8. LIST OF PLANTS OF POIVRE ISLAND, AMIRANTES

by S. A. Robertson and F. R. Fosberg

Introduction

A visit was made to Poivre by the first author on the 26 and 27 October 1976, and during these two days as many parts of the two islands (Figure 9) were visited as possible and a plant collection made. 58 specimens were collected and another 26 noted, including crop plants and some garden ornamentals. Two sets were made, one of which was incorporated in the Herbarium of the Ministry of Agriculture, Mahe, Seychelles, and the other lodged with the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, U.K. The first author is indebted to the Director, Royal Botanic Gardens, and his staff, in particular Mr S. Renvoize, for verifying the identifications. Noted in the list are those species given as occurring on Poivre by Piggott (1969).

Poivre, named after the famous Pierre Poivre, is part of the Amirantes, 240 km from Mahe, and consists of two islands, Poivre itself (110 ha) and South Island or Ile du Sud (135 ha), with an encircling reef formation. Piggott (1969) gives a good account of the islands as he found them on 26-30 October 1960, with comments on the morphology, soils, ecology and agriculture. Sixteen years later the islands were much as he described them, with the important difference that, the ownership having changed, the agriculture had been greatly improved, with replanting of coconuts, use of fertilisers, more crops being grown, and cattle and pigs kept. There had also been some involvement with tourism.

The first author would like to thank the owners of Poivre, and the managers, Mr F. Huala and Mr A. Bonnelame, for their great assistance and hospitality during the visit.

In the following list families are arranged alphabetically. The names used have been checked by Fosberg and conform to the usage of other papers in this series of papers. Where the names adopted here
Figure 9. Poivre
differ from those used by Robertson (in press), the latter are given as synonyms.

List of plants

**AGAVACEAE**

*Furcraea foetida* (L.) Haw
Robertson, sight

**AMARANTHACEAE**

*Achyanthe aspera* L.  
Robertson 2344

*Amaranthus dubius* Thell.  
Robertson 2363

**ANACARDIACEAE**

*Spondias dulcis* Parkinson  
*Spondias cythera* Sonn.  
Robertson, sight

**ANONACEAE**

*Annona squamosa* L.  
Robertson, sight

**APOCYNACEAE**

*Catharanthus roseus* (L.) G. Don  
Robertson 2335

*Plumeria rubra* L.  
Robertson, sight

**ARACEAE**

*Alocasia macrorrhiza* (L.) G. Don ?  
Robertson, sight
ARECACEAE (PALMAE)

Cocos nucifera L.
   Robertson, sight

BORAGINACEAE

Cordia subcordata Lam.
   Robertson, sight

Heliotropium indicum L.
   Robertson 2329

Tournefortia argentea L.f.
   Piggott, sight; Robertson 2353

CAPARIDACEAE

Cleome gynandra L.
   Robertson 2364

CARICACEAE

Carica papaya L.
   Piggott, sight; Robertson, sight

CASUARINACEAE

Casuarina equisetifolia L.
   Piggott, sight; Robertson 2384

CLUSIACEAE (GUTTIFERAE)

Calophyllum inophyllum L.
   Robertson, sight

COMBRETACEAE

Terminalia catappa L.
   Robertson, sight

COMMELINACEAE

Commelina longifolia Lam.
   Robertson 2365
COMPOSITAE

Bidens pilosa L.
Robertson 2389

Synedrella nodiflora (L.) Gaertn.
Robertson 2338

Tridax procumbens L.
Robertson 2346

Vernonia cinerea (L.) Less.
Robertson 2374

CONVOLVULACEAE

Ipomoea pes-caprae (L.) R. Br.
Robertson 2341

CRASSULACEAE

Kalanchoe pinnata (Lam.) Pers.
Bryophyllum pinnatum (Pers.) S. Kurz
Robertson 2350

CUCURBITACEAE

Cucurbita moschata (Duch. ex Lam.) Duch ex Poir.
Robertson, sight

Momordica charantia L.
Robertson 2373

CYPERACEAE

Cyperus brevifolius (Rottb.) Hassk.
Kyllinga colorata (L.) Druce
Robertson 2372

Cyperus cristatus (Kunth) Mattf. & Kük.
Kyllinga alba Nees
Robertson 2349

Cyperus dubius Rottb.
Mariscus dubius (Rottb.) Fischer
Robertson 2370
Cyperus ligularis L.
  Mariscus ligularis (L.) Urb.
  Robertson 2340

Fimbristylis cymosa R. Br.
  Robertson 2386

EUPHORBIACEAE

Acalypha indica L.
  Robertson 2380

Codiaeum variegatum (L.) Blume
  Robertson, sight

Euphorbia cyathophora Murr.
  Robertson 2356

Euphorbia hirta L.
  Robertson 2382

Euphorbia prostrata Ait. ?
  Robertson 2376

Manihot esculenta Crantz
  Robertson, sight

Pedilanthus tithymaloides (L.) Poit.
  Robertson, sight

Phyllanthus amarus Schum. & Thonn.
  Robertson 2345

Phyllanthus maderaspatensis L.
  Robertson 2352

FABACEAE (LEGUMINOSAE)

Adenanthera pavonina L.
  Robertson, sight

Albizia lebbeck (L.) Benth.
  Robertson 2375

Canavalia cathartica Thouars ?
  Robertson, sight

Cassia occidentalis L.
  Robertson 2366
Desmodium incanum DC.
Desmodium canum (J.F. Gmel.) Schinz & Thell.
  Robertson 2367

Leucaena leucocephala (Lam.) de Wit
  Robertson 2330

Pithecellobium unguis-cati (L.) Benth.
  Robertson, sight

**GOODENIACEAE**

Scaevola sericea Vahl
  Piggott, sight;  Robertson 2334

**HERNANDIACEAE**

Hernandia sonora L.
  Hernandia nymphaefolia (Presl.) Kubitski
  Piggott, sight;  Robertson 2383

**LAURACEAE**

Cassytha filiformis L.
  Robertson, sight

**LILIACEAE** (sensu lato)

Zephyranthes rosea Lindl.
  Robertson, sight

**LYTHRACEAE**

Pemphis acidula Forst.
  Piggott, sight;  Robertson 2385

**MALVACEAE**

Gossypium hirsutum L.
  Robertson, sight

Sida acuta Burm. f.
  Robertson 2361, 2362

Sida pusilla Cav.
  Robertson 2354
MORACEAE

Artocarpus altilis (Park.) Fosb. Robertson, sight
Ficus benghalensis L. Robertson, sight

MORINGACEAE

Moringa oleifera Lam. Robertson, sight

MUSACEAE

Musa spp. Robertson, sight

NYCTAGINACEAE

Bougainvillea spectabilis Willd. Robertson, sight

PASSIFLORACEAE

Passiflora suberosa L. Robertson 2381

POACEAE (GRAMINEAE)

Cenchrus echinatus L. Robertson, sight

Dactyloctenium ctenoides (Steud.) Bosser Robertson 2331, 2368

Digitaria horizontalis Willd. Robertson 2371

Eleusine indica (L.) Gaertn. Robertson 2332, 2360

Eragrostis subaequiglumis Renvoise Robertson 2379
Eragrostis tenella (L.) P. Beauv.
Robertson 2347

Lepturus repens (G. Forst.) R. Br.
Robertson 2333

Panicum maximum L.
Robertson, sight

Stenotaphrum dimidiatum (L.) Brongn.
Piggott, sight; Robertson 2377

POLYPODIACEAE (sensu lato)

Asplenium nidus L.
Piggott, sight

Nephrolepis biserrata (Swartz) Schott
Robertson 2351

PORTULACACEAE

Portulaca oleracea L.
Robertson 2339

PSILOTACEAE

Psilotum nudum (L.) Beauv.
Robertson 2342

RHIZOPHORACEAE

Rhizophora mucronata Lam.
Robertson 2359 Piggott, sight

RUBIACEAE

Guettarda speciosa L.
Robertson 2357

Morinda citrifolia L.
Robertson 2387

RUTACEAE

Citrus spp.
Robertson, sight
SCROPHULARIACEAE

*Striga asiatica* (L.) Kuntze
Robertson 2348

*Solanaceae*

*Datura metel* L.
Robertson 2336

*Solanaceae*

*Suriana maritima* L.
Robertson 2358

*Solanaceae*

*Trifolium procumbens* Forst.f.
Robertson 2388

*Tiliaceae*

*Turnera ulmifolia* L.
Robertson 2355

*Urticaceae*

*Laportea aestivalis* (L.) Chew
Robertson 2337

*Pilea microphylla* (L.) Leibn.
Robertson 2343

*Verbena*

*Lippia nodiflora* (L.) Rich.
Robertson 2378

*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis* (L.) Vahl
Robertson 2369
References


Robertson, S. A. In press. The flowering plants of Seychelles: an annotated check list, including Gymnosperms, with line drawings. St Louis: Missouri Botanical Garden.

Introduction

On 18 May 1979 Ian Robertson visited Alphonse to investigate the current plant situation, and during this visit made a collection of plants. These were given numbers in my-Alphonse series and have been deposited in the Herbarium, Ministry of Agriculture, Jane, Seychelles; or in the Herbarium, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. The first author would like to thank the owners of Alphonse for permission to collect. Robertson has been responsible for checking the nomenclature used, which confirms to that in others of this series of papers. Where the names used differ from those given by Robertson (in press), the latter are given as synonyms. His thanks go to the Director and staff of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, for assistance with the identifications.

Alphonse Island (Figure 10) is a small atoll on the northeastern rim of an atoll in the southern Amirantes. It has an area of 172 ha.

List of Plants


Acanthaceae

Apane siddeleyae (pers. on Dogelmann) Lythgoe. And Pratt Robertson 1979

Purcella portulaca (L.) Haw.

Robertson 1979