Prospectus

Publication of Japanese Collectanea Commemorating
the 80th Anniversary of Prof. Dr. Tüxen’s Birth

Prof. Dr. Drs. h. c. Reinhold Tüxen, Director of the ‘Arbeitsstelle für Theoretische und Angewandte Pflanzensozioologie’, will be celebrating his 80th birthday on the 21st of May 1979. Prof. Dr. Tüxen has been engaged in the study of phytosociology in close collaboration with Dr. Braun-Blanquet as his best student and friend. Starting with the establishment of the first ‘Bundesanstalt für Vegetationskartierung’ in Hannover in 1939, Prof. Dr. Tüxen’s contributions to the progress of phytosociology have been numerous and invaluable, gaining support of many colleagues all over the world.

Prof. Dr. Tüxen has not only laid foundations for the advancement of both theoretical and applied phytosociology as we see them today, but guided and trained younger generations of researchers of various nationalities. His students have all been impressed with his noble character, his friendship beyond all national boundaries and ethnic differences, and his sincere attitude toward scholastic endeavor.

In recognition of his achievements (including the concept of “potential natural vegetation”) which have crystallized in more than 300 papers, and for his efforts in education of many excellent young scholars, five Doctor honoris causa degrees have been awarded to him by the Universities of Hannover, Freiburg, Montpellier, Toulouse Lille and Gießen.

He inaugurated the International Society for Vegetation Science after the Second World War, bringing together the researchers in general vegetation science, phytosociology, plant ecology etc. Since its establishment, he has been serving as the Secretary General of the Society and guiding the progress of phytosociology and promotion of this progress on an international scale.

Prof. Dr. Tüxen’s name has been familiar to many Japanese scholars from literature since the earliest stage of phytosociological development in this country. Our ties with Prof. Dr. Tüxen have been strengthened since 1950s when Japanese researchers from various fields such as plant ecology, vegetation science, forest ecology, natural geography, etc. started to visit Prof. Dr. Tüxen to seek his guidance. More than 50 Japanese researchers have visited or studied at his Institute and received his instruction. Prof. Dr. Tüxen himself visited Japan in 1964 (3 months) and in 1974 (1 month), and made field trips with Japanese colleagues, making many penetrating suggestions concerning the Japanese vegetation.

Prof. Dr. and Mrs. Tüxen have openly expressed, on many occasions, their fond feelings and respect for the Japanese nature, scenery, vegetation, culture and tradition, and for the Japanese people.

Our European colleagues suggested that it is most fitting for the Japanese
students of Prof. Dr. Tüxen to compile a separate Collectanea in commemoration of his 80th birthday, as his feelings toward Japan and his friendship with his many Japanese friends are so strong and cordial.

This issue was discussed by leading plant ecologists and vegetation scientists at the 25th Convention of the Ecological Society of Japan (Kyushu University) and at the Japanese Meeting of the International Society for Vegetation Science. The members of these forums have unanimously agreed to publish a Collectanea in commemoration of the 80th anniversary of Prof. Dr. Tüxen's birth. We hereby would like to invite your valuable contributions to this publication. Your support and cooperation will be very much appreciated.

April 24, 1978

Committee for the Publication of Prof. Tüxen's Commemorative Collectanea
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