

**Thomas Wilhalm, Harald Niklfeld & Walter Gutermann:
 Katalog der Gefäßpflanzen Südtirols. –
 Veröffentlichungen des Naturmuseums Südtirol 3:
 [1]–215. Folio Verlag, Wien/Bozen und
 Naturmuseum Südtirol 2006.**

The triad of competent German-speaking authors, one of them from South Tyrol (Wilhalm) and the other two from Vienna, produced a condensed catalogue of the vascular flora of present-day South Tyrol, also known as the Italian Autonomous Province of Bolzano or Alto Adige. While E. Mayer in 1952 published a check-list of the Slovenian flora in its ethnical extent, extending also to Austria and Italy, and H. E. Hess, E. Landolt & R. Hirzel in 1967–1972 published the Swiss Flora with inclusion of parts of Italy, Austria, Germany, and France, the catalogue of the Austrian flora (by Janchen 1956–1960) was restricted to Austria within the borders after the First World War. Only in 2005 was the 2nd edition of the »Exkursionsflora« (M. A. Fischer, W. Adler & K. Oswald) extended to Liechtenstein and South Tyrol. In 2006, the new floral Catalogue of South Tyrol was published. It deals with a territory with a prevalently German speaking population, which was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire until the end of the First World War and then, in 1919, included into the Italian state.

The taxonomic-nomenclatural part of the book was mostly the work of W. Gutermann, while the distributional data were critically evaluated, in close cooperation, by the »local botanist« Th. Wilhalm (Bozen) and the experienced phytogeographer H. Niklfeld (Wien). The genera and species are arranged alphabetically. The accepted species names are accompanied with a reasonably modest number of synonyms, mostly taken from 14 floristic sources, important for the territory. They are followed by the German and Italian names, as codified in Fischer & al. (2005) and Pignatti (1982). Very useful is the quotation of the first source for the occurrence of the taxa in the territory, in most cases

beginning with the classical Dalla Torre & Sarnthein Tyrol flora (1906–1913) and, not rarely, also taken from later authors and often confirmed by a recent floral cartography project. In addition to a standard check-list there is also a very compressed distribution survey. The whole territory is divided into 5 districts (W-the West, S-the South, D-the Dolomites, M-the Middle, N-the North), covered by the base-field quadrants of the Central Europe floral mapping scheme. The occurrence of, e. g. *Clematis alpina*, is given as »W48, S30, M39, N45 and D45«, and of *Primula mathioli* as »W9«, the number meaning the number of quadrants in which the respective taxon occurs. The whole distribution review is based on the floral research from the first two floral monographs (Facchini 1855, Hausmann 1851–1854) until the present. Over 70 collaborators of the Middle-Europe floral cartography contributed the most recent knowledge.

Great care was dedicated to the definition of the indigenous level (in the Catalogue less appropriately called »chorologischer Status«) of the taxa. The specific signs, placed before the taxon name, mark the 11 different levels between the full indigenous and the unambiguously wrongly indicated taxa.

The remarks (»Bemerkungen«) are mostly short but very useful for better understanding of the different problems of many taxa.

The taxonomy of 2578 vascular taxa, occurring in South Tyrol, is in accordance with the recent molecular-genetic (or, sometimes, also older »morphological« but recently less followed) cognitions. Therefore quite a large number of species are attributed to »unusual« genera: *Anemone narcissiflora* = *Anemonastrum narcissiflorum*, *Arabis pauciflora* = *Fourraea alpina*, *Arabis turrita* = *Pseudotur-*

ritis turrata, *Avena pubescens* = *Homalotrichon pubescens*, *Cardaminopsis* = *Arabidopsis*, *Cortusa matthioli* = *Primula matthioli* (why not, when compared with *P. obconica!*), *Chenopodium botrys* = *Dysphania botrys*, *Leontodon autumnalis*, *L. helveticus*, *L. montanus* = *Scorzoneroides autumnalis*, *S. helvetica*, *S. montana*, *Ligusticum mutellina* = *Mutellina adonidifolia*, *L. seguieri* = *Coristospermum lucidum* subsp. *seguieri*, *Loiseleuria procumbens* = *Kalmia procumbens*, *Orchis coriophora*, *O. morio* = *Anacamptis coriophora*, *A. morio*, *O. ustulata*, *O. tridentata* = *Neotinea ustulata*, *N. tridentata*, *Peucedanum cervaria* = *Cervaria rivini*, *Potentilla rupestris* = *Drymocallis rupestris*, *Scabiosa graminifolia* = *Lomelosia graminifolia*, *Silene rupestris* = *Atocion rupestre*, *Thlaspi perfoliatum* = *Microthlaspi perfoliatum*, *Tamus communis* = *Dioscorea communis* and similarly many others. The genera *Comastoma* and *Gentianopsis* are well acceptable to those with the Himalayan floristic experience. Some other genera like *Bellidiastrum*, *Galatella*, *Helminthotheca* or *Noccaea* were already known to the taxonomists *temporis acti* but are now reestablished. In »recompense« some genera, like *Aegilops* (*Triticum*), *Anisantha* (*Bromus*), *Bromopsis* (*Bromus*), *Ceterach* (*Asplenium*), *Chamaespartium* (*Genista*), *Cicerbita* (*Lactuca*), *Conyza* (*Erigeron*), *Elyna* (*Kobresia*), *Lembotropis* (*Cytisus*), *Omalotheca* (*Gnaphalium*), *Phyllitis* (*Asplenium*), *Mycelis* (*Lactuca*), and *Tetragonolobus* (*Lotus*) are merged into the genera *sensu lato*, as in the »good olden times«. (In brackets the »returned« genera.)

While the delimitation and nomenclature of genera is reminiscent of a »taxonomical tsunami«, the changes in naming the species are insignificant. *Allium senescens* (*A. montanum*) is now *A. lusitanicum*, maybe just to remind the Eastern Europeans of a EU state at the farthest West. However, a little bit perplexing is that the Flora Europaea indicates »?Lu«.

It is worth mentioning that the detailed treatment of the genus *Hieracium* is a fruit of the good knowledge of W. Gutermann and the important and valuable contributions of the German hieracologist G. Gottschlich (Tübingen). Also very useful are the data provided by F. Prosser (Rovereto) for the Trento Province.

As the only criticism to the Catalogue, I wish to mention the »blind/gray« map representing the division of South Tyrol into districts and quadrants (fig. 1) with no concrete geographical names (mountains, rivers, localities) and therefore of little value for foreigners. A full colour page with geographic names would essentially facilitate the applicability of the Catalogue.

Let us conclude to the best of our conviction that the Catalogue brings the most and the best of the critically estimated knowledge in an astonishingly concise form. It is a good example for other catalogues of territories with a similarly long floristic tradition.

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