



IAPI Tip Cards currently available

TipCards are A5 laminated cards containing information worth keeping to hand with the drawing materials, an *aide-mémoire* for the topic concerned. There are three series, on card of different colours. Green TipCards are on botanical topics. Grey TipCards cover techniques of drawing or related matters such as scale bars or using microscopes. Yellow TipCards provide concise information about plant families: the first one covers the 14 most important families in the British Isles and others will deal with a single family in more detail.

Topics under consideration for further TipCards include inflorescences, setting up a cytological microscope, and the families Leguminosae and Ericaceae. Other suggestions will be welcome, also comments or ideas for improvements on the existing cards.

TipCards are available at £1 each, from IAPI meetings. Alternatively, email Editor@IAP1.org.UK to obtain TipCards by post.

Botanical topics—green cards

Naming and Classifying Plants Covers how to write scientific names, of families, genera, species, subspecies, variety, form, hybrids and cultivars.

Parts of a Simple Flower Diagrams with the parts labelled, useful when the mind goes blank about the gynoecium or the calyx, or you need to remember how to work out whether the ovary is inferior or superior.

Analytical Illustration of Leaves A checklist of the features to look for: vein pattern, margins, stipules, phyllotaxis, and so on.

From Flower to Fruit The fates of flower parts as the flower develops into a fruit, with a sequence of illustrations of sweet pea as an example.

Illustration topics—grey cards

Constructing a Scale Bar On one side the instructions are step by step, on the other from first principles.

Setting Up and Using a Dissecting Microscope Instructions generalized to be suitable for any make of dissecting microscope, with a few points about drawing from the microscope.

Habit Drawings What to show on habit drawings of the whole plant, to complement illustrations of detached shoots, with practical tips.

Plant families—yellow cards

Important Plant Families in the British Isles Characteristics of 14 plant families that include 60% of species native to the British Isles.

The Grass Family Gramineae (Poaceae) Brief details of the family worldwide and in the British Isles, with illustrations to point out the characteristic features of the leaf and flower.

The Orchid Family Orchidaceae Notes on the second largest family of flowering plants, putting the orchids of the British Isles in a worldwide context; the peculiar features of the flowers are illustrated.