

Managing Alliances: Plant Science at Bogor Botanical Gardens, 1817-2017

Interdisciplinary symposium to commemorate the
bicentennial anniversary of the Botanical Gardens in Bogor

19 October 2017

Hortus Botanicus Leiden (Orangerie)

Convenors:

Andreas Weber (University of Twente)

Robert-Jan Wille (Utrecht University)

Paul Kessler (Hortus Botanicus Leiden)

In 2017, the Botanical Gardens in Bogor, Indonesia, celebrate their 200th anniversary. This interdisciplinary symposium examines plant science at the garden in Bogor by asking how changing local and global alliances shaped the study of plants in Indonesia from the early 1800s under Dutch rule to the age of decolonization. What emerges is a picture of the Garden that constantly had to renew

itself. Plant science at the Garden was the product of coordination and competition between different disciplines, institutes, communities and networks in Asia and beyond. However, although Bogor plant science altered over time partly thanks to the dynamics of global and local alliances it built on, there were continuities too. Since its establishment in 1817, the Garden formed part of a



colonial an imperial bureaucracy which considered knowledge about nature as an extension of the emerging colonial state. In order to provide a fresh view on the Gardens' entangled past, this interdisciplinary symposium brings together historians and biologists from Europe and the US whose research concern the history of plant science and neighboring disciplines in Bogor and the Indonesian Archipelago.

NB: The results of the symposium will be published in early 2018 as special issue of peer-reviewed and open access history of science journal *Studium. Tijdschrift voor Wetenschaps- en Universiteitsgeschiedenis*. The special issue proposal has been accepted by the journal's editors.

Symposium programme

Final draft

13:00-13:15	Janko Duinker, or someone else from hortus, and Andreas Weber	Opening
13.15-14:00	Andreas Weber, University of Twente	Establishing a Niche: Imperial Horticulture in the Early Nineteenth century Indonesian Archipelago
14:00-14:30	Justin Jansen, Naturalis Biodiversity Center	The bird collections of the Baudin expedition 1800-1804
14:30 -15.00	Coffee break	
15.00-15.45	Robert-Jan Wille, Utrecht University	From Chemical Experiments to Biological Development: Changing Repertoires of Technocracy in the Dutch Indies, 1868-1909
15.45-16.15	Eulàlia Gassó Miracle, Naturalis Biodiversity Center	Collecting butterflies in the early twentieth century Indonesian Archipelago: the J.M.A. van Groenendael collection disclosed
16.15-17.00	Andrew Goss, Augusta University, US	Inventing the Kebun Raya in the New Republic: Scientific Cooperation at the Bogor Botanical Gardens in the Age of Decolonization
17.00-17.10	Robert Jan Wille	Closing remarks
17.10-18.00	Borrel	

Short biographies of speakers:

Andreas Weber, is historian of science at the University of Twente. His research focusses on the history of botany, zoology and chemistry in the Indonesian Archipelago in the first half of the nineteenth century. He is author of a study on Caspar Georg Carl Reinwardt (1773-1854), founder of Bogor Botanical Gardens.

Justin Jansen, is a bird expert and PhD candidate at Naturalis Biodiversity Center. His research focusses historical bird collections brought together in the Indonesian Archipelago and elsewhere.

Robert-Jan Wille, is a historian of science at Utrecht University. His research focusses on the history of plant science at Bogor gardens in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. He is author of a study on the history of plant science in Bogor around 1900.

Eulàlia Gassó Miracle is a biologist and historian of science at Naturalis Biodiversity Center. She is currently working on a PhD on the early years of Naturalis. Moreover, she is involved in disclosing the J.M.A. van Groenendael collection, a unique collection of butterflies from the Indonesian Archipelago.

Andrew Goss, is a historian of science at Augusta University in the US. He is author of the monograph *The floracrats: state-sponsored science and the failure of the enlightenment in Indonesia*.