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### Pollen morphology of Japanese plants [Review of: S. Miyazawa, S. Nakamura (2012) Kafun no sekai o nozoite mitara : odoroki no mikuro no kōzō to seitai no fushigi]

Hooghiemstra, H.

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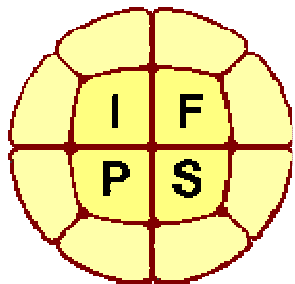
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# NEW BOOKS

## **Pollen morphology of Japanese plants:**

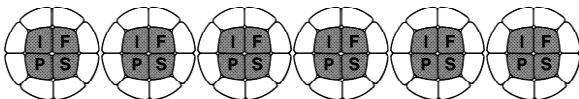
### **LOOKING INTO THE WORLD OF POLLEN (IN JAPANESE),**

**MIYAZAWA, S & NAKAMURA, S., 2012.**

**JAPANESE SOCIETY OF ELECTRON MICROSCOPY TECHNOLOGY FOR MEDICINE AND BIOLOGY, TAKASHI YOSHIDA PUBLISHER, KAISEIDO PRINTING, TOKYO, JAPAN, 335 PAGES.**

**ISBN: 978-4-86469-041-6. YEN 3400 (CA. € 35). TO BE OBTAINED AT THE PUBLISHING COMPANY NTC (MAIL@NTS-BOOKS.CO.JP) OR VIA AMAZON JP.**

This book shows a remarkable combination of a richly illustrated introduction for the layman and a large section with high quality illustrations of pollen grains for the specialist. The latter section makes this book attractive as a support in pollen analysis. The book starts with a tutorial appetizer of 22 pages showing scanning electron micrograph (SEM) images of coloured pollen grains on diverse plant tissues: good to introduce the layman into the world of tiny pollen grains and to illustrate an introductory student course in palynology. The book starts with the chapter on 'Where do pollen grains go?' (pages 2-20). The next chapter 'Explore secrets of pollen' shows aspects of pollen morphology, pollination syndromes, the pollen tube, the pollen calendar, and pollen allergy (pages 21-81). Both chapters are illustrated in the style of a book for children. The third chapter 'Pollen atlas by SEM and TEM' comes as a big surprise showing an illustration of 254 plant genera produced by the Japanese Society of Electron Microscopy Technology for Medicine and Biology (pages 83-329). The pages 103 to 328 show excellent SEM and transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images in combination with a photograph of the plant. For routine light microscopy (LM)



pollen analysis these high quality illustrations are certainly of great help to appreciate the pollen morphological characters in detail. The samples photographed possibly originate from a botanical garden and/or herbarium as all are taxa are indicated by their Latin species name. Gymnosperm and angiosperm pollen grains are illustrated. Peridophyte spores are not included showing the book focuses on pollen allergy. Examples range from aquatics, (ornamental) herbs and shrubs, trees (Asian taxa, which are also relevant for European pollen samples of Tertiary and Pleistocene age) and crop plants. The contents of the atlas is listed in alphabetical and taxonomic order (pages 92-102). The index at the end (pages 330-334) unfortunately is in Japanese only. The international relevance of this book lies in the high quality SEM illustrations and the large number of illustrated genera. As pollen morphological illustrations are most important for palynologists, this attractively priced book can also be used without having access to Japanese. In case of a future reprint, this book deserves a bilingual contents and indexes.

*Review submitted by Henry Hooghiemstra, Amsterdam. H.Hooghiemstra@uva.nl*

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