

The newsletter from the Botany Department at Trinity College Dublin

Publications

▪ **Alexis FitzGerald** (MSc Biodiversity & Conservation, TCD) and **Trevor Hodkinson** confirmed the occurrence of the diploid *Festuca ovina* subsp. *ovina* (Poaceae) for Ireland. Their article was published in the *New Journal of Botany - Journal of the Botanical Society of Britain and Ireland*, 7(2-3): 182-183. <https://doi.org/10.1080/20423489.2017.1408188>

▪ **Mike Jones** and **Alwynne McGeever**, together with their project team members in DCU, have released a report entitled 'A Post-Paris Literature Review of Negative Emissions Technology, and Potential for Ireland'. A summary of the report can be found [here](#).



▪ **John Parnell** and his former PhD student **Harun Rashid** have just published a paper Rashid, H.R. & Parnell, J. (2017). Petiolar anatomy characters and its taxonomic significance in some species of *Premna* L. (Lamiaceae). *Pleione*, 11(2): 405-419. (Pdf available [here](#).)



▪ **Jane Stout** is lead author of a paper just accepted for publication in *Journal of Pollination Ecology*. The paper describes the results of a pilot project investigating the pollination ecology of shea (*Vitellaria paradoxa*) in western Africa and postdoc, **Aoife Delaney**, is one of the co-authors.

Conferences & Outreach

▪ The first meeting of the **Irish Pollinator Research Network (IPRN)** was held in Trinity on 18th January. This network brings together the research groups of **Jane Stout**, **Jim Carolan** (Maynooth University), **Blanaid White** (DCU) and **Dara Stanley** (NUIG) for collaborative and coordinated research into Irish pollinators.

(See Campus Buzz blog post [here](#).)



▪ **Jane Stout** attended the launch of the **Dutch Pollinator Plan** in The Haag and spoke about the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and met with the Dutch Minister for Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality.

▪ Botany hosted [an event in collaboration with the Douglas Hyde Gallery](#) chaired by **Jennifer McElwain** and linked to the Douglas Hyde Gallery **Abbas Akhavan** sculpture exhibit. **Trevor Hodkinson** gave a linked talk on 'Plant Collecting in the Cradle of Agriculture' and the herbarium was opened for tours aided by **Anne Dubéarnès**, **Sukontip Sirimongkol** and **Dongwei Zhao**. A previously unidentified isotype of an *Astragalus* species from Iraq was discovered in the herbarium during the planning of the event.

Grants

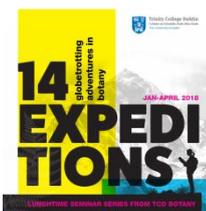
▪ **Jane Stout** is part of the **PoshBee consortium** which has been awarded H2020 funding to investigate bee health and sustainable pollination in Europe. The consortium is led by former TCD colleague, **Prof Mark Brown** (Royal Holloway University of London) and has 42 partners, including **Teagasc** and the **Federation of Irish Beekeepers' Associations** (FIBKA) in Ireland. TCD will lead a site network workpackage.

Upcoming events



TCD Botany Department is co-organising an international symposium, **The Plant Microbiome**, with Cairo University and Leibniz IGZ Germany. The symposium will take place on 18-22 November 2018 and will bring together international experts and resources to exchange experiences and develop methods for better plant microbiome resolution and in vitro culturability.

For more details please go the [the event website](#), or contact **Brian Murphy** (murphb16@tcd.ie).



The **EXPEDITIONS** lunchtime seminar series is still ongoing!

This week, **Wuu Kuang Soh** will be telling us about his fieldwork adventures in a talk entitled *Machete Trails in Fiji*.

The full schedule is available [here](#).

PHYTOBYTES needs your input, yes you!

Whether you are student or staff, please send any news you have, big or small, to [Anne \(dubearna@tcd.ie\)](mailto:dubearna@tcd.ie) with the subject heading *Phytobytes*. Let's share the latest news and always be aware of what is happening at Botany!