southern Mexico also as a community ritual and by their medicinemen to communicate with the deity (Christensen, 1966). The tribals who eat these mushrooms fear and adore them and regard them as the key to be in touch with infinity. Intake of these mushrooms in the ritualistic manner is believed to enable them to predict the future and to communicate with their dead leaders as well as relatives. Handling these mushrooms is considered a sacred matter and they can be talked of only in whispers among trusted friends, in the dead of night. It

is also believed that the eaters of these mushrooms attain super-human strength and an eternal life. Closer investigations about the role of these mushrooms in the rituals of the Kerala tribes may yield more interesting information.

Mushroom flora of Kerala, especially the species containing poisonous and hallucinogenic compounds, have not been subjected to any detailed study so far (cf: Purkayastha and Chandra, 1976). *Psilocybe tristis*, *Psilocybe caespitica*, *Amanita caesarea*, *Amanita vagenata*, etc., are already reported from other regions of India, as the edible forms. Evidently, some poisonous species of *Amanita* and *Psilocybe* are present in this region. Although the tribals who eat such mushrooms have a worshipful attitude towards them which are considered by the tribals as having mysterious powers and properties, no clear evidence for the existence of any religious rituals or ceremonies connected with the partaking of these mushrooms by these tribals could be obtained. However, it is strongly suspected that they have a superstitious reluctance to talk about this subject, which is similar with the beliefs of the South Mexican tribals.

It may, therefore, be stated that it was the respect and fear towards these types of mushrooms as a means for establishing a communion with their deity and for attaining an eternal life, which prompted the ancient people to construct the stone monuments for their heroic chieftains and rulers in this particular architectural design. By keeping the mortal remains of their brave leaders and warriors inside these mushroom-shaped monuments, the ancient people might have expected to continue to receive the leadership and guidance from their powerful ancestral spirits to win their own battles and solve their earthly problems.

#### Acknowledgement

I am very thankful to Prof. A. Aiyappan and to Mr. K. J. John for useful discussions on this topic.

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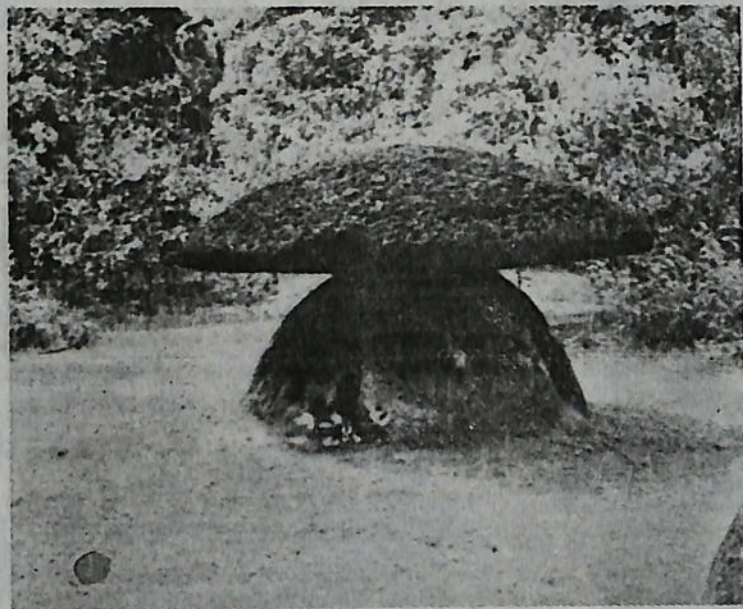


Plate 20. An umbrella-stone at Porculam, Kudakkalparambu, central Kerala.



Plate 21. An Onge man in the forest.



Comments on "Mushrooms and Culture"

by Brian Morris

The author attempts to summarize, explicate, and evaluate some of the principal facets of ethnomycological studies. The bulk of the paper's contents has appeared in extenso in numerous previous publications. Morris generally succeeds in being succinct, but unfortunately, his information is at times either misleading, incomplete or inaccurate. I cite the following examples.

On p. 19, 1.3, reference is made to mushroom stones which "date back to around 300-500 B.C." Borhegyi, who first made a detailed study of these artifacts following their discovery by Sapper, and whose work is generally considered to be the most authoritative in its field, determined their approximate dates as spanning the interval from about 1500 B.C. (Pre-Classic) to about 900 A.D. (Post-Classic). This is the sole reference to mushroom stones.

On p. 28, par. 2, Morris mentions the Plaincourault fresco, a 13th century work representing Adam and Eve beside a "tree of life which is clearly depicted as Amanita muscaria." Morris cites this as one of two points favoring Allegro's thesis in his book "The Sacred Mushroom and the Cross," that Christianity and other Near East religions "were based on fertility rites focused around the Amanita mushroom." However, Morris fails to mention that Wasson himself rejects the interpretation of the fresco, based upon the expert opinion of art historian Erwin Panofsky, who states that "the plant in the fresco has nothing whatever to do with mushrooms." (in Wasson's "Soma," p. 179). This opinion should not be withheld from Morris's readers.

On p. 24, 1.10, in Brough's paper (1971), which refutes Wasson's thesis that soma was in all likelihood Amanita muscaria, Morris concludes, following Brough, that "the exact identification of the herb soma therefore still remains open to doubt." This is at best a gross oversimplification. Why did not Morris cite Wasson's "Rejoinder to Prof. Brough" (in Botanical Museum of Harvard University, Cambridge. 1972), wherein Wasson clarifies and strongly defends his position? Morris may <sup>be</sup> enamored of brevity, but his relatively lengthy defense of Brough's argument, without mentioning supporters of Wasson's heavily documented work (including LaBarre, Schultes and others) seems unjustifiable.

In its present form, I believe this paper is not suitable for publication in Economic Botany.

B. Lowy

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## The Society for



## ECONOMIC BOTANY, INC.

DEVOTED TO THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE USES OF PLANTS BY MAN

Department of Biology  
Lebanon Valley College  
Annville, PA 17003  
Spring, 1986

Dear Colleagues:

In this the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of publication of ECONOMIC BOTANY it is my pleasure to be writing to you, the members of this Society. The Society for Economic Botany has been closely connected with the journal since 1959. We can be proud of this connection. Certainly much interesting and useful information has been disseminated in those 40 years.

This 40<sup>th</sup> year watershed marks once again a change in editors. Professor Oswald Tippo will be stepping down as editor of ECONOMIC BOTANY in June, 1986. We owe him a great deal of gratitude for the fine and timely work he has done to maintain a quality journal.

The Society is fortunate to have found a new editor in Dr. John Thieret. For many years Professor Thieret served as book review editor for ECONOMIC BOTANY. We welcome him now as Editor. His term officially begins in June, 1986. As always, Society members are asked to support the journal by submitting worthy manuscripts and, if called upon, prompt reviews of papers.

The annual meeting this June 13 - 16 will be at the New York Botanical Garden. There will be contributed papers, a symposium on palms, the banquet, and the address by the Distinguished Economic Botanist for 1986, Professor Efraím Hernández-Xolocotzi. Dormitory space is available at Fordham University across the street and Eastern Airlines, as designated airline for this meeting, is offering 5% discounts on fares (flyer enclosed). Each person intending to use them should first check with the 800 telephone number provided.

In 1987 the meeting is planned for Chicago where the College of Pharmacy, University of Illinois at Chicago, along with The Chicago Botanic Garden and the Field Museum, will be our hosts. Tentative dates are June 22-25. The likely topic for the symposium will be "Traditional Medicine". There again dorm space and the convenience of travel to a major city will make it easy to attend. Please make plans to be at both of the meetings. It is the cross fertilization of ideas that occurs and the camaraderie that exists that make the meetings more than just (interesting) paper sessions. Those things will happen better if you are there.

As you are often requested, I end with a final plea -- support your Society. Recruit a new member, write a paper, volunteer to serve on a committee, renew your membership promptly. And I look forward to seeing you at the New York Botanical Garden in June.

Sincerely,

*Susan Verhoek*  
Susan Verhoek  
President

SV/sr

SOME INFORMATION ABOUT THE 27TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE SOCIETY FOR ECONOMIC BOTANY, JUNE 13-16, 1986, NEW YORK BOTANICAL GARDEN, BRONX, NY

It is planned to hold this year's symposium on Friday and Saturday, June 13 and 14, with contributed papers on Sunday, June 15, and one or more field trips on Monday, June 16. There will a Career's Workshop on Saturday, June 14, during lunchtime.

The scheduled speakers for the symposium "Palms: Biology, Utilization, and Conservation" are Drs. A. Anderson, M. Balick, D. Bates, M. Benge, B. Boom, C. Clement, L. Coradin, T. Davis, J. Dransfield, A. Henderson, D. Johnson, F. Kahn, E. Lleras, J. Lopez-Parodi, K. Mejia, C. Padoch, R. Read, T. St. John, S. Sekhar, J. Strudwick, N. Uhl, and R. Voeks.

Anyone interested in presenting a poster at the meeting should contact Jeremy Strudwick at the Institute of Economic Botany, New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY 10458 (212-220-8561) before May 10. Jeremy has prepared a circular on the presentation of posters that will be supplied on request.

Pending sufficient interest, possible venues for field trips at this meeting are Hunts Point Market (early a.m.), Glie Farms, Wave Hill, G.F. Research Center, and Mohawk Mountain Home (C. Gracie). Contact Mike Balick (212-220-8763) for details.

**To Reach The New York Botanical Garden**

**By Car**

from Westchester County: Cross County Parkway east or west to Bronx River Parkway south. Take parkway exit marked "Botanical Garden" to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

from Connecticut: New England Thruway (I-95) to Pelham Parkway west. Continue for three miles. Across from Zoo entrance, bear right onto Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard to NYBG Main Gate entrance. Or take Merritt Parkway and Hutchinson River Parkway south to Cross County Parkway west. Continue to Bronx River Parkway south. Take parkway exit marked "Botanical Garden" to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

from New Jersey: George Washington Bridge and Henry Hudson Parkway north to Mosholu Parkway exit. Continue on Mosholu Parkway to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard, turn right, and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

from Manhattan (east side): Triborough Bridge and Bruckner Expressway east to Bronx River Parkway north. Take parkway exit marked "Botanical Garden" to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

from Manhattan (west side): West Side Highway and Henry Hudson Parkway to Mosholu Parkway exit. Continue on Mosholu Parkway to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard, turn right, and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

from Brooklyn and Queens: Bronx-Whitestone Bridge and Hutchinson River Parkway north to Cross Bronx Expressway. Drive west to Bronx River Parkway north. Take parkway exit marked "Botanical Garden" to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

from Long Island: Throgs Neck Bridge and Cross Bronx Expressway west to Bronx River Parkway north. Take parkway exit marked "Botanical Garden" to Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard and continue to NYBG Main Gate entrance.

**By Railroad**

Metro-North line local direct from Grand Central Station in Manhattan to Botanical Garden Station, also connects with Westchester County stops. Walk across Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard and through the Mosholu Gate pedestrian entrance. For the train schedule call (212) 532-4900.

**By Subway**

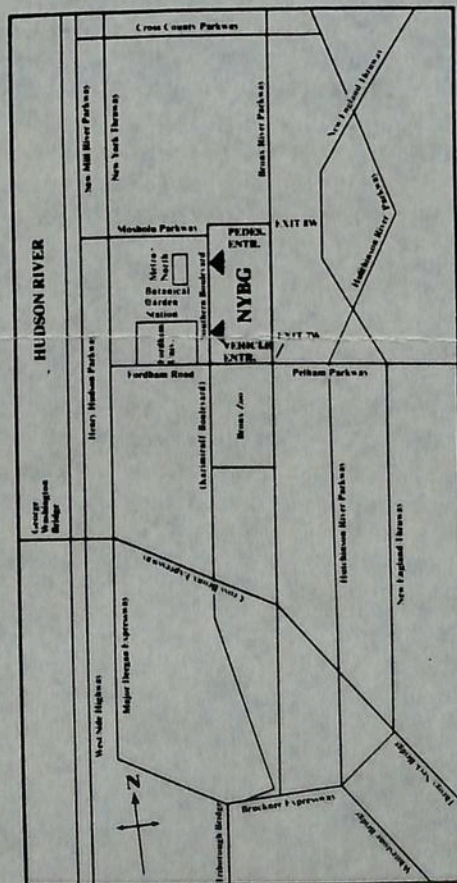
Take IND "CC" or "D" trains or IRT "4" train to Bedford Park stop. Then take Bus #26 eastbound or walk eight blocks east to Mosholu Gate pedestrian entrance on Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard.

**By Bus**

Serviced by lines originating in Manhattan, Westchester, and the Bronx. For detailed instructions, call Garden Information (212) 220-8700.

**The New York Botanical Garden Is Easy to Reach**

Located on 250 acres in the north central Bronx, the Botanical Garden is easily reached by public and private transportation. Across Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard is the Botanical Garden Metro-North Station. Subway and bus stops are a short walk, and the Bronx River Parkway passes the eastern boundary. The vehicle entrance is located on Southern (Kazimiroff) Boulevard, across from the entrance to Fordham University and near the Bronx Zoo.



REVIEWER'S APPRAISAL FORM FOR ECONOMIC BOTANY

The author(s) would, of course, be grateful for an early decision; therefore we hope that you will be able to review this paper and return it by 15 April 1986. Thank you.

Please answer the following questions whenever they are pertinent.

(Notes may also be made on a separate sheet or the manuscript itself.)

TITLE OF PAPER: Intoxicating Paricá Seeds Of The Brazilian Maué Indians

AUTHOR(S) : Peter A.G.M. de Smet & Laurent Rivier

REVIEWED BY: B. Lowy

DATE: 2-IV-1986

Address:

Botany Department  
LSU  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

1. Is this a new and original contribution? \* No
2. Is the paper of interest to a broad cross-section of economic botanists and related scientists? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Are the conclusions and interpretations valid? \_\_\_\_\_
4. Is the paper clear \_\_\_\_\_ and well organized? \_\_\_\_\_
5. Are the illustrations legible \_\_\_\_\_ and pertinent? \_\_\_\_\_
6. Can the text \_\_\_\_\_ or illustrations be condensed? \_\_\_\_\_
7. Are the references adequate \_\_\_\_\_ and accurate? \_\_\_\_\_
8. Is there consistency in reference citation? \_\_\_\_\_
9. What is your rating of this paper?  
Outstanding \_\_\_\_\_ Very good X Good \_\_\_\_\_ Fair \_\_\_\_\_ Reject \_\_\_\_\_

10. If you recommend publication, what improvements do you suggest?

Not original (except for the source of seeds), but transforms conjecture to verification concerning the versatility of some native American populations in their imaginative use of entheogenic agents. (See attached notes)

Additional remarks: The manuscript is succinct, authoritative, and fully documented.

\*Economic Botany accepts and publishes summary-type articles. Thus a negative answer to this question does not constitute cause for rejection of a manuscript.

Additional notes: The formula (plate 4) could easily be incorporated into the <sup>text,</sup> perhaps saving space. For the benefit of non-chemists, enter in parentheses <sup>^</sup> following the formula: (5-OH-dimethyltryptamine)

p.4, 5 lines from bottom: "...collected in 1854..."

According to Schultes & Hofmann in The Botany and Chemistry of Hallucinogens, ed. 2, 1980, p.144, fig.56: "...collected by Richard Spruce on the Orinoco in 1855." Which is correct?

Reminder: I expect to be in Amazonas (sensu lato), actually somewhere along Rio Charicocera, Roraima, Brazil, from May - July. During this period, sending manuscripts for review will be non-productive. The only acceptable item to be forwarded will be Cutter's Maximum Strength Insect Repellent.  
ITS 640 Bernard

OK 18-IV-'86

Department of Botany  
Univ. of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA 01003

Dear Bernard: Thanks for your letter. It was welcome.

Would you be willing to review a paper of 9 pages submitted by  
Peter A.G.M. de Smet & Laurent Rivier  
entitled Intoxicating parica seeds of the Brazilian Maue  
Indians

Copies of reviewers' reports are sent authors but names of reviewers  
are not revealed.

Please return the attached card noting your consent, or inability to review.  
With thanks for your help,

(Gas chromatographic analysis John W. Thieret  
of ca. 150-year-old seeds; Editor, *Economic Botany*  
they are probably *Anadenanthera*.)

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
Department of Botany  
Univ. of Massachusetts  
Amherst, MA 01003  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Dear Bernard:

Thank you for your review of  
Intoxicating parica seeds of the Brazilian Maue  
Indians.

I am sure the author(s) will appreciate your suggestions.

John W. Thieret  
~~Oswald Tippo~~  
Editor, *Economic Botany*

# Economic Botany

2-14-1986

## Manuscript Requirements

*To save time and money, all authors who plan to submit manuscripts to **Economic Botany** are urged to read the following statement on manuscript requirements **before** they prepare copy for the journal. Well-prepared papers in conformity with these requirements are published months earlier than are defective manuscripts—which are rejected, returned for revision, or subject to delays and added expense.*

As the official journal of the Society for Economic Botany, *ECONOMIC BOTANY* specializes in scientific articles dealing with past, present, and future uses of plants by people—with the impact of plants on humans and civilization and vice versa. Emphasis is on “uses” rather than growing of plant materials; purely agronomic or horticultural papers should be sent to other journals more appropriate for specialized plant production science and technology.

Papers to be considered for publication should be sent to the Editor, Professor Oswald Tippo, Botany Department, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. Manuscripts should be submitted in *triplicate* (include originals of illustrations plus 2 copies of each) in order to facilitate the reviewing process which involves at least 2 readers. The ms should be typed on one side of the paper and *double spaced* throughout—tables, figure captions, literature cited, footnotes, summary—*everything*—on paper of good stock (20 lb. 25% rag bond), 8½" × 11", with wide margins (at least 1¼") at the sides as well as at the top and bottom of page. Figure captions should be typed on a separate sheet of paper unattached to the figures. A brief summary of the paper should be placed at the beginning of the paper. Publications should be cited in the text by author(s) and date (Example: Jones, 1970), not by number. In Literature Cited, periodicals (serials) should be abbreviated in accordance with the standards set by *Botanico - Periodicum - Huntianum* (1968). Style and format of Literature Cited, as well as the ms in general, should conform to the best practices illustrated by current issues of the journal. In Literature Cited, do not underline anything except Latin binomials or genus names. *Double check* the spelling of names and titles and verify the dates, volume numbers, and inclusive pagination. When there are 2 or more illustrations (photos, graphs, maps, etc.), mount in groups with no space between the individual items, bearing in mind that the journal page is 5" × 8". Cover illustrations with a protective cover of paper.

Research based on plants other than the most widely recognized species should be documented by reference to herbarium vouchers, following standard practice with collector's name(s), collection number, and the code designation of the herbarium where specimens are deposited (Example: *Smith 15467, TEX*) (see *Index Herbariorum*, 1981).

In general, manuscripts should not exceed 20 typed pages (approximately 5,000 words). Extensive tables must be in a format (page proportion, clarity, sharpness, etc.) suitable for direct duplication. Footnotes in the text must be kept to an absolute minimum. The amount of tabular and/or bibliographic material must be in proper proportion to the length of the text. Excessive changes in proof are charged to the author.

Authors working for institutions or under research grants providing funds for payment of page charges will be asked to do so. Such payment, however, will not be a condition of acceptance of papers for publication.

21-11-1986

Dear John,

As I read your reflections in Economic Botany I thought of our association of some 20 years. Being averse to obnubilation, I appreciated your generally encouraging, occasionally exuberant, always succinct comments on my efforts. After you gave up the editorship I was never consulted again. Apparently, some old reviewers of books do not just fade away, they are struck by lightning.

Officially, I am retired (since 1980) but still occupy my niche here, and remain fairly active in research. In May I expect to return to the Brazilian Amazon for another field project sponsored by the NY Bot. Gard.

With all best wishes

Bernard Lowe

John Thievet  
Northern Kentucky Univ.  
Highland Heights, KY