

Annual Report of the Web Page Committee, 2002

This year a major milestone was met as the main BSA web server served its *millionth page*. So far, as of June 30, 2002, 1,644,458 pages have been served from the main site. The choice of the name web "page" committee is an anachronism, as the number of distinct files are over 3,000 on the main server and additional servers. Four meeting sites with abstracts currently maintained have over 1500 pages each. The amount of data online exceeds 3 gigabytes.

Current web service record on the botany.org domain:

BSA website, FTP site, domain name service (DNS), e-mail service, and general web service, is located at the University of Oklahoma, under the direction of Scott Russell (from February 3, 2000). Last year, the BSA operation ran on one Pentium 120 as DNS and web server, and 2 Pentium 166 web server, all under Linux. A Pentium III at 733 MHz is now serving images, meeting sites from 2000 onwards and the announcement site. These all have UPS units that will provide at least 15 min of service in case of power interruption.

BSA Directory, administered at California State University-Stanislaus, is under the direction of Steve Wolf (from February 10, 2000)

Numbers of pages served for botany.org:

1995-96: No records at <http://falk.ucdavis.edu/bsa/>

1997: 58,994 hits (March 4, 1997 through December 31, 1997)

1998: 184,266 hits (January 1, 1998 through December 31, 1998), up 212%

1999: 252,344 pro-rated estimate based on 189,251 hits (January 1, 1999 through September 30, 1999)*, up 40%

2000: 343,207 hits (February 1, 2000 through December 31, 2000)*, up 36%

2001: 571,948 hits (January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2001), up 31%

2002: 292,832 hits (January 1, 2002 through June 30, 2002), up about 3% so far this year

*Logs were unavailable due to change of servers for Oct 1999 through Jan 2000.

Other sub-domains and virtual servers of botany.org:

In addition to the <http://images.botany.org/> site, there are also some other virtual servers. The <http://admin.botany.org/> server contains confidential BSA documents and forms under password control. To handle BSA announcements, <http://announce.botany.org/> was created. Four meeting sites, <http://www.botany2000.org/>, <http://www.botany2001.org/>, <http://www.botany2002.org/> and <http://www.botany2003.org/> are now available. The AJB supplementary data site is <http://ajbsupp.botany.org/> and the McIntosh site is at <http://mcintosh.botany.org/>.

Domain name service (DNS) for botany.org:

In addition to the activity on the web servers, the domain name servers log over 150,000 requests per week for DNS information. Hackers also tend to use weaknesses in DNS's BIND program to compromise systems. This is our major weakness in the current system, as a failure here brings down all machines.

American Journal of Botany Online service:

Here is a summary of the activity of the *American Journal of Botany Online* server run by HighWire Press on behalf of the Botanical Society of America. The free period of web service ended June 12, 2002. After that time, access is by password for individual users and by IP blocks for institutional members. This clearly reduced the usage of the site. The experience of other HighWire Press journals, however, has been that usership rapidly increases to free levels once users are used to it being a paid site.

Week	Requests	Requests-OK	Requests-Fail	Distinct Files	Unique Hosts	Traffic in KB	PDFs
Totals 2002 so far	917,358	329,036	31,871	301,209	96,335	44,010,843	65,191
Weekly	32,763	11,751	1,138	10,757	3,441	1,571,816	2,328
Maximum	53,194	14,742	4,746	22,196	4,215	2,542,000	4,654
Minimum	18,014	8,901	176	4,737	2,408	378,493	207

Total	3,371,316	1,228,416	122,976	1,090,447	378,291	124,604,424	219,801
Totals 1999	657,469	315,491	52,435	193,376	76,670	16,104,467	28,515
Totals 2000	1,060,440	395,342	18,246	341,997	120,751	35,999,637	65,395
Totals 2001	1,653,407	517,583	52,295	555,074	180,870	72,500,320	125,891
Totals 2002	917,358	329,036	31,871	301,209	96,335	44,010,843	65,191

Weekly

Averages 1999	13149	6310	1049	3868	1533	322089	570
Averages 2000	20008	7459	344	6453	2278	679238	1,234
Averages 2001	31796	9954	1006	10675	3478	1394237	2,421
Averages 2002	32763	11751	1138	10757	3441	1571816	2,328

Monthly

Averages 1999	54789	26291	4370	16115	6389	1342039	2,376
Averages 2000	88370	32945	1521	28500	10063	2999970	5,450
Averages 2001	137783	43132	4358	46256	15072	6041647	10,491
Averages 2002	141971	50922	4932	46615	14909	6811149	10,089

This represented an increase in usership of over 100% per year for each of the last three years. HighWire Press finds these statistics surprisingly high when we were compared among clients of similar size and mission.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Russell, Webmaster and Chair, Web Page Committee

Members of committee, 2002-2003:

- Ross Koning (2002)
- Steven J. Wolf (2002)
- James L. Reveal (2003)
- Pam Diggle (2004)
- James Mickle (2004)
- Rob Reinsvold (2004), Education Committee Chair, ex officio
- Marshall Sundberg, Editor, PSB ex officio
- Karl Niklas, Editor, AJB ex officio
- Jennifer Richards (2003), Secretary, ex officio
- Business Manager, ex officio