

Index Kewensis on CD

Index Kewensis (IK) is used for finding the author (Authority@for) or original published description of any plant. It is *not* a subject bibliography of botanical topics, nor does it rule on the validity or synonymy of the names in it. [If you understood that last sentence, it means you need to get a life.] For purposes of illustration, we'll assume that you want to use IK to find out about the Furbish lousewort. [Yes, it's a real plant and severely endangered.] Unfortunately, IK doesn't know the common names. You will need to go to another source for the Latin name. (In our case, it's *Pedicularis furbishiae*.)

To use IK, be sure there is an IK icon on the desktop (software may not be loaded on all machines in CSEL). Before clicking on the icon, get the Index Kewensis v.2 for Windows disk from the workroom and load it into the drive; wait for the disk to stop spinning and the light on the CD drive to go out before opening the program. Click on the icon to start the program. Click through the copyright info.

Index Kewensis (Plant Name) Search

You are brought to the main search screen. There are two tabs at the top: Index Kewensis Search and Authors of Plant Names Search and three buttons at the bottom: Help, Clear, and Search. Help is also always available from the menu selection at the top. The program comes up in the Index Kewensis search, which is where most of your searching will be done. Here, you will see search fields for Family¹, infrfam., Genus, infragen., Species, infraspec., Author, Publication, and Notes. There is also a listing on the right. Click on Genus and begin typing p-e-d-.... Note that the list on the right is scrolling down as you type. In this case, we don't hit *Pedicularis* until the final s; instead, when you get close enough to see it, you can click on the correct name to fill in the search field. Now hit the Search button at the bottom. The Author, Publication, and Notes fields are not controlled fields. You can use truncation, proximity, and boolean operators; see the IK manual on pp. 22-24 for these.

IK brings up all entries with *Pedicularis*. Note that at the bottom, it says 1 of 1220, which is the total number of entries containing *Pedicularis*. Generally, number 1 will be the genus itself. The green area at the top of the screen displays the bibliographic data on the selected entry; the gray area at the bottom lists the entries in alphabetical order. Scroll down (quite a ways) in the lower section till you see *Pedicularis furbishiae* and click on it. In the green area it will display everything it knows about the furbish lousewort, i.e., it is in the family Scrophulariaceae, was published by S. Wats. in Proc. Am. Acad. xvii. (1881-82) 375², is found in the Am. bor. (American boreal zone), and I'm still trying to figure out the codes in the Id field³. The family, genus, species, and author entries are blue. You can click on these to search the database for these entries. (Generally, you'll only click on family or author.) Note that a yellow icon with APN appears next to the author abbreviation. This is a link to the Authors of Plant Names search. Clicking on this icon will bring up a message reading No matches.

1 Tip: Family names use the old nomenclature: "Compositae" instead of "Asteraceae," "Gramineae" instead of "Poaceae," etc.

2 To translate the citation, you will need to check one of two print publications:

Lawrence, George H.M., et al., eds. *B-P-H. Botanico-Periodicum-Huntianum*. Pittsburgh: Hunt Botanical Library, 1968.

CSEL Ref QK 1 .H85 1968

Bridson, Gavin D.R., and Elizabeth R. Smith, eds. *B-P-H/S. Botanico-Periodicum-Huntianum/Supplementum*. Pittsburgh: Hunt

Institute for Botanical Documentation, 1991. **CSEL Ref QK 45.2 .H85 suppl.**

3 I believe it relates somehow to the location in the paper IK, but I can't decipher this one.

Note the buttons at the bottom of this screen. A New search should be self-explanatory. A History displays your search history so that you can go back to previous searches quickly. A Back retraces your steps if you've used any links. A Publication is a toggle with A Plant names and simply displays the publication information in the gray area, rather than the family. The other buttons to the right are for navigating the list. The A Help button is now in the upper right of the green area.

Authors of Plant Names Search

To use the A Authors of Plant Names search, we'll need a different example. Let's look for species described by Linné. Click on A new search if necessary, then click on the A Authors of Plant Names tab. Under A surname, enter A linne and hit A search. Note that there are two entries for Carl von Linné, with different dates. The first one is Carl, the father, Linné. Note that the A recommended abbreviation is A L., though both A L. and A Linn. are used (Meikle abbreviations). Botanists have standardized abbreviations for all authors. Carl's son, Carl, was also a botanist; he is known to botanists as A Linné, fils, and to zoologists as A Linné, Jr. Arrow down to Linné, fils, and the top of the screen shows his information. Note that the recommended abbreviation is A L.f. and is green. This is a hotlink to the Index Kewensis Database for all species described by Linné, fils. Click on it. You're now back to the A familiar IK screen and a list of Linné, fils's species. Go down toward the bottom of this screen and click on A Silene insectivora. Note that the author is L.F. Henderson. Author names are not controlled terms! Author searching will give you a number of false hits.

To get a list of just the plants described by Linné, fils, click on the A Publications button at the bottom. This shows the citation for the species, including the author, so you can see which are A L.f. and which are A L.F. Henderson. Now, as you scroll through, you can mark the ones you want by double clicking the entry.

Printing and Downloading

To print the list/report, use the A File menu in Windows and select A Print Preview. This brings up a dialog box. There are three options for format: A Detailed Report gives you all information, i.e., what shows up in the green part of an IK search box; A Summary report gives a simple list with family and genus-species binomial; A Publication summary report gives the binomial and publication information. The remainder of the choices (current item vs. range of items vs. marked items and to printer vs. to clipboard vs. to file as text) should be self-explanatory. To download the information, choose the A file as text option. Click A go to see what you'll get, then click A Print. to print or download.

Haaalp!

To exit, use A File, Exit on the Windows menus. The search manual is in the case with the CD. There is context-sensitive help available from the help button or a help index from the Windows A Help menu.