



Coming Soon!

**The 52nd Annual Meeting of the
Society for Economic Botany**

St. Louis, Missouri— July 9-13 2011



Botany 2011 will be held in St. Louis, MO at the Chase Park Plaza, July 9-13 2011.

Societies participating in Botany 2011 will include: the Society for Economic Botany, the American Fern Society (AFS), the American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT), and the Botanical Society of America (BSA).

In preparation for Botany 2011 we seek to standardize the understanding of how we jointly collaborate in running our meetings. Shortly we will go out our respective memberships soliciting proposals for symposia, colloquia, workshops, discussion sessions, and field trips. These are the main member-driven, scientific components of our conferences.

Please note: The general Call for Abstracts will close on April 3, 2011.

Any questions - please contact
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Visit: www.botanyconference.org

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SEB—Kenya Chapter

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E-Bulletin *Society of Economic Botany* *-Kenya Chapter*

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Launch of the Kenya Chapter—2011

The Society for Economic Botany (SEB) was established in 1959 to foster and encourage scientific research, education, and related activities on the past, present, and future uses of plants, and the relationship between plants and people, and to make the results of such research available to the scientific community and the general public through meetings and publications.

With more than 1000 members from all 50 U.S. states and more than 64 countries, SEB serves as the world's largest and most-respected professional society for individuals who are concerned with basic botanical, phytochemical and ethnological studies of plants known to be useful or those which may have potential uses so far undeveloped. It is recognized that the field of economic botany includes all or parts of many established disciplines such as: agronomy, anthropology, archaeology, chemistry, economics, ethnobotany, ethnology, forestry, genetic resources, geography, geology, horticulture, medicine, microbiology, nutrition,



Conservation of medicinal species requires the participation of the local inhabitants. **Photo:** local users mapping the locality of the medicinal plant *Rapanea melanophloeos* within Kiang'ombe hill in Mbeere. © Grace Ngugi: 2005

pharmacognosy, and pharmacology, in addition to the established botanical disciplines.

Ethnobotany in Kenya

The people of Kenya have had an intimate and harmonious existence with plants for centuries. Kenya occurs within some the world's important biodiversity hotspots and hence is endowed with a rich and diverse number of plant species, at least a quarter being endemic.

Recent trends of environmental degradation and changes in land use have resulted in lose of plant diversity as well as the diminished cultural knowledge associated their uses. There is need for aggressive research activities and documentation of plant uses in order to preserve this heritage for the future generations and to enable sustainable and innovative use of the plant resources .

Enrich Your Career - Advance Your Science - Develop Your Network

Scientific conferences are not just about the science; they're about the people who do science. You can learn about the science of botany from published papers and books, but you can only learn about the people who do the science of botany by attending Botany 2011. -Joe Armstrong

E-Bulletin Society of Economic Botany-Kenya Chapter

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Launch of Kenya chapter

Welcome to the Kenya Chapter!

Chapters may be organized on a local basis. The purpose of these chapters is to encourage interest in the field of economic botany and to enhance communication between economic botanists locally and between the parent Society, its sections, and its members.

About the Kenyan Chapter

Formation of the Kenyan chapter of the Society for Economic Botany (SEB) was conceived during the 50th annual meeting in Charleston, South Carolina, 2009. The aim of forming regional chapters such as this one is to make the SEB more international, and thus more representative of the world's diverse plant–people interactions. The Kenyan chapter will function to collate research centered on the use of plants by peoples of the region. Knowledge sharing and exchange will be one of the great benefits as well as direct links to the international society and other chapters

Mission Statement

The Kenyan Chapter of the SEB will conserve the past and present indigenous knowledge and practices related to the use of Kenyan plants and promote novel ways of their utilization through education, documentation and research.

Join the Kenya chapter of SEB

All persons interested in the utilization of plants in Kenya or researchers in the ethnobotany, taxonomy, phytochemistry, pharmacology, etc of Kenyan plants are encouraged to join the SEB (Kenyan chapter). See registration procedures in the main SEB webpage.



Letting local people reflect on dwindling populations of *Osyris lanceolata* and the threat from its possible disappearance. The meeting was held for the purposes of promoting the conservation of *Osyris lanceolata*.

© Peris Kamau: 2007



Medicinal plants on sale in a local market in Metkei Village, Keiyo District of Rift Province © C.Lukhoba

Other News

NAPRECA Symposium - 2011

The 14th NAPRECA Symposium will be held in Nairobi, Kenya from the 8th to 12th of August, 2011. The theme for the Symposium is: "Natural products from African Biodiversity". Economic botanists and all those with interests in natural products are encouraged to attend.

For updates on registration and other information, regularly visit the NAPRECA website <http://napreca.net/>