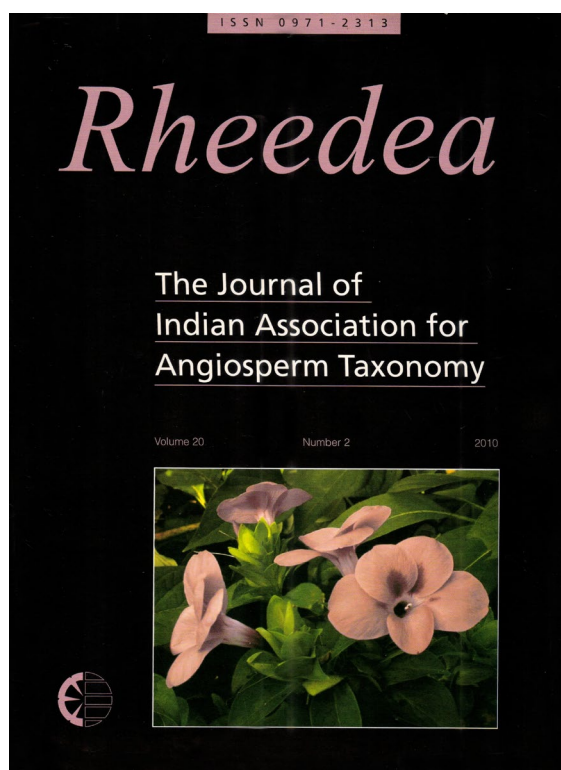




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Obituary

Jemuel Leopold Ellis



Dr. Jemuel Leopold Ellis, popularly known as J.L. Ellis, expired on 27 October 2010 at the age of 76. He was born on 15 October 1934 near Kolar and had his school education at Kolar Gold Fields and in Bangarpet, Karnataka. He obtained his B. Sc. degree from Central College, Bangalore and M. Sc. from Karnataka University, Dharwad. He received his Ph. D. degree from Calcutta University.

He joined Botanical Survey of India (BSI), Southern Circle, Coimbatore in 1959 as a Scientific Assistant after his M. Sc. He has served in various circles of BSI as well as at Central National Herbarium and

Indian Botanic Garden, Calcutta. His service came a full circle when he retired as Scientist E from BSI, Southern Circle, Coimbatore.

Dr. Ellis has extensively explored several parts of India including Andaman & Nicobar Islands. His explorations have resulted in the discovery of several new species that include *Andrographis nallamalayana*, *Grewia inandamanica*, *Jatropha tanjorensis* and *Mallotus subramanyamii*. He has revised Fumariaceae for Flora of India along with Dr. N.P. Balakrishnan. His contributions to Eastern Ghats, especially to Nallamalai region is quite significant. *Flora of Nallamalais* authored by him was published in two volumes and it remains an important reference work for the region even today. He has contributed a chapter on the Eastern Ghats for Flora of India. His contributions have greatly enhanced our understanding of the flora of Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Dr. Ellis was well known for his proficiency in English. After his retirement he has served as a subject editor for the *Zoo's Print Journal* which is now renamed as *Journal of Threatened Taxa* published from Coimbatore. He also carried out a project on Prioritisation of Biodiversity rich sites of conservation significance in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands funded by World Wide Fund for Nature. He was an active scientist and was associated with a Non Governmental Organization namely Karnataka Association for Advancement of Science, Bangalore.

Taxonomic fraternity mourns his demise.

K. Ravikumar
(Bengaluru)