

Lotus Newsletter, No. 1, 1970.

Species of Lotus are found throughout the World, and are very diverse in respect to a number of characteristics, such as life form, ecology, reproductive biology, cytology, taxonomy and genetics. Lotus corniculatus and a few closely related species are now being grown commercially for forage in a number of countries. Observations on other Lotus species growing in their native habitat have suggested that they may have economic potential as ornamentals and ground covers, for soil erosion, and for use under arid and saline conditions in certain geographic areas.

In discussions and correspondence, there has been considerable interest in establishing a news medium amongst workers engaged in research on Lotus. Consequently, I have written to a number of individuals whom I knew were actively engaged in Lotus research to ask if they were interested in participating in the establishment of a newsletter by contributing information on their research projects. The response has been most enthusiastic.