

## NEWS AND NOTES\*

*Smithsonian Institution Receives The Francis Drouet Cyanophyta Collection*

One of the world's premier collections of algae, the Francis Drouet Cyanophyta Collection, has been added to the U.S. National Herbarium at the bequest of Francis Drouet. Francis Drouet (1 March 1907-5 December 1982) pursued the understanding of blue-green algal taxonomy as his life's work. His research encompassed the restudy of all available type specimens, countless herbarium materials, field collections and cultures. Francis Drouet's scholarly works include five major revisionary monographs on (1) the coccoid Myxophyceae (1956, with W. Daily), (2) Oscillatoriaceae (1968), (3) Nostocaceae with cylindrical trichomes (1973), (4) Nostocaceae with constricted trichomes (1978) and (5) Stigonemataceae, with a summary of blue-green algal classification (1981). The bequest includes Francis Drouet's library, comprised of many rare taxonomic treatises, his research microscope and the complete blue-green algal herbarium. The entire file is now in the last stages of a computerized inventory that will enable users to obtain listings of holdings by taxon, geographical region or collector.

The Drouet Herbarium includes approximately 39,000 individual blue-green algal specimens and 5000 type specimens. It is arranged alphabetically by genus (within orders) in geographical order as follows: Europe, Africa, Atlantic Islands, North America, West Indies, Latin America, Pacific Islands, Antarctica, Eastern Asia, East Indies, Australia, Middle Asia, Indian Ocean Islands and Western Asia.

The major geographical areas represented, with the largest holdings marked with asterisks, are Europe (Sweden, \*Czechoslovakia, \*Yugoslavia, \*Germany), West Indies (Bahamas, Jamaica, \*Puerto Rico), North America (Massachusetts, North Carolina, \*Florida, Ohio, Indiana, Wisconsin, Nebraska, \*California), Mexico, Pacific Islands (Hawaii, Caroline Islands, Marshall Islands, Kiribati), \*Philippines, Australia, Japan and China.

Major collectors represented, in order by number of specimens contributed, are as follows: A. Hansgirg (Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Austria); G. Velasquez and J. Soriano (Philippines); W. Daily, F. Drouet, H. Louderback, G. Smith, N. Gardner, W. Setchell, J. Strickland, E. Luttrell, H. Humm, H. Bold, C. Nielson, W. Kiener, E. Dawson, M. Britton, R. Patrick and D. Richards (United States); L. Almodovar and N. Wille (Puerto Rico), M. Howe (West Indies); J. Steyermark and P. Standley (Central and South America); H. Chung (China); and I. Umezaki (Japan).

Francis Drouet expressed the wish that his work remain "open for judgement." In keeping with this desire, a special facility will house the entire blue-green algal collection and library within the Smithsonian Institution's new ultramodern Museum Support Center at Silver Hill, Maryland. Photoperiod culture chambers, Drouet's microscope, modern microscopic equipment and laboratory space, as well as short-term visiting scholar funds for blue-green algal specialists wishing to re-examine these collections, will be made available through the Department of Botany. [Mark M. Littler, Chairman, Department of Botany, NHB 166, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560.]