



Life Sciences Museum University of the Witwatersrand



C.E. Moss Herbarium and Zoology Museum

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Size and scope

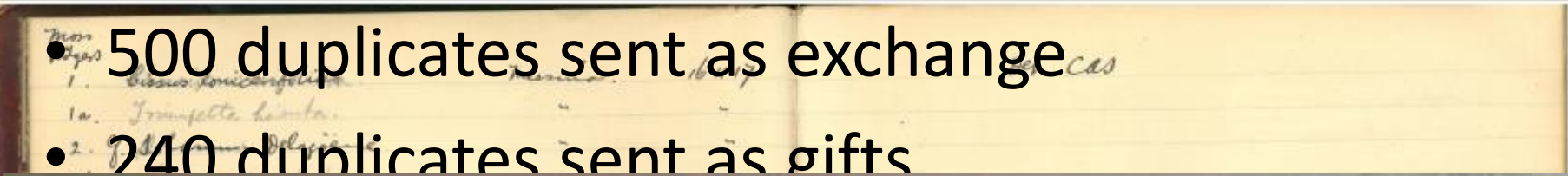
The Wits Zoology Collection comprises several collections with over 60 000 specimens.

Field	Size	Preparation
Anuran reference collection for South Africa	approx. 500	wet
Bird skins (teaching)	140	dry skins
Feltham Lepidoptera from South Africa	approx. 850	pinned
Inhaca Island fish	852	wet
Inhaca Island marine invertebrates	approx. 600	wet
Insect teaching collection	approx. 5000	pinned
Knowles Jordan shells of Port Alfred	15 640	shells
Teaching vertebrate and invertebrate	approx. 1750	wet 70%, skeletal 28%, models 2%
van der Horst slides - chordate, mainly mammalian vertebrate	41 000	Histology slides of embryological material

Size and scope

C.E. Moss Herbarium (J)

- 100 018 ++ mounted herbarium specimens
 - Inhaca, Blyde, Serpentine, Johannesburg
- 62 000 ++ pre-database
- 48 226 in database (BRAHMS)
- Highest J number 99 927
- 500 duplicates sent as exchange
- 240 duplicates sent as gifts



*The biology of a changing world:
conserving African biodiversity*



Challenges

Herbarium

- Identification backlog
- Funding for growth, fumigation and maintenance of facilities
- Effective, safe fumigation
- Updating nomenclature
- Postage and import duty
- Drying material for presses
- Storage space for images
- Potential IP issues related to sending scans of specimens

Zoological collections

- Qualified (B.Sc. / Hons.) assistant staffing for the Zoology collections
- Space for growth of collections
- Funding for growth, fumigation and maintenance of facilities
- Staff time for collection
vs teaching and research

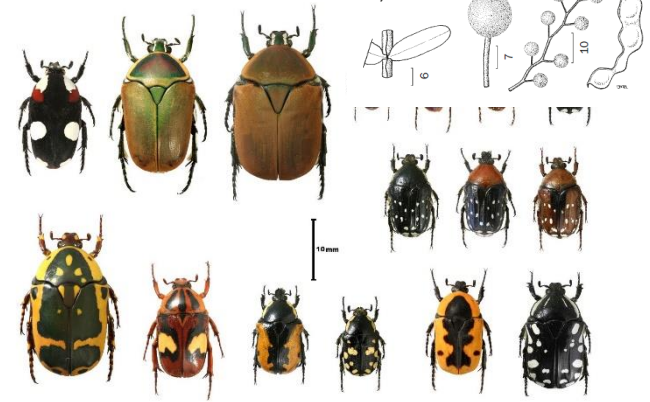
Current projects

Floristics

Flora of Witwatersrand: 100 taxa, 1000 pages

Taxonomy and Systematics

- Leaf chafers *Psilonychus*
- *Syncolostemon*, *Thorncroftia*
- *Barleria*
- *Senecionae*



Pollination

- Insect pollinators of the flowering trees and shrubs of KNP – JH with Jonathan R. Mawdsley, Hendrik Sithole and Guin Zambatis
- Asteraceae *et al.* in Drakensberg GVGC
- *Protea curvata*, *Faurea rochetiana*, *F. saligna*

Bone modification by invertebrates

Yebo Gogga, Yebo amabloma



Taxonomic revision of white-flowered *Isoglossa* Oerst. (Acanthaceae) in southern Africa
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ARTICLE INFO
ABSTRACT
 The taxonomy of the white-flowered species of *Isoglossa* Oerst. in southern Africa is reviewed. Morphology and indumentation of bracts and calyxes, micro-morphology of pollen and seeds, flowering time and distribution are documented. Several names are synonymized: *Isoglossa densa* N.E.Br. and *Isoglossa thymifolia* C.B. Clarke under *Isoglossa elliptica* (Thunb.) Linkins; *Isoglossa gracilis* C.B. Clarke and *Isoglossa glaberrima* Hooker under *Isoglossa wendii* C.B. Clarke; *Isoglossa holstii* C.B. Clarke under *Isoglossa mucronata* C.B. Clarke; and *Isoglossa sckimiana* (Thunb.) Linkins under *Isoglossa oligostachya* (Thunb.) Linkins. Two new species, *Isoglossa prodracina* K. Balkwill and *Isoglossa prodracina* K. Balkwill, are described.
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