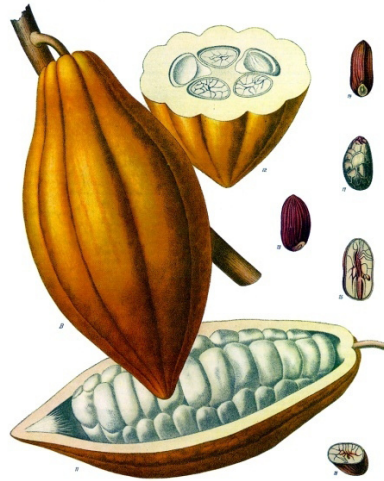


“Food For Thought: 21st Century Perspectives on Ethnobotany”

In collaboration with the United States Botanic Garden
Supported by the Cuatrecasas Family Foundation



People are dependent upon plants for food, clothing, medicine, fuel and other necessities of life. Humans and plants have interacted for as long as humans have existed, but our relationship is not static. Since the advent of agriculture we have exerted evolutionary pressure on plants that are of importance to us. Indigenous and industrialized societies have interacted with plants in their environments and influenced not only crop plants, but also cultural landscapes. The Smithsonian Botanical Symposium, hosted by the Departments of Botany and Anthropology, will examine the 21st century transformation of the field of ethnobotany. The invited speakers will cover a wide range of topics: from the role molecular biology now has in elucidating crop domestication to the ways in which peoples across myriad ecosystems interact with specific plants and landscapes.

The Botanical Symposium is one of many activities planned to celebrate the Centennial of the National Museum of Natural History. Symposium participants are invited to visit the new David H. Koch Hall of Human Origins, which is dedicated to the understanding of human origins. This major exhibition opening in March 2010 is based on decades of cutting-edge research by Smithsonian scientists, and it tells the epic story of human evolution and how this occurred over the course of six million years in response to a changing world.

Theobroma cacao L. from Köhler's
Medizinal-Pflanzen in Naturgetreuen
Abbildungen mit Kurz Erläuterndem Texte.
1887. Gera-Untermhaus, Germany.

Information and registration at <http://botany.si.edu/sbs/>
Fax: 202-786-2563 – e-mail: sbs@si.edu
Registration is now open



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