



## BOOK REVIEW

**Plant Taxonomy: Theory, Principles & Practices; D.A. Patil; Scientific Publishers, Jodhpur-342001; ISBN: 978-93-90495-41-2 (HB); 2021; 24×15.5 cm; Price: Rs. 395; eISBN: 978-93-90495-51-1 (EBook)**

The study of taxonomy was established in 17<sup>th</sup> century and has been a focal point of study for the biologists since then, and is regarded as the mother of all biological sciences. It is the foundation stone of life science on which the building of modern biological science stands. It encompasses identification, nomenclature and classification of organisms (plants and animals). But unfortunately, emergence of several dazzling modern disciplines of biological science over the last several decades, such as biotechnology, molecular biology, bioinformatics, molecular systematics, etc., the mother taxonomy was abused as dead science, oldest science, dataless or monotonous science, etc., and has been gradually reduced or removed from the graduate and post graduate syllabus of colleges and universities. As a result, people's interest towards taxonomy decreased. The mother of biological science is crying out for her existence for last few decades. But fortunately, after emerging a buzzing word biodiversity in Earth Summit (1992) in Rio de Janeiro, taxonomy once again regaining its lost status and glory.

The book *Plant Taxonomy Theory, Principles & Practices* which has been written by Dr. D.A. Patil is a sanjeevani to revive the science of taxonomy. This is an excellent and useful book for taxonomy lovers and contains complete knowledge related to taxonomy. It comprises 341 pages excluding preface and content. It is divided into 14 chapters covering all aspects of taxonomy and systematics, viz. Chapter 1- Introduction to Taxonomy, Chapter 2-

Classification, Chapter- 3 Taxonomic Structure, Chapter-4 System of Classification, Chapter-5 Source of Taxonomic Information, Chapter-6 Numerical Taxonomy, Chapter-7 Molecular Taxonomy, Chapter-8 Characters, Chapter-9 Floristics, Chapter-10 Taxonomic Literature, Chapter-11 Keys, Chapter-12 Plant Nomenclature, Chapter-13 Herbarium and Chapter-14 Botanical Garden, Museum and Library. Subheadings and technical terms inside each chapter are defined precisely and in a very simple way.

After reading this book I can confidently say that Dr Patil's sublime brilliance shines in new and unexpected ways with this master piece. The author has written this book with a lot of hard work and dedication. He has filled the ocean of taxonomic knowledge in a small pot. No taxonomy related topics and points are left out. The strength of this book can be seen from the fact that UGC has recommended it to be taught taxonomy in colleges and universities of India for graduate and post graduate courses. It will be very useful to the students, researchers and teachers to learn taxonomy and prove effective in bringing back the lost glory of the taxonomy. I congratulate the author for this brilliant piece of work.

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