



Editorial

***Skvortsovia*, a new international journal of salicology and plant biology**

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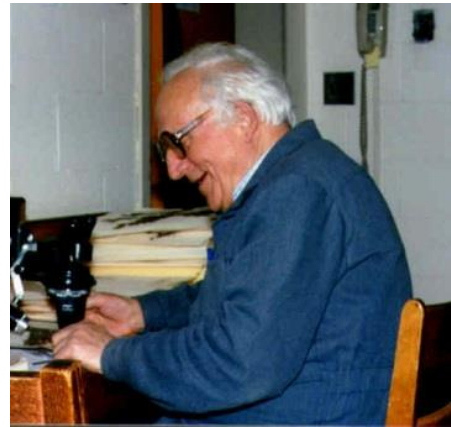
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It is with great excitement that we are introducing to the botanical community the first issue of this new journal of salicology and plant biology.

The journal title commemorates the name of the renowned Russian botanist A.K.Skvortsov (1920–2008). A scientist of outstanding erudition, a world authority on Salicaceae, Betulaceae, and Onagraceae, recognized as an unforgettable mentor by generations of Russian botanists, Alexei Konstantinovich was known to his colleagues and the general public as a modest, considerate person with a soft personality, who at the same time was able to speak up firmly regarding urgent problems in botany, taxonomy, herbarium management, conservation, and the popularization of science and was able to adhere to rigorous work standards in the area of his expertise, including those regarding the language of scientific publications. He naturally expected as much dedication and passion toward botany from his colleagues and students as he had shown throughout his entire life. For international colleagues, Alexey Konstantinovich personified the best of the best in Russian botany. His vast erudition was largely due to his tireless work and constant hunger for knowledge, countless field trips in every direction across the Eurasian Continent within the Soviet Union/Russia and also abroad, including both the Eastern and Western Hemisphere, despite the general difficulty of foreign field trips for Soviet scientists. An avid plant collector from his childhood years, Alexey Konstantinovich was one of the most significant contributors to Russian depositories, also donating to herbaria in many countries through his enthusiastic participation in international exchange.



Even though A.K.Skvortsov is mostly remembered, internationally and in his homeland, for his revolutionary approach and brilliant understanding of Salicaceae that he so generously shared with others, his scientific interests and the areas of his expertise included much more. Our hope is that the new journal dedicated to his name, while having an emphasis on Salicaceae, will encompass subjects within the entire field of plant biology, including taxa traditionally studied by botanists, such as algae and fungi. Along with the main section dedicated to research articles and reviews on various topics, the journal will feature special sections, including Cultivated Plants, Medicinal Plants, Book Reviews, Translations, Memorabilia, Field Trips, and possibly more. There will also be special issues of monographs, checklists, floras, and conference proceedings. The journal has a large board of editors, representing all fields of plant biology and the international scientific community.

Skvortsovia will provide rapid publication in four volumes each year: in March, June, September, and December. We are sure the journal will reach a broad readership through open access to its electronic version and also subscription to the printed edition. Our hope is that it will play an important part in promoting a language of understanding, maintaining an open conversation between scientists from different countries, thus finding common ground where each of us can firmly stand.