

DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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Dear Hannah,

Thanks so much for your prompt attention on that Latin diagnosis. I am again indebted to you. Thanks for giving me the problem about ramellus = branchlet. It appears that English has more words going from large to small than Latin provides, i.e., branch branchlet ramulus ramellus is the sequence that the workers in this group have been applying, but I suppose that if "branchlet" is translated as "ramulus", then one has some confusion. I'll have to check it out more closely. The terms "whorl branchlet" and "whorled branchlets" have been used interchangeably, with usually the former being used more frequently. So your putting it in the past tense presents no trouble.

Last letter or so you mentioned that you were curious as to what these reds looked like, and I did have a few extras that I am enclosing. Let me explain that I have in press Boreothamnion villosum (the type species) and B. serratum. The paper that is now being wrapped up (and to be submitted to Syesis) will have Tokidaea chilkatensis and a transfer of Boreothamnion serratum to Tokidaea. (Fortunately, it was not the type species of Boreothamnion.) All are from Alaska. All are in the Ptilota group of the Ceramiaceae but differ from Ptilota in having often 3 and 4 "whorl branchlets" from each segment of indeterminate axes, rather than just a pair of such whorl branchlets from every second or third axial segment. They thus are closer to your old friend Plumaria elegans, which, however, differs in that its transverse whorl branchlets are used for cortication only--they do not stick out like lateral whorl branchlets. Anyway, this may make these new ones seem more familiar to you.

I had dinner with the Taylors on New Years Eve, and it was a pleasant time, with a fire going in the fire place and lots of Christmas decorations up. I'll tell him that I heard from you. He always expresses an interest in your activities. He did come in today even with an icy coat on the streets. (Jean drives him in, of course.)

I may have two other descriptions for your services by spring, but at the moment they are lower priority than other items of business.

Best to you in the New Year,

Mike Wynne

Michael J. Wynne