

The Society for



ECONOMIC BOTANY, INC.

DEVOTED TO THE PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE USES OF PLANTS BY PEOPLE

August 26, 2005

Dear SEB members and friends,

First, I would like to extend special thanks to Sy Sohmer and his terrific staff at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) for hosting this year's annual meeting. I think we all enjoyed the facilities of BRIT, the Ft. Worth Botanical Garden and Texas Christian University. The program was exciting and generated lots intriguing discussion. Ft. Worth turned out to be a fun-loving and attractive city (my first visit). Finally, the Texas hospitality was unbeatable.

As new president of the society, I wanted to invite all members (and nonmembers) to share ideas for the society in terms of structure, meetings, or issues of concern. If you would like to get involved in the work of the society and serve on a committee (see the committee page), please feel free to let me know. Likewise, if you know a friend who has an interest in economic botany, please encourage them to contact me or one of the other council members.

Also, I wanted to give you some advanced notice that I will be sending a request for donations, primarily for the Schultes Award Fund. This is an award that we give to students who submit proposals for research projects in economic botany. We receive many more fine proposals than we can fund each year and would like to do more to advance student research in our field. Please consider this as an opportunity to help one of our many budding economic botanists.

Our next annual meeting will be in [Chiang Mai, Thailand](#) from June 5th through 8th, 2006. The meeting will be hosted by, [Chiang Mai University](#), the [Queen Sirikit Botanical Garden](#), the [Royal Institute of Thailand](#), and the [The Royal Project Foundation](#). Our Thai friends are really rolling out the red carpet. This meeting, to be held in the foothills of the Himalayas, will feature lots of unusual field trips, not to mention the opportunity to meet economic botany colleagues from other parts of the world. The symposium for the meeting, organized by Doel Soejarto, is entitled, "**Studies on Medicinal Plants in the Gulf of Thailand: Past, Present and Future.**" Doel is lining up exciting speakers from throughout Southeast Asia to tell us about ethnobotany in the region. Of course, contributed papers and useful workshops will be the mainstays of the meeting, so I want to encourage all of you to plan to tell us about your latest research results. Details and registration information for the 2006 Annual Meeting can be found on the SEB website -www.econbot.org. I hope to see all of you at what promises to be a memorable gathering.

With warm regards,

David L. Lentz, SEB President
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