



## Changes to publication requirements made at the XVIII International Botanical Congress in Melbourne—what does e-publication mean for you?

SANDRA KNAPP<sup>1\*</sup>, JOHN MCNEILL<sup>2</sup> & NICHOLAS J. TURLAND<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Botany, The Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD, UK

<sup>2</sup>Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, 20A Inverleith Row, Edinburgh EH3 5LR, UK

<sup>3</sup>Missouri Botanical Garden, PO Box 299, St Louis, MO 63166-0299, USA

\*Correspondence: s.knapp@nhm.ac.uk

### Abstract

Changes to the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* are decided on every 6 years at Nomenclature Sections associated with International Botanical Congresses (IBC). The XVIII IBC was held in Melbourne, Australia; the Nomenclature Section met on 18–22 July 2011 and its decisions were accepted by the Congress at its plenary session on 30 July. Several important changes were made to the *Code* as a result of this meeting that will affect publication of new names. Two of these changes will come into effect on 1 January 2012, some months before the Melbourne *Code* is published. Electronic material published online in Portable Document Format (PDF) with an International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) or an International Standard Book Number (ISBN) will constitute effective publication, and the requirement for a Latin description or diagnosis for names of new taxa will be changed to a requirement for a description or diagnosis in either Latin or English. In addition, effective from 1 January 2013, new names of organisms treated as fungi must, in order to be validly published, include in the protologue (everything associated with a name at its valid publication) the citation of an identifier issued by a recognized repository (such as MycoBank). Draft text of the new articles dealing with electronic publication is provided and best practice is outlined.

To encourage dissemination of the changes made to the *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants*, this article will be published in *Brittonia*, *Botanical Journal of the Linnean Society*, *BMC Evolutionary Biology*, *Cladistics*, *Mycotaxon*, *MycKeys*, *New Phytologist*, *North American Fungi*, *Novon*, *Opuscula Philolichenum*, *PhytoKeys*, *Phytoneuron*, *Phytotaxa*, *Plant Diversity and Resources*, *Systematic Botany* and *Taxon*.

### Introduction

At the XVIII International Botanical Congress in Melbourne, Australia, in July 2011, two important changes were made to the *International Code of Botanical Nomenclature* (now the *International Code of Nomenclature for algae, fungi, and plants*) that will take effect from 1 January 2012. These changes will affect everyone who publishes names governed by this *Code*. As the Melbourne *Code* will not be published until approximately mid-2012, we felt it would be helpful to outline these changes, particularly those concerning effective publication in electronic media (in Articles 29, 30, and 31). For a concise report on all the changes to the *Code* accepted in Melbourne, see McNeill *et al.* (2011).

A draft wording of the revised Articles, Notes, and Recommendations on effective publication is provided to aid editors and publishers in establishing best practice for implementing this aspect of the *Code*. We also outline here what these changes do *not* mean, to guide those wishing to publish new names and typifications by electronic means. We urge readers to consult the report of the Special Committee on Electronic Publication accompanying the changes proposed before the Congress Chapman *et al.* (2010), wherein the reasoning for the changes now accepted into the *Code* is set out.