The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

*Huntia* publishes articles on all aspects of the history of botany, including exploration, art, literature, biography, iconography, and bibliography. The journal is published irregularly in one or more numbers per volume of approximately 200 pages by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. External contributions to *Huntia* are welcome. Page charges have been eliminated. All manuscripts are subject to external peer review. Before submitting manuscripts for consideration, please review the “Guidelines for Contributors,” which are available on the Web site or by request. Direct editorial correspondence to the Editor. Send books for announcement or review to the Book Reviews and Announcements Editor. The subscription rate is $60.00 per volume. Send orders for subscriptions and back issues to the Institute. Hunt Institute Associates receive *Huntia* as a benefit of membership; contact the Institute for more information.

Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
Carnegie Mellon University  
5000 Forbes Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890  
Telephone: 412-268-2434  
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu  
Web site: http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/  
HIbD/Publications/HI-Pubs/Pub-Huntia.shtml

Editor Scarlett T. Townsend
Book Reviews and Announcements Editor Charlotte A. Tancin
Associate Editors Gavin D. R. Bridson  
T. D. Jacobsen  
Angela L. Todd  
Frederick H. Utech  
James J. White
Designer Eugene B. Bruno  
Photographer Frank A. Reynolds

Printed and bound by Hoechstetter Printing, Pittsburgh, PA

© 2005 Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation  
All Rights Reserved

ISSN 0073-4071
Contents

Polifolia revisited and explained
   E. Charles Nelson and P. H. Oswald  5–11

The inside story: A commentary on the study of lichen structure in the 18th and 19th centuries
   M. E. Mitchell  13–29

A historical survey of botanical exploration in Antarctica
   David S. Senchina  31–69

The common persimmon (Diospyros virginiana L.): The history of an underutilized fruit tree (16th–19th centuries)
   C. H. Briand  71–89

Book Reviews and Announcements  91–107