

TABLE I. THE GEOGRAPHICAL ORIGINS OF THE PLANT COLLECTIONS MADE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY

Name of collection	Seasons	Approximate number of specimens	Main areas collected									Plant groups represented					
			Falkland Islands	South Georgia	South Sandwich Islands	South Orkney Islands	South Shetland Islands	Antarctic Peninsula and offshore islands	Bouvetoya	Continental Antarctica	Angiosperms	Pteridophytes	Bryophytes	Lichens	Fungi	Algae	
J. Smith	1956-58	275	—	+	—	—	—	+	—	—	+	+	+	+	—	+	
W. N. Bonner	1957-61	250	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	+	+	—	—	—	
F.I.D.S. Misc.	1958-62	30	—	+	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	+	+	
C. G. Brading	1959-61	220	—	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	
B. J. Taylor	1959-63	534	+	—	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
K. [A.] Archibald	1960-61	40	—	—	+	—	—	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
S. W. Greene	1960-61	3,700	+	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	+	+	+	+	
[H.] A. [D.] Cameron and P. Kennett	1961-62	87	—	+	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
M. W. Holdgate	{ 1961-62 1963-64	650	+	+	+	+	—	—	+	—	—	+	+	+	+	+	
J. B. Killingbeck	1961-62	250	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
B.A.S. Misc.	1962→	46	—	+	—	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	+	+	—	
D. Borland	1962-63	20	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	
A. D. Bailey	1963-65	39	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	
G. T. Bowra	1963-64	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	+	+	—	
R. W. M. Corner	1963-65	870	+	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	+	+	+	+	—	
C. [A.] Howie	1963-65	29	—	—	—	+	+	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	
P. Kennett	1963-64	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	
R. E. Longton	1963-65	1,500	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	—	—	+	+	+	+	+	
R. Tindal	1963-64	72	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	
Combined Services	1964-65	11	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
R. I. L. Smith	{ 1964-67 1969-71	1,520	+	+	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	+	+	
M. J. Cousins	1965-66	80	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	
G. L. Hodson	1965-66	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	+	+	—	
B. S. John and D. E. Sugden	1965-66	48	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
D. C. Lindsay	{ 1965-66 1971-72	3,150	+	+	—	+	+	—	—	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
M. [J.] Northover	1965-66	10	—	—	—	+	+	+	+	—	—	+	—	+	—	—	
G. C. S. Clarke and S. W. Greene	1967-68	719	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	
D. W. H. Walton	{ 1967-68 1969-71	500	+	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	+	+	+	—	
D. W. Brown	1968-69	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	
J. S. Allison	1970-71	250	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	+	—	+	+	—	
M. McManmon	1970-72	201	—	—	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	—	
B. G. Bell	1971-72	1,000	—	+	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	+	—	+	—	—	

+ Indicates presence of material.

— Indicates absence of material.

SHORT NOTES

THE HERBARIUM OF THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY

By DOROTHY M. GREENE

ABSTRACT. A short account is given of the origins and composition of the terrestrial plant collections which comprise the British Antarctic Survey herbarium (AAS). The use of an associated computer-based data bank to facilitate the retrieval of specimens and distribution data is mentioned and reference is made to the main series of taxonomic publications.

THE nucleus of the herbarium was provided by the botanical collections of scientists working in the Antarctic under the aegis of the Falkland Islands Dependencies Survey (renamed the British Antarctic Survey in 1962) during the International Geophysical Year, 1956-58, and in the years immediately following. Collections by British expeditions prior to this date, for example, Discovery Investigations, Operation Tabarin and W. J. L. Sladen, are housed in the British Museum (Nat. Hist.). A further stimulus to the formation of the herbarium was the realization that a good reference collection was essential to the development of long-term botanical programmes (Holdgate, 1965). During the 1960's specimens accumulated rapidly and, with the formal establishment of a Botanical Section in 1969, the herbarium was officially brought into being. In the 6th edition of *Index herbariorum* (personal communication from F. A. Stafleu), the herbarium will receive recognition at world level being allocated the code AAS, and the current practice of using BIRM* as, for example, in Greene and others (1970) will be discontinued.

The material included in the British Antarctic Survey herbarium covers all terrestrial plant groups and, because of the importance of cryptogams in Antarctic regions, it is particularly rich in bryophytes and lichens. The majority of the collections are from the Antarctic Peninsula, its offshore islands and South Georgia but continental Antarctica is well represented. Exchanges from world herbaria, especially those situated in countries which are signatories to the Antarctic Treaty, have provided material from other parts of the Southern Hemisphere including the sub-Antarctic islands, southern South America and New Zealand. No attempt is being made to expand the collections to achieve world coverage as it is the Survey's policy to restrict holdings to plants from Antarctic regions and those areas which have strong floristic affinities.

Table I shows the main collections made under the auspices of the British Antarctic Survey, arranged in chronological order, and indicates their approximate size, geographical origins and plant groups represented. These total approximately 16,250 specimens and are supplemented by a further 4,000 field records, predominantly from South Georgia, which provide additional habitat and distributional information. The specimens received in exchange number approximately 2,500 and Table II shows their geographical origins and the plant groups represented.

All of the material cited in Table I was undetermined on receipt and considerable difficulties were experienced in producing a catalogue with a sufficiently versatile cross-referencing system to enable the rapid retrieval of specimens for taxonomic work. To overcome these difficulties, a data bank was formed consisting of an in-clear card file of 6 in. by 4 in. [15 cm. by 10 cm.] record cards and a coded computer file for sorting and retrieval (Greene, 1972). There is a record card for each specimen which bears, in plain language, the determination, collecting data, reproductive status, details of publications and any distribution to herbaria, together with any other relevant information. The computer file uses a numerical code to record an abbreviated form of the same information. Further details on the working of these files will be found in Greene (1972).

The collections are being used as the basis of taxonomic revisions of Antarctic species from all plant groups and the results are appearing in a number of series. The lichen results are being published in the monographic series "Antarctic lichens" (Lamb, 1968) or in short papers entitled "Notes on Antarctic lichens" (Lindsay, 1971), while the corresponding

TABLE II. THE GEOGRAPHICAL ORIGINS OF MATERIAL RECEIVED IN EXCHANGE BY THE BRITISH ANTARCTIC SURVEY HERBARIUM

Geographical area	Plant groups represented			
	Angiosperms	Pteridophytes	Bryophytes	Lichens
Tristan da Cunha	+	+	—	—
Gough Island	+	—	—	—
Falkland Islands	+	+	+	—
Southern South America	+	+	+	+
Juan Fernandez Islands	—	—	+	—
Antipodes Island	—	—	+	—
New Zealand	—	—	+	—
The Snares	—	—	+	—
Auckland Island	+	+	+	—
Campbell Island	—	—	+	—
Macquarie Island	+	+	+	—
New Amsterdam	—	+	—	—
Heard Island	+	—	+	—
Iles Kerguelen	+	—	+	—
Iles Crozet	+	+	+	—
Marion Island	—	—	+	—
Prince Edward Island	—	—	+	—
Bouvetøya	—	—	+	—
Continental Antarctica	—	—	+	+

+ Indicates presence of material. — Indicates absence of material.

publications for the mosses are "Antarctic moss flora" (Greene and others, 1970) and "Studies on Antarctic bryophytes" (Greene, 1968). Another series entitled "A synoptic flora of South Georgian mosses" has several parts already in the press (Clarke, in press). Vascular floras have been produced for South Georgia (Greene, 1964) and the Falkland Islands (Moore, 1968), while detailed investigations on the two Antarctic phanerogams have appeared under the title "Studies in *Colobanthus quitensis* (Kunth) Bartl. and *Deschampsia antarctica* Desv." (Greene and Holtom, 1971).

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REFERENCES

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- GREENE, D. M. 1972. A taxonomic data bank and retrieval system for a small herbarium. *Taxon*, **21**, Nos. 5-6, 621-29.
- and A. HOLTOM. 1971. Studies in *Colobanthus quitensis* (Kunth) Bartl. and *Deschampsia antarctica* Desv.: III. Distribution, habitats and performance in the Antarctic botanical zone. *British Antarctic Survey Bulletin*, No. 26, 1-29.

- GREENE, S. W. 1964. The vascular flora of South Georgia. *British Antarctic Survey Scientific Reports*, No. 45, 58 pp.
- . 1968. Studies in Antarctic bryology: II. *Andreaea*, *Neurocloma*. *Revue bryol. lichen.*, N.S., **36**, Fasc. 1-2, 139-46.
- , GREENE, D. M., BROWN, P. D. and J. M. PACEY. 1970. Antarctic moss flora: I. The genera *Andreaea*, *Pohlia*, *Polytrichum*, *Psilopilum* and *Sarconeurum*. *British Antarctic Survey Scientific Reports*, No. 64, 118 pp.
- HOLDGATE, M. W. 1965. Biological research by the British Antarctic Survey. *Polar Rec.*, **12**, No. 80, 553-73.
- LAMB, I. M. 1968. Antarctic lichens: II. The genera *Buellia* and *Rinodina*. With an ontogenetic section by A. Henssen. *British Antarctic Survey Scientific Reports*, No. 61, 129 pp.
- LINDSAY, D. C. 1971. Notes on Antarctic lichens: V. The genus *Ochrolechia* Massal. *British Antarctic Survey Bulletin*, No. 26, 77-80.
- MOORE, D. M. 1968. The vascular flora of the Falkland Islands. *British Antarctic Survey Scientific Reports*, No. 60, 202 pp.

A NEW COMBINATION IN *Andreaea*

By S. W. GREENE

In a recent paper, Greene (1968) discussed the status of *Neurocloma fuegiana*, a species described by Cardot (1911), and proposed the new combination *Andreaea fuegiana* (Card.) S. W. Greene. Unfortunately, on a strict interpretation of the *International code of botanical nomenclature* this combination is invalid as the basionym was not cited in full. The opportunity is now taken to remedy this error, the full citation being as follows:

Andreaea fuegiana (Card.) S. W. Greene **comb. nov.**

Basionym: *Neurocloma fuegiana* Card. (Cardot, 1911, *Rev. bryol. lichen.*, **38**, No. 3, 50, 52 (text-fig.))

Since the original report of its occurrence on South Georgia (Greene, 1968), the species has been found to be quite widespread and locally abundant on the island.

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REFERENCES

- CARDOT, J. 1911. Deux genres nouveaux de la région magellanique. *Rev. bryol. lichen.*, **38**, No. 3, 49-52.
- GREENE, S. W. 1968. Studies in Antarctic bryology: II. *Andreaea*, *Neurocloma*. *Rev. bryol. lichen.*, N.S., **36**, Fasc. 1-2, 139-46.