

EDITORIAL

The publication of one more issue of *Acta Botanica Brasilica* is always a special event, not only for the authors of the articles and also for those who spend time and effort on the publishing process. The challenges of bringing research results to the public are enormous, and we must maintain the periodicity and quality standards that give value to our Society, to Botany in Brazil and especially, to the work that was entrusted to us for publication.

Upon receiving this issue, the reader will notice an increase in the number of pages, the result of a series of measures and especially, the sponsorship of the Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq) and the Coordenadoria de Aperfeiçoamento do Ensino Superior (CAPES) (Edital MCT/CNPq/MEC/CAPES). This has enabled us to provide more articles for our readers and to reduce the time it takes to publish the high-quality manuscripts that have been accepted for publication. Furthermore, we must remember that article content itself is not only the result of effort by the authors, but it also owes much to funding agencies and the institutions where the research was carried out, as well as the valuable suggestions and constructive comments of anonymous reviewers. Maintaining ISI-Thomson indexation, as of April 2007, also requires considerable effort on the part of the editors.

The publicizing of scientific research is also assisted by the botanical congresses sponsored by the Sociedade Botânica do Brasil (SBB), today, mega-events that present enormous responsibility and huge challenges for the organizers. These people volunteer their time and efforts to organize events of high technical and scientific quality

and promote the exchange of information and discussion forums, thus guaranteeing sustained progress in the field of Botany. We hope to meet our readers this year at the Congress in Natal (Rio Grande do Norte) in August.

At the same time, to meet the increasing demands to improve the quality of scientific publications in Brazil, the SBB's Board of Directors, together with the Editorial Board, is in the process of setting up an Advisory Council for *Acta Botanica Brasilica* composed of well-known Brazilian and foreign members, and is also promoting the internationalization of the periodical by stimulating greater participation by foreign authors and co-authors and publishing articles in English. A short communications section has been created, aiming to divulge important but more restricted results.

The large number of submitted manuscripts and the need to speed up the evaluation, acceptance and publication process have led to the adoption of a system of electronic submission and editing. The dynamic participation and dedicated efforts of many colleagues was decisive in implementing this new system which will be inaugurated in 2008. Furthermore, to save on postage and reduce paper consumption, authors will now receive their articles as electronic archives instead of reprints.

Given the above, it seems appropriate to share our satisfaction with these advances and to thank the members of the SBB for their participation and enthusiasm, funding agencies for support, referees for their dedication in reviewing the papers, members of the Editorial Board and especially, the credibility and understanding of the scientists who submit their research results for publication in our *Acta Botanica Brasilica*.

Board of Directors, Sociedade Botânica do Brasil
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