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Botanical Garden-Institute FEB RAS
Makovskii Str. 142
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Russia**

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Important dates

January 31, 2012	Deadline to reply to First Circular (preliminary registration)
February 20, 2012	Second Circular, call for papers (abstracts)
May 31, 2012	Deadline for receipt of abstracts
June 30, 2012	Notification of registration and abstract acceptance. Invitation letters for participants. Deadline for prepayment.

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<http://www.geobotanica.ru/symposium>**

Symposium

First Circular

The East Asian Flora and its role in the formation of the world's vegetation

23-27 September 2012, Vladivostok, Russia

Organization:

- Botanical Garden-Institute, Vladivostok, Russia
- South China Botanic Garden, Guangzhou, China
- Institute of Biology & Soil Science, Vladivostok, Russia
- Far Eastern Federal University, Vladivostok, Russia
- Irkutsk State University, Irkutsk, Russia
- Tokyo University of Agriculture, Japan
- Far Eastern Branch of Russian Academy of Sciences, Vladivostok, Russia



The 21st century has seen the beginning of a second hundred-year study of flora and vegetation in East Asia. The East Asian, or Sino-Japanese floristic region contains one of the world's richest and most ancient floras, the value of which for humankind is not yet fully understood. The previous hundred-year study of East-Asian flora and vegetation in China, Japan, Korea and Russia, has resulted in an accumulation of great knowledge. Nevertheless, political, cultural and methodological differences have created many disagreements in terms and theories of plant-related disciplines. In contrast to Eurasian phytogeography, in which vegetation zonation served as a useful model for elaboration of concepts and theories, the northeastern edge of Eurasia still has many unsolved problems. These reflect the lack of existing schemes that adequately explain the underlying complexity of a vegetation that has formed under the combined influences of the Asian monsoon system, its interactions with continental air masses, complex topography, climate and geologically recent landscape change. We anticipate that this symposium will provide a useful step forward in understanding the formative processes of one of the world's most significant floras as well as an improved historical perspective of its influence on vegetation formation on different continents.

East Asian region

The East Asian, or Sino-Japanese, region, which has about 300 endemic genera, extends from the slopes of the eastern Himalayas into northeastern China and the Russian Far East, including Taiwan, Japan, and the south of Sakhalin Island. In this region, tropical rainforest to the south merges into deciduous forest to the north.

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/65890/biogeographic-region/70683/Boreal-kingdom>

The main theme of the Symposium

The purpose of the symposium is not only to exchange knowledge but also to find common points in existing and developing theories and a logical basis for the future study of East Asian flora and vegetation as a phytogeographical unit in its own right. We expect the main topics will include:

1. Holocene history of vegetation in East Asia
2. Floristic and geobotanical input into phytogeographical concepts
3. Phylogeography: current state-of-the-art
4. Plant taxonomy: a key to understanding plant diversity
5. East Asian contribution into the world's floras
6. Conserving East Asian plant diversity: a botanical gardens perspective

Side events

Meeting of EABGN (East Asian Botanic Garden Network) council (coordinator Victor Kuzevanov)

Special session of international working group on Circumboreal vegetation mapping (CBVM) project (coordinator Nicolai Ermakov)

Presentation

Presentations may be made orally or by poster.

Excursions

Mid-symposium excursion (Cost included in reg. fee)

- 1) easy (2-3 hours). Vladivostok Botanical Garden
- 2) moderate (6-7 hours). Ussuri Reserve (temperate old-growth forest)
- 3) moderate (10-12 hours). Islands of Peter the Great Bay (small-island temperate vegetation)

Post-symposium excursion

After the symposium there will be a 10-day excursion through the vegetation zones of the Russian Far East.

- 1) Northern temperate and middle temperate vegetation and typical vertical zonation in southern Primorye. 2 days.
- 2) Southern boreal vegetation and boreo-nemoral ecotone in the Khabarovsk region. 2 days.
- 3) Alpine, subalpine/subarctic and northern boreal maritime vegetation, post-volcanic succession on the main active volcanoes of Kamchatka. Flight to Petropavlovsk. 6 days.
- 4) Continental vegetation. Exploring flora and vegetation of Lake Baikal area. Flight to Irkutsk (3 hours). 6 days

Travel

From the Americas: most conveniently through Seoul. From Europe and Asia: *Aeroflot* and *Vladivostok Air* connect to Vladivostok, Khabarovsk Irkutsk and Petropavlovsk. For more specific information please contact the Organizing Committee.

Accommodations

During the sessions all participants can stay in hotels in the city, ranging from 1 to 5 stars. Details will be provided in the second circular.

Preliminary schedule

23 September	Registration, Plenary Session, Reception
24 September	Sessions
25 September	Mid-symposium excursion
26 September	Sessions
27 September	Sessions, closing session, Farewell Party
28 September	Departure for post-symposium excursion.

Registration fee

If payment received	Before 2012.06.30	After 2012.06.30
Participants	250 US\$	300 US\$
Accompanying persons	100 US\$	150 US\$

Language

The official language will be English

Registration form for the Symposium, Vladivostok, Russia, September 23-27, 2012

Please complete and return the form below to the Symposium Secretariat before January 31, 2012

The form is also available at <http://www.geobotanica.ru>

Name: _____

Title: Prof. Dr. Mr. Ms. other

Nationality: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Fax: _____

E-mail: _____

Will you present a paper ? Yes No

Oral presentation

Poster presentation

Title: _____

Will you participate in any excursions?

Mid-symposium

Post-symposium, part 1

Post-symposium, part 2

Post-symposium, part 3