

IN MEMORIAM

ALBERT LILLEHAMMER (1930-92)

In October we were saddened and shocked to receive the news of the sudden death of our good friend and colleague Albert Lillehammer. He had suffered a fatal heart attack in Stockholm on his return from giving a guest lecture on stoneflies at the University of Umeå. In his scientific career, which spanned some 30 years, he had gained a wide reputation for his work on stonefly taxonomy and ecology. Many students will remember the quiet, but enthusiastic Norwegian scientist, who was a permanent participant of the international stonefly meetings since the early days in Abisko, Sweden. He always told of the enthusiasm which was kindled at that meeting in Abisko when he met and made friends with the leading Plecoptera workers of the day.

Albert was known as a skilled worker on stoneflies and in 1990 he was awarded the Rolling Stonefly News Award for excellence in stonefly research by the North American Plecoptera Society. Albert took his doctorate in 1975 on the systematics, distribution and ecology of Norwegian stoneflies. He made a major contribution to our knowledge of stonefly life history strategies and his laboratory studies of egg and nymphal development are widely recognized. He was particularly interested in the variation in the morphological characters used in taxonomy and demonstrated considerable morphological differences between populations of the same species. In 1988 he published a major taxonomic work, "The Stoneflies (Plecoptera) of Fennoscandia and Denmark". This work will serve as an excellent key and information source on the region's stonefly fauna for many years to come.

Throughout his scientific career Albert worked at the Zoological Museum of the University of Oslo, progressing to his present position of Senior Curator of Entomology. Albert was also a pioneer in regulated rivers research. He was a founding member of the permanent committee responsible for arranging the international symposia on regulated streams. The Second International Symposium on Regulated Streams was arranged in Oslo in 1982 under his chairmanship. He also co-edited the proceedings, "Regulated Rivers". In his M.Sc. thesis Albert had studied a salmon river in south-western Norway, the Suldalslagen. This particular Norwegian river and its salmon population always had a special significance for him. He frequently returned there to work and at the time of his death he was occupied more than ever with research on this salmon river, not far from the town of Sauda, where he was born.

Albert will be sadly missed, both for his research achievements and for his pleasant and friendly nature. The scientific community, and in particular stonefly research, has lost a valuable member all too early.

Dr. John E. Brittain

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