

Project Update: September 2002

Following our highly successful trip in January 2002 we have been writing up the scientific papers on the project. The papers on the comparison between *Aloe perryi* and *Aloe sp. nova* and on the conservation status of *Duvaliandra dioscoridis* have been accepted for oral presentation at the Conference of the Yemeni Scientific Research Foundation in October to be held in Taiz in October 2002, and to be published in the Yemeni Journal of Science. Unfortunately, my colleague will not be able to attend the conference due to work commitments so the latter paper will not be presented but will be prepared for publication in another Journal. I will be attending the Conference and presenting the species comparison paper.

I am also taking advantage of this trip to spend some additional time on the island in company with other scientific colleagues, following up some of the questions raised in our earlier work. We also hope to do some research on the ecology of Aloes on the Yemen mainland in the area of Taiz in early October. Additional papers are in preparation, and we are continuing our work investigating the possibilities of increasing the harvesting of the Aloe sap which can provide a valuable additional income for local people.