

REVIEW

TSENG-CHIENG HUANG. *Pollen Flora of Taiwan*

National Taiwan University, Botany Dept. Press, Taipeh, 1972;
pp. v+ 276, 177 photographic plates and index. Price U.S. \$27.00 (postage and handling included).

This is one of the very few local pollen floras that have appeared in the past decades. The author was probably inspired by M. Ikuse's "Pollen Grains of Japan" published in 1956.

Part one of this book is an introduction, including an illustrated account on pollen morphology. Part two constitutes the main body of the book — the systematic treatment. It contains keys to the families (divided into 25 classes) and descriptions of 197 families of seed plants (Gymnosperms-9, Dicotyledons-157, and Monocotyledons-31). The families are arranged alphabetically within these three taxa. Each family consists of a general description of the pollens and a bracketed key to the genera (if more than 2). The descriptions of genera and species are in general very concise. Numbers of voucher herbarium specimens are also cited.

Two most valuable features of this book are probably the comprehensive and useful keys based on pollen characters for identifying families and genera, and the excellent quality of photographic plates. The latter is attributable to the facilities of fine equipment in the Palynological Laboratory at the National Taiwan University and the skilled technique in preparing slides and photographs.

This book will be very useful to plant taxonomists and palaeobotanists and I have no hesitation in strongly recommending it.

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