BOOK REVIEWS

Since the publication of Perla 4, several books written for a broad audience ranging from aquatic entomologists - aquatic ecologists - fly fisherman have appeared. Although we have seldom included references to non-technical publications about stoneflies, it was felt that these would be useful because of the upsurge of interest in stoneflies in North America. Let us know what you think, so that we can decide what to include in the future.

AQUATIC ENTOMOLOGY, The Fisherman's and Ecologist's Illustrated Guide to Insects and Their Relations by W. Patrick McCafferty. 1981. Science Books International, Boston, Massachusetts, 448 pp. $50.00.

This book is as beautiful as it is functional. It is tastefully laid out so that the excellent drawings, both black and white and color, by Arwin Provonsha, support the text very nicely.

The keys are in the form of illustrated flow diagrams which are easy to use, especially for non-specialists. Coverage is limited to the family level, with an emphasis on the aquatic stages but occasional drawings and notations for those with non-aquatic adult stage are also included. Special information for fly fishermen is easy to find because it is always delineated by a small silhouette of a "fly" at the left hand margin.

The chapter on stoneflies is based on the most up-to-date systematic classification. All North American families are included with both larval and adult diagnosis. Common names are given and notations are included for those genera and species that have been most imitated in the fly patterns of fishermen.

Useful chapters are included on non-insect arthropods. Also an appendix that provides a guide to fisherman's mayflies in North America and a large glossary, add to the value of this work.

The possibility of using the book as a textbook is apparent. However, the price might be prohibitive. Aquatic Ecology or Aquatic Entomology classes would be best served as long as there is not a need to go into more detail of the fauna in a specific geographical region.

This is easily the best book on the North American aquatic insect fauna for the serious fly fisherman, naturalist, and aquatic ecologist.

STONEFLIES by Carl Richards, Doug Swisher and Fred Arbona, Jr. 1980. Winchester Press, New York, N.Y., 192 pp. $19.95.

Although written primarily for fisherman and naturalists, the authors of this book make a real attempt to provide correct information on stoneflies from behavior to biosystematics.

The authors begin by giving the reader a streambank introduction to stoneflies where they discuss life cycles, food habits, habitat preferences and emergence behavior. Emergence tables are given which show the peak emergence patterns of the common species in all parts of North America.

Stoneflies are divided into Winter, Spring or Summer species groups and discussed in detail. This section is well balanced with photographs and line drawings inserted to emphasize important points. Several color photographs of both actual stonefly nymphs and adults of popular fly patterns are included along with information on how to tie and fish stonefly imitations. The color photographs are excellent and are extremely useful, since a few pictures are indeed worth more than a book full of words.

An appendix on studying and collecting is useful. A second appendix which includes keys to the important species and an excellent listing of most North American stonefly species along with their emergence time and place of occurance is very valuable to the serious student that truly gets "hooked" on stoneflies.

STONEFLIES FOR THE ANGLER, How to Know Them, Tie Them, and Fish Them by Eric Leiser and Robert H. Boyle. 1982. Alfred A. Knopt, New York, N.Y., 174 pp. $18.50.

This is a book that grabs your interest immediately so that you do not want to put it down. It makes one excited about stoneflies and fly fishing and the mix is even more stimulating.

Although the technical parts that deal with biology and systematics are not extensive, they cover what is necessary for the fisherman-naturalist. The authors have interacted with several aquatic entomologists, that specialize in stoneflies, and have extracted important facts that seem to help one second guess the bugs and of course the fish.

Each of the stonefly families that occur in North America are discussed and shown in excellent line drawings. A sort of verbal key system helps the reader distinguish members of different families in the nymphal stage and a few drawings of adults are included.

Most of the book emphasizes how to tie and fish flies that imitate stoneflies. This is written much like an article in an outdoor magazine and would thus appeal more to such an audience, than to specialists in aquatic entomology. However, there is an appendix that contains emergence tables for most North American species that have been drawn from the professional literature. Also included is a relatively complete bibliography of literature on stoneflies (Plecoptera).

Stonefly (Plecoptera) Literature
of general interest to fishermen, naturalists, and aquatic ecologists

BASSETT, T. (1980): New bug in Toadtown.- Paradise Post, Paradise, CA., Sept. 16, 1980.

BOYLE, R.G. (1980): Yep, another Nymphmaniac. - Sports Illustrated, Chicago, Augist 18, 1980:30-35.

COLLIN, F. and A. KYTE. (1979): CK Perlid - The Rolling Stone.- "Flyfishing the West", pp.22.

LEISER, E. and R.H. BOYLE. (1982): Stoneflies for the angler, How to know them, tie them, and fish them.- Alfred A. Knopf, New York, NY, 174 pp.

MCCAFFERTY, W.P. (1981): Aquatic entomology, the fisherman's and ecologists illustrated guide to insects and their relations.- Science Books International, Boston, MA, 448 pp.

RICHARDS, C., D. SWISHER, and F. ARBONA. (1980): Stoneflies,- Benn Brothers, Inc., New York, 192 pp.

SAWYER, L. (1979): The Western Stonefly.- Fly Fisherman- New York, May, 1979.

SCHWEIBERT, E. (1980): The salmonfly hatches.- Fly Fisherman, New York, July-September, 1980.

New Journal

A new journal entitled FRESHWATER INVERTEBRATE BIOLOGY is being published on a quarterly basis starting with volume 1 in February 1982. Jerry L. Kaster (University of Wisconsin) and Michael S. Loden (Louisiana State University) are the editors for this new periodical. This journal represents a cooperative effort of several scientists to establish in a single publication, the aquatic invertebrate sub-disciplines of ecology, morphology, physiology, and taxonomy.

Subscriptions can be obtained through Jerry L. Kaster. The price per volume (four issues) is $10 in North America, $20 outside North America, and $25 for institutions. Manuscripts for publication may also be submitted to:

Freshwater Invertebrate Biology
c/o Jerry L. Kaster, Editor
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P.O. Box 413
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