



香港植物標本室 Hong Kong Herbarium

歷史背景 Historical Background

在十七及十八世紀有關香港的記載，均沒有提及香港有樹林存在。大部份到訪的西方人士都描述當時的香港島是個貧脊及荒蕪的地方。英國船Sulphur號上的外科醫生Hinds於一八四一年隨船到香港，期間採集了一百四十個品種的植物標本。這是香港植物採集史上的第一個正式的科學記錄。香港開埠最初的三十年間，很多著名的植物學家在港進行大規模的採集活動，同時發現了很多新的植物品種，可惜這些標本都被帶離香港。直至一八七八年香港植物標本室成立後香港才有一個正式儲存植物標本的地方。

No historical account of Hong Kong in the 17th and 18th centuries mentioned about forest. Most of the western observers who visited Hong Kong in those days had the impression of the Island being "no trees, much grasses". Mr. Richard B. Hinds, a surgeon of the *H.M.S. Sulphur*, collected plant specimens of 140 species in Hong Kong in 1841 and these were the first authentic records for plant specimen collection in Hong Kong. During the first 30 years after the foundation of Hong Kong, a number of well-known botanists carried out a considerable amount of botanical collection on the Hong Kong Island. A number of plant species new to science were discovered during the period. However, plant specimens collected in this period were mostly brought out of Hong Kong. Proper curation of plant specimens had only been undertaken in Hong Kong since the establishment of the Hong Kong Herbarium in 1878.



香港植物標本室要事回顧 Highlights of the Hong Kong Herbarium

1872 政府花園部監督C. Ford在是年的年報中提及政府花園是設立乾壓植物標本室的理想地點。

Mr. Charles Ford, the then Superintendent of the Government Gardens and Tree Planting Department made a suggestion in the annual report of 1872 that the Government Garden was a fitting place for the establishment of a herbarium for keeping dried plants specimens.

1878 C. Ford於報告中提及植物標本室行將成立，並以他在香港及華南地區所採集的標本作為設立該室的基礎。這個植物標本室更是中國首個對外開放的植物標本室。

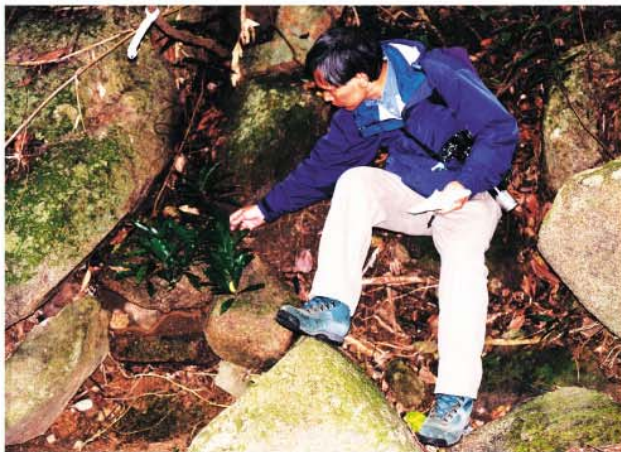
Mr. C. Ford reported that a public herbarium was in the process of formation in Hong Kong. The herbarium was first established with his own collections in Hong Kong and South China. The Hong Kong Herbarium is the first public herbarium in China.

- 1904 標本室的標本數量不斷增加，其中包括標本室人員在本港及華南地區所採集的標本，亦有購自鄰近國家的標本及這些國家的捐贈。當時的植物及林務部監督Dunn在年報中述及「標本室日漸成為遠東植物學中心，從中國各地向標本室查詢植物資料日益增多便可見一斑。」
- Further collections were added to the Herbarium including specimens collected in Hong Kong and during plant expeditions in Southern China by the Herbarium staff. Contributions and purchases from collectors in adjacent countries in the region were also received. Mr. S.T. Dunn, the then Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department stated in the Annual Report in 1904 that "the Herbarium is becoming more and more a centre of botanical enterprise in the Far East and a recognition of this is already being shown by the increasing number of requests for botanical information from different parts of China."
- 1912 Dunn及Tutcher合作編寫了《廣東及香港植物誌》，該書詳盡記錄了南中國一帶植物的資料。
- Flora of Kwangtung and Hong Kong (China)* was written by Dunn and Tutcher, the then Superintendents of the Botanical and Forestry Department of Hong Kong, giving a detailed account of flora of the southernmost part of China. The work served as a stimulus to local botanical enterprise and provided a foundation for the collection of materials for a more complete Flora.
- 1940 由於標本室在當時已具國際聲譽，故在二次大戰香港淪陷前，標本得以遷往馬來亞，由星加坡植物園暫管。
- The Herbarium was of sufficient international significance and special arrangements were made to send the specimen collections to Malaya for safe keeping prior to the Japanese occupation during World War II. During this period it was cared for by the Singapore Botanic Gardens.
- 1948 標本室遷回香港，可惜所藏圖書大部分散失。運回的標本則暫存於港督府用膳廳。
- The Herbarium collection was brought back to Hong Kong, but most of the books were unfortunately lost. The collection was temporarily housed in the Supper Room of Government House.
- 1962 標本室出版第一版油印本《香港植物名錄》，共編錄了1,767個本土維管束植物品種及其24個變種。
- The Herbarium published the first stencil *Check List of Hong Kong Plants* which contained 1,767 species and 24 varieties of vascular plants native to Hong Kong.
- 1989 標本室與中國科學院華南植物研究所共同發表了*Asarum hongkongense* 香港細辛，這是一個從未被人發現的新種。
- Hong Kong Herbarium and South China Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences described *Asarum honkongense* which is a new species first discovered in the world.
- 1999 是年標本室與中國科學院華南植物研究所開展了一合作項目，由該所籌組華南植物學家，全面審定標本室所收藏的標本。
- The Hong Kong Herbarium collaborated with the South China Institute of Botany, Chinese Academy of Sciences to comprehensively review the specimen collection of the Herbarium. The Institute was responsible for organising the botanists participated in the project.
- 2003 香港植物標本室成立125周年。「專家審定」計劃完成，並據此編訂新版《香港植物名錄》及《香港稀有及珍貴植物》。是年標本室與香港的植物分類學家及華南植物研究所合作，開始編纂全新的《香港植物誌》。
- The 125th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Herbarium. The "Herbarium Review" project completed with two publications, namely a revised edition of the *Check List of Hong Kong Plants* and the picture book *Rare and Precious Plants of Hong Kong*. The Herbarium also began the compilation of a new *Flora of Hong Kong* by inviting local plant taxonomists and collaborating with the botanists of the South China Institute of Botany.

香港植物標本室的工作 The Work of Hong Kong Herbarium

香港地方雖小，植物種類卻很豐富。香港的主要植被為亞熱帶常綠闊葉林，也是不少東南亞的熱帶植物分布的最北邊沿，所以在這裏可找到很多華南及東南亞的典型植物種類。我們亦不時發現新的植物記錄。現時香港共記錄了約3,100種及變種的維管束植物，其中有2,100種是本土品種。

Hong Kong, though small in size, is diverse in its flora. The major vegetation of Hong Kong belongs to the evergreen broad-leaved forest of the subtropics. Besides those representatives of south China, many species typical of the Southeast Asian tropical flora are seen here at the limit of their northern distribution range. Species new to Hong Kong have constantly been recorded. Up till now, approximately 3,100 species and varieties of vascular plants have been recorded in Hong Kong and 2,100 of which are native species.



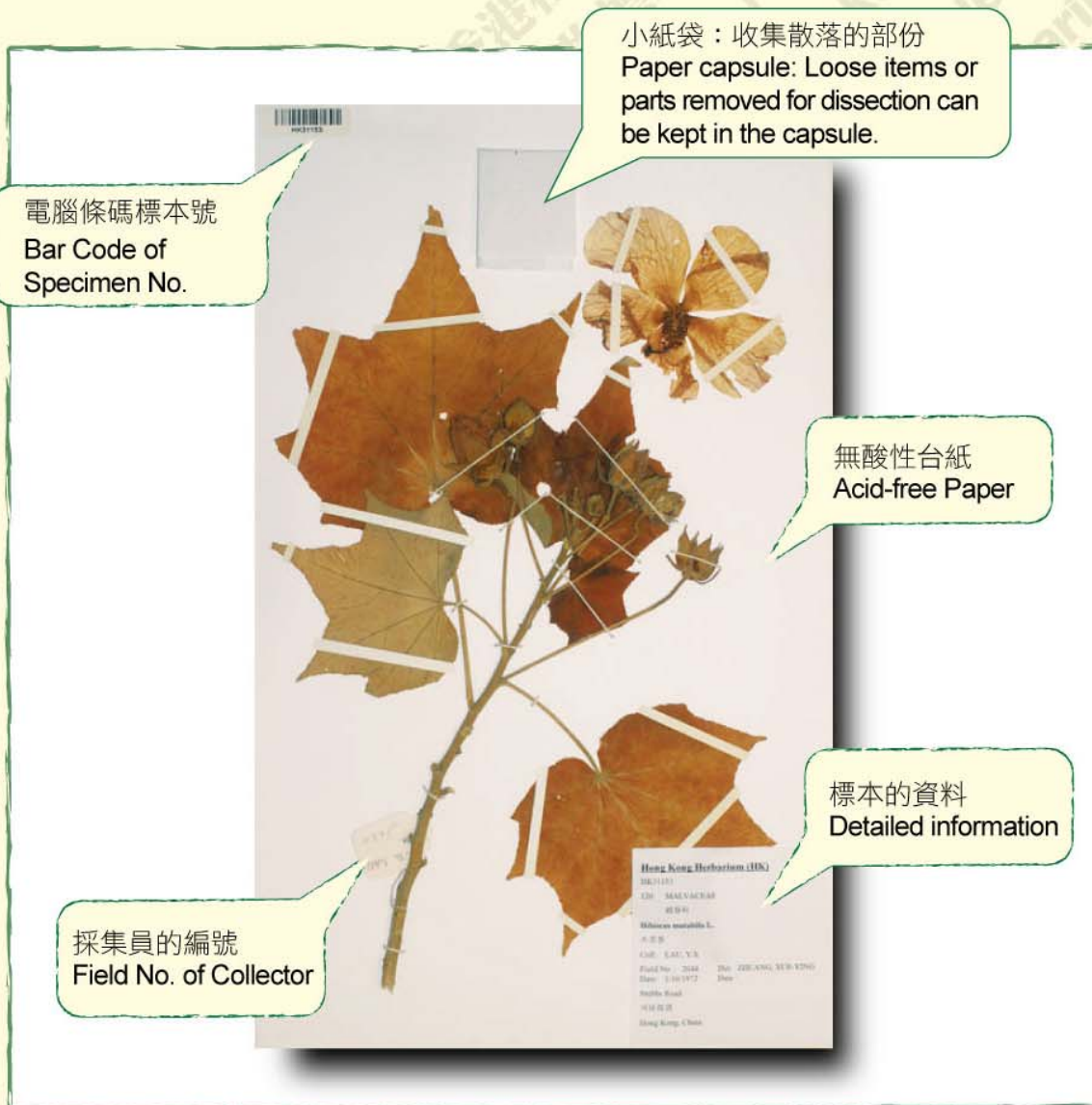
香港植物標本室負責採集、鑑定及儲存香港的植物標本。標本室的採集員經常登山涉水，走遍本港各處郊野，甚至人跡罕至的地方去搜集植物標本。發現新的植物品種就是他們辛勞最好的回報。

The Hong Kong Herbarium is responsible for collection, identification and curation of the plant specimens of the Hong Kong flora. Plant collectors of the Herbarium regularly visit various parts of Hong Kong to collect new plant specimens. Some of the sites visited are very remote where there is no road and path. The best reward of their hard work is the discoveries of new plant species.

大部分植物標本都是以乾壓(臘葉標本)的形式儲存，而有一些則以酒精泡浸儲存。臘葉標本必須展示出該品種葉片的排列模式，花和果是重要的對照部份，亦必須展示出來。標本要經過處理才能放入標本櫃，以確保標本不帶有害蟲而破壞其他標本。審慎鑑定標本在標本室的運作上最為重要，已被鑑定的標本及有關的植物參考書籍，都有助鑑定新標本是屬何品種。經鑑定的標本會根據植物分類系統存放。

The majority of the plant specimens are kept in form of dry pressed specimens while some are preserved in alcohol. Pressed specimens should be properly mounted onto cardboard to display the leaf arrangement, the flowers and the fruits. The specimens should be treated to ensure that they are free of pests before storing in cabinets. Identification of specimen is the crucial step for the operation of the herbarium. Previously identified specimens and relevant botanical references are the essential tools for the identification. The identified specimens are systematically arranged and stored in cabinets.

認識一個植物標本 What is a plant specimen?



香港植物標本室現位於長沙灣政府合署。標本室藏有近39,000個標本及200多個模式標本，為區域上重要的標本室。標本室為公眾人士提供有關植物學的資料。歡迎有興趣研究植物的人士預約到訪標本室查閱資料。團體（最多20人）可預約安排參觀標本室。

The Hong Kong Herbarium is now located at the Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices in Kowloon. There are some 39,000 specimens, 200 of which are type specimens making the Herbarium regionally important. The Herbarium provides general botanical advisory services to members of the public. Individuals who are keen on study of plants are welcome to visit the Herbarium to refer to the botanical references. Group visits (up to 20 persons) to the Herbarium can also be arranged by prior appointment.