

Preface


Since the 1950s, two national floras of China, *Flora Reipublicae Popularis Sinicae* (FRPS, 1959-2004) in Chinese, and *Flora of China* (FOC, 1994-2013) in English, and more than 30 floras at the province level and *Species Catalogue of China Vol. 1 Plants* (2013-2018) have been published. Despite these major works, taxonomic information in China continues to change through the discovery of hundreds of new taxa, new combinations, new records and new distributions. The new information appears in both domestic and international books, journals and various on-line publications.

Much of the new information is difficult to find, and sometimes to obtain, particularly in a country like China, even in modern times. Here we provide a guide to the literature, both chronically and taxonomically, on Chinese vascular plants published from the year to 2000 through 2017. The bibliographies were compiled from 182 journals and 138 monographs or books published worldwide. In addition, more than 400 herbaria-preserved type specimens of Chinese plants are also listed as an appendix. Supplements covering publications before 2000 will appear in supplements over several years.

The first two volumes of *Chinese Plants Names Index* (CPNI) cover the years 2000 through 2009, with entries 1 through 5,516, and 2010 through 2017, with entries 5,517 through 10,795. A unique entry is generated for the specific name of each taxon in a specific publication. Taxonomic treatments cover all novelties at the rank family, genus, species, subspecies, variety, form and named hybrid taxa, new name changes (new combinations and new names), new records, new synonyms and new typifications for vascular plants reported or recorded from China. Information on the place of publication, including author, publication, year of publication, volume, issue, and page number, are given in detail. Type specimen and collection information for the taxa and their distribution in China, as well as worldwide, are also provided. The books and journals scanned are listed in several appendices. Data from the original works are provided through our online database which is under construction. Because of copyright issues, many of the original publications cannot be made freely available, but can be used for research or study. Commercial use is prohibited. Please access the database for further details (<http://cpni.ibiodiversity.net>).

As a part of the renewal of *A Bibliography of Eastern Asiatic Botany* (1936) and *A Bibliography of Eastern Asiatic Botany Supplement I* (1958), the project of *Chinese Plants Names Index* is dedicated to collecting the new information of vascular plants distributed in China. We plan to continue to collect the all information of Chinese vascular plants in the next few years and to publish the supplements.

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