

# Minerals in a greenhouse environment: a cross-disciplinary exhibition

S.P. Mueller<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Mineralogical Museum, University of Marburg, Germany  
e-mail: s.mueller@geo.uni-marburg.de*

During the winter months of 2023, the Mineralogical Museum Marburg was 'on tour' in the greenhouses of the Botanical Garden of the University of Marburg. In a collaborative, cross-disciplinary effort, we highlighted links between mineralogy and botany in a variety of display cases, in reference to the respective topical focus of the houses: e.g., which ore minerals are needed to build a smartphone, and how does their mining affect tropical rainforests? How do ferns turn into coal (and ultimately into diamonds)? Which minerals are typical for the Australian outback? How (and where) is amber formed?

The exhibition was open on a total of 9 Sundays during the winter months (a period the greenhouses are normally closed to the public) and attracted a large number of visitors to the botanical garden during this time. In particular, the interdisciplinary linking of what at first glance appear to be very different disciplines within natural sciences was positively highlighted in many of the visitors' feedbacks.