

## Appendix 4 *International herbaria housing Namibian plant specimens\**

Before the establishment of the National Herbarium of Namibia (WIND) in 1953, plant specimens collected in Namibia were sent to herbaria around the world, particularly in Europe. Locating these specimens today is complicated by the following:

- \* the **size of these herbaria** (e.g. Kew Gardens, London, has over 7 million specimens)
- \* the **age of the collections**, which means that many collections were made before current political boundaries were demarcated
- \* the **lack of computerisation in large herbaria**
- \* the **variety of plant name synonyms and old spellings** in herbarium accessions
- \* the **number of unspecified duplicates (including type specimens)** in different herbaria, making information on specimen numbers, including type specimens, potentially unreliable. Some duplicates may even be identified as different taxa.

The accompanying tables can be summarised as follows:

1. Large and important collections of Namibian specimens are held outside the country and can be mainly found in major European herbaria, especially Berlin, Kew and Munich.
2. The National Herbarium of Namibia presently houses 65000 plant specimens, mainly from Namibia. Most of the collection is post-1950.
3. The most important historic collections of Namibian plants in Southern Africa are housed in Cape Town at the South African Museum and Bolus Herbarium, and the National Botanical Institute at Pretoria has the largest collection.

An expanded version of this material, with fuller data on the collections of each herbarium and individual collectors, is available from the National Botanical Research Institute. Data are updated to 10-10-1996.

### 1 OVERSEAS HERBARIA

Code	Herbarium	Total Namibian specimens	Estimated no. type specs*	Computerised?	Access
AMES	Cambridge USA	?	2	50% of types	Internet
AMD	Amsterdam	?	?	partly, not Africa	
B	Berlin	few thousand	47	no	fairly easy
BM	British Museum	few	21	small portion	difficult
BR	Meise Belgium	?	3		
BTU	Berlin University	many monocots incl. live specs	1	no	
C	Copenhagen	few if any	none?	no	types fairly easy
CGE	Cambridge UK	?	?		
CORD	Cordoba Argentina	?	?		
DBN	Dublin	?	?		
E	Edinburgh	?	3		
FI	Firenze	?	1		
FR	Frankfurt	?	2		
G	Geneva	?	8	no	
GB	Göteborg	?	?		
H	Helsinki	1700	20	fully	requested list
HBG	Hamburg	?	?	no	requested list
HOH	Hohenheim	?	?		
K	Kew, London	many	60	no	difficult
L	Leiden	?	3		
LD	Lund	?	1		
LE	Leningrad	?	7		
LISC	Lisbon	?	2		
LY	Lyon	?	?		
M	Munich	25 000	88	no	fairly easy
MO	Missouri, St Louis	480 computerised	10	20%	difficult
MSTR	Münster	few, live specs	?	?	
OXF	Oxford UK	?	1		
P	Paris	?	?		
S	Stockholm	?	63+	no	Internet
UC	Berkeley USA	?	?		
UPS	Uppsala	?	?	5%	Internet
W	Vienna	? from 1800s	1	no	
WAG	Wageningen	?	?		
WBM	Würzburg	?	?		
Z	Zurich	?	46	no	
ZSS	SSS Zurich	149	?	fully	

\* includes all forms of type specimens, e.g. holotypes and isotypes

(continued)

**Appendix 4 (cont.)**

**2 SOUTHERN AFRICAN HERBARIA**

Code	Herbarium	Total Namibian specimens	Estimated no. type specs*	Computerised?	Access
BLFU	Bloemfontein	few hundred	1	started	
BOL	Bolus, Cape Town	?	20	no	easy
GRA	Grahamstown	few	7	no	copies at WIND
J	Moss, Johannesburg	120 computerised	0	not fully	
JRAU	RAU, Johannesburg	?	?	no	
NBG	Compton, Cape Town	?	13-14	no	
NH	Natal, Durban	?	0	no	
NPB	Mtubatuba, Natal	?	?	?	
NU	Natal, Pieterm'bg	?	0	no	
PRE	NBI Pretoria	?	92	yes	
SAM	S A Museum	?	24+	no	
SRGH	Harare	few	19	no	
UWC	UWC, Cape Town	?	?		

\* includes all forms of type specimens, e.g. holotypes and isotypes  
 -- Compiled by Patricia Craven