

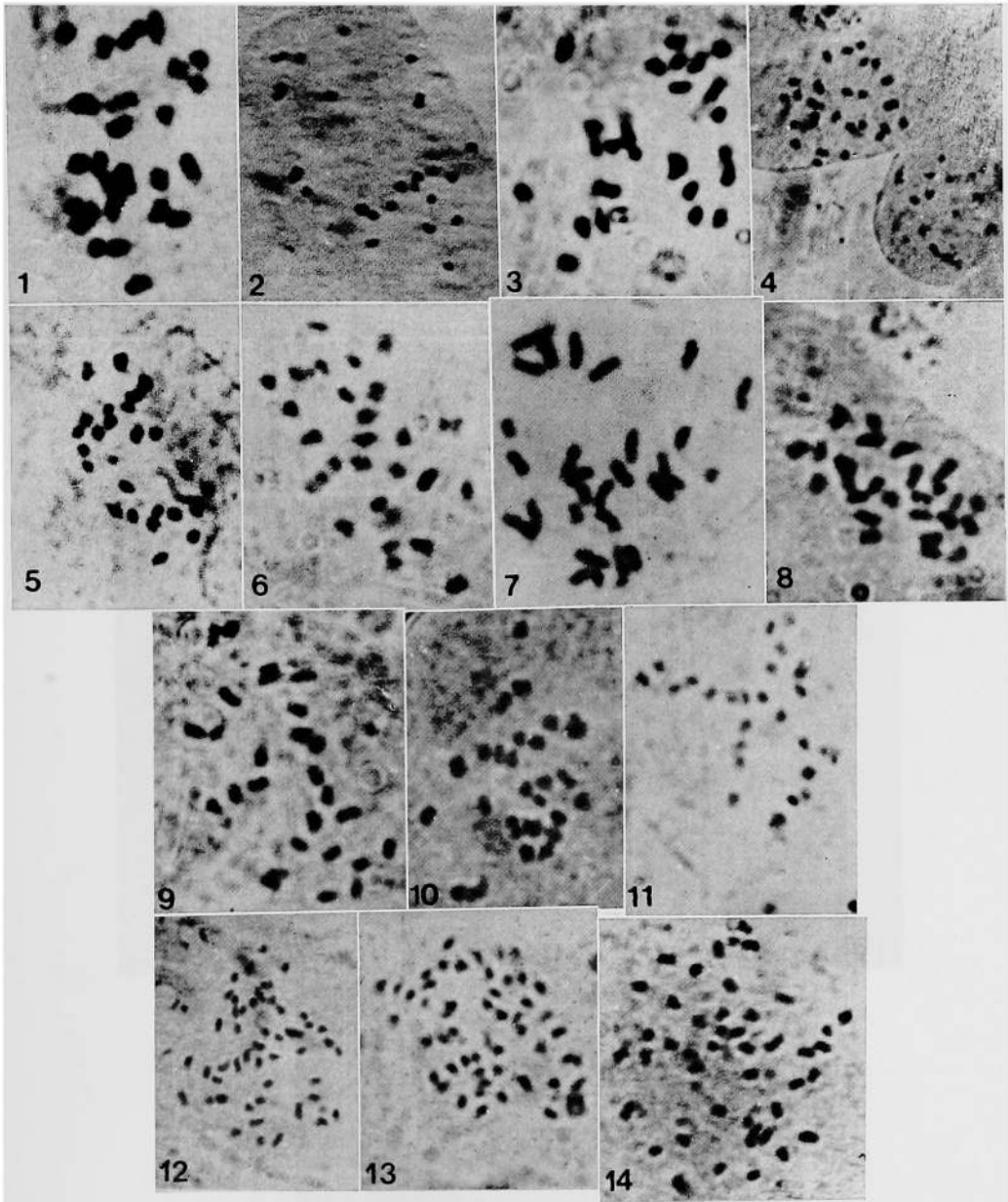




## Observations

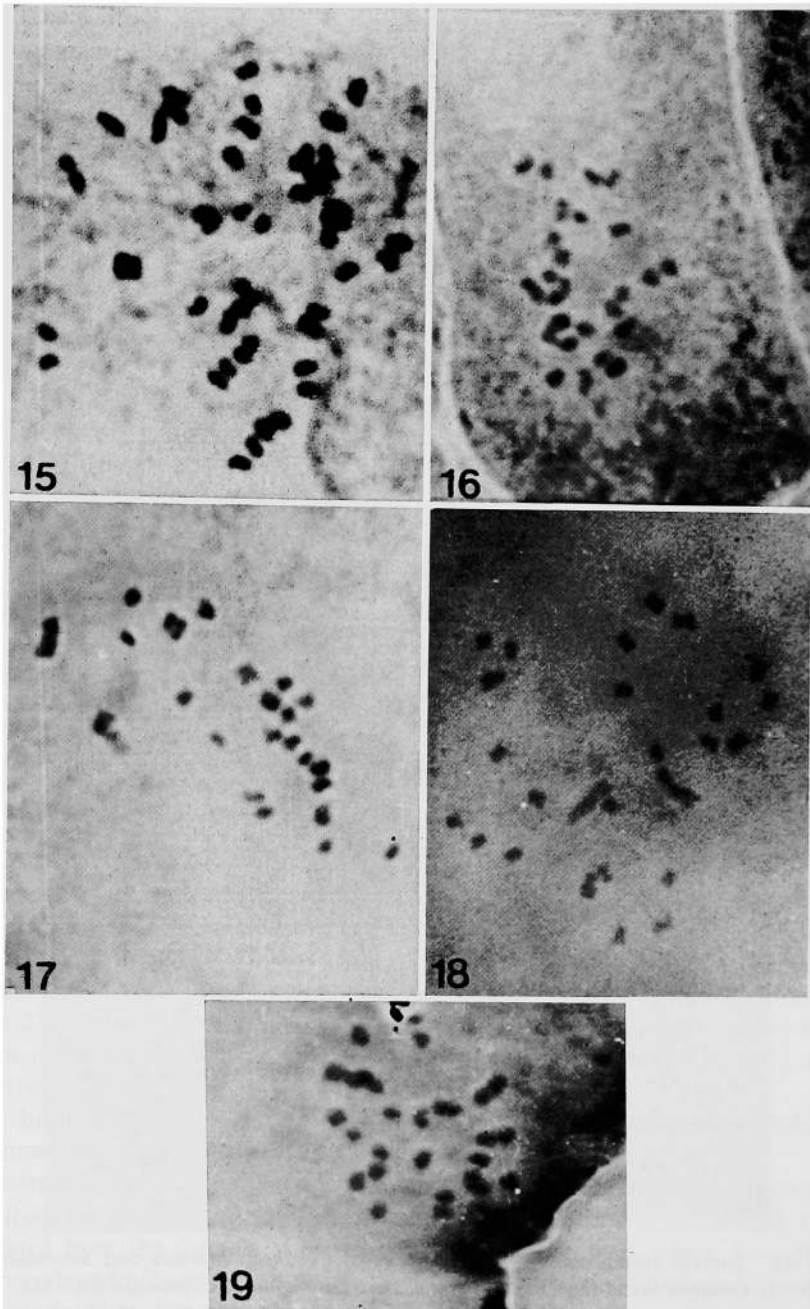
1. *Morphological data*

Out of the morphological characters, leaf index and length of the petiole were taken into account. Leaf index value was obtained by dividing the length of leaf by its breadth. The



Figs. 1-14. Somatic metaphases in several species of *Calathea*, *Maranta* and *Stromanthe*. ca  $\times 1750$ . 1, *Calathea lietzei* ( $2n=24$ ). 2, *C. undulata* ( $2n=24$ ). 3, *C. princeps* ( $2n=24$ ). 4, *C. picturata* var. *vandenheckii* ( $2n=26$ ). 5, *C. picturata* var. *argentea* ( $2n=26$ ). 6, *C. zebrina* ( $2n=26$ ). 7, *C. clossoni* ( $2n=26$ ). 8, *C. bachemiana* ( $2n=26$ ). 9, *C. kegeliana* ( $2n=28$ ). 10, *C. insignis* ( $2n=28$ ). 11, *C. ornata* var. *roseo-lineata* ( $2n=28$ ). 12, *Maranta arundinacea* var. *variegatum* ( $2n=48$ ). 13, *M. bicolor* ( $2n=52$ ). 14, *Stromanthe sanguinea* ( $2n=44$ ).

data of these morphological characters have been represented in Table 1. A significant variation in the leaf index values was noted in different species of *Calathea* ranging from 1.45 in *C. ornata* to 4.27 in *C. clossoni*. Amongst the two species of *Maranta*, the difference was not so marked. These were 2.97 and 2.25 in *M. arundinacea* and *M. bicolor* respectively, more or



Figs. 15-19. Somatic variant metaphases in species of *Calathea*, ca  $\times 1750$ . 15, *Calathea lietzei* ( $2n=48$ ). 16, *C. zebrina* ( $2n=26$ ). 17, *C. ornata* var. *roseo-lineata* ( $2n=24$ ). 18, *C. ornata* var. *roseo-lineata* ( $2n=26$ ). 19, *C. kegeliana* ( $2n=22$ ).















