

In memoriam of Prof. Dr. Hans Strümpel
(*14.11.1935 - 29.11.2019)

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Prof. Dr. Hans Strümpel in 2005
(Photo W.E. Holzinger)

29.11.2019 Prof. Dr. Hans Strümpel died at the age of 84 in Hamburg, where he lived and worked for over 60 years. He was the curator and head of the Entomology Department of the Zoological Museum Hamburg for nearly 25 years, from 1977 to 2001. As a young professional, Dr. Strümpel focused on applied entomology and pest management, but later he devoted his career to a group close to his heart, the treehoppers in the family Membracidae. He studied their diversity and evolution with particular interest to the South American fauna, a work for which he is internationally renowned. Dr. Strümpel leaves a long list of contributions in insect systematics, including peer-reviewed manuscripts, monographs, and textbooks (see below).

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Hans Strümpel was born in 1935 in Magdeburg and grew up nearby in Schönebeck, where he also attended primary and secondary school. At a very early age, he showed a predilection for the natural world, which was fostered by the splendid alluvial forests surrounding his hometown. After his Abitur, Hans went to Leipzig, where he worked in the VEB (Volkseigener Betrieb) Geophysik, which sparked a lifelong interest in geology and fossils. A major life event occurred in the mid-1950s when Hans moved to West Germany (Baden-Württemberg) to repeat his Abitur, a prerequisite for college admission, since the exam results from the German Democratic Republic were not recognized in the Federal Republic of Germany. Subsequently, Hans enrolled in the biology program at the University of Tübingen (1956–1957), where he met a fellow student, Renate, who later became his wife. In 1958, they both moved to Hamburg, where Hans finished his undergraduate degree and received his diploma in 1961. Between 1962 and 1965, he worked as a research assistant at the Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum Hamburg under the direction of Prof. Dr. Curt Kosswig. Concurrent with his new job, Hans started his graduate studies under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Herbert Weidner, then head of entomology. His dissertation, which he completed in 1964, explored the physiology and histology of diapause in the tobacco moth *Ephesia elutella* (Pyralidae), an important pest of stored products. In 1965, Hans was appointed as research staff at the Institute of Applied Botany (Staatsinstitut für Angewandte Botanik der Universität Hamburg), where he worked on insects and nematodes of agricultural significance for several years.

In 1972, the Faculty of Biology of the Universität Hamburg ("Fachbereich Biologie der Universität") conferred Dr. Strümpel the title of "Privatdozent", which permitted him to independently teach Zoology at the highest academic level. Four years later, Hans returned to the Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum, where he was offered the chair of his former PhD advisor, Dr. Weidner, who had recently retired. Dr. Strümpel then became the head of the Entomology Department of the Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum, while he retained his faculty status at the University of Hamburg. Now focusing on museum curation and collection management, he invested his time on advancing the systematics and evolution of treehoppers (Membracidae). In the 1980's, Hans Strümpel was elected Managing Director (Geschäftsführender Direktor) of the Zoological Institute and Zoological Museum and served in this position for two years. After that, he continued as director of the Zoological Museum for another two years.

Dr. Strümpel organized and carried out multiple field expeditions to Australia, South Africa, Peru (Pucallpa 1980, 1983, 1987), Colombia, Venezuela („Rancho Grande“), Ecuador, and Galapagos Islands, often accompanied by his wife, Renate. In several occasions, Hans ventured from Germany to North Africa, driving in his little bus and collecting insects along the way. He formally retired in 2001 but managed the entomological collections for several years as an honorary fellow. He also attended several annual meetings of the Central European Auchenorrhyncha Group (Arbeitskreis Mitteleuropäische Zikaden e. V.) and supervised several doctoral theses. Hans kept a cordial and frequent correspondence with his treehopper colleagues and published major genus revisions after his retirement. The passing of his wife Renate at the beginning of 2017, and cardiac disease strongly affected him in the following years. These tragic circumstances resulted in a slowdown of his work at the museum, and he ceased publishing. Nevertheless, Hans curated the Hamburg Museum collections until shortly before his death. In the evening of November 29, 2019, he passed away after a brief illness.

Hans Strümpel authored 40 scientific contributions on a wide range of subjects, from introductory entomology and pest management to systematics and evolution of treehoppers. He is especially renowned for his comprehensive treatments of Auchenorrhyncha (Strümpel, 1983; 2003 a, b; 2010). Some of these publications are still the most recent contributions in German language for these taxa. In addition to synthesizing information on morphology, systematics, biology, ecology, behaviour and biogeography at a global scale, these are also excellent literature references for beginners.

Dr. Strümpel also published a pioneering work on the higher classification of Membracidae, in which he was the first to explain the distribution of extant subfamilies based on intricate biogeographical events (Strümpel, 1972). His many discoveries include 46 species of Membracidae (Table 1), many of which were co-authored by his wife, Renate. In recognition and admiration for his extraordinary contributions, Dr. Strümpel's colleagues have honored him with several patronyms: *Lycoderides strumpeli* (Sakakibara, 1991) (Membracidae), *Hanstruempelia ceresina* Sakakibara, 2005 (Membracidae), *Hanstruempelia bitumina* Sakakibara, 2005 (Membracidae) (see Fig. 1), *Tricentrus struempeli* Ahmad & Yasmeen, 1979 (Membracidae),



Fig. 1: Holotype male of *Hanstruempelia bitumina* Sakakibara, 2005, a treehopper species named in honor of Prof. Dr. Hans Strümpel (Coleção de Entomologia Pe. Jesus Santiago Moure, Universidade Federal do Paraná, Curitiba, Brazil).

Umbonia struempeli Creão-Duarte & Sakakibara, 1997 (Membracidae), *Corigetus struempeli* Bajtenov, 1977 (Curculionidae), *Schiodtella struempeli* Lis, 1994 (Cydnidae), and *Struempelia renatella* Amsel, 1977 (Gelechiidae) (the last species was named in honor of both Hans and Renate Strümpel).

Dr. Strümpel was a valued member of our community who inspired several generations of entomologists both locally and worldwide. His closest colleagues and friends remember him as a man of great integrity, and a devoted custodian of Hamburg's insect holdings. As the head of the Entomology Department for more than two decades, Hans played a pivotal role in preserving the museum's heritage amid long-standing funding constraints. His commitment to the excellence of his home institution leaves a legacy of international recognition and a profound sense of pride for his achievements.

Species described by Prof. Dr. Hans Strümpel including their current taxonomy

1. *Notocera dispar* Strümpel, 1972
2. *Sphongophorus lopezi* Strümpel, 1973 (now *Cladonota lopezi* (Strümpel, 1973))
3. *Sphongophorus occidentalis* Strümpel, 1973 (now *Cladonota occidentalis* (Strümpel, 1973))
4. *Sphongophorus orientalis* Strümpel, 1973 (*Cladonota orientalis* (Strümpel, 1973))
5. *Sphongophorus siparuna* Strümpel, 1973 (now *Cladonota siparuna* (Strümpel, 1973))
6. *Tylopelta obscura* Strümpel, 1974
7. *Tylopelta fenestrata* Strümpel, 1974 (now *Talipes fenestratus* (Strümpel, 1974))
8. *Leioscyta bolbonotoides* Strümpel & Strümpel, 1975
9. *Leioscyta costata* Strümpel & Strümpel, 1975
10. *Leioscyta gracilis* Strümpel & Strümpel, 1975
11. *Leioscyta notata* Strümpel & Strümpel, 1975
12. *Tritropidia pingua* Strümpel & Strümpel, 1978
13. *Tritropidia kosswigi* Strümpel & Strümpel, 1978
14. *Heteronotus apricarius* Strümpel, 1988
15. *Heteronotus anthracinus* Strümpel, 1988
16. *Disconotus* Strümpel, 1988 (now synonym with *Tumecauda* Goding, 1930)
17. *Disconotus magnificus* Strümpel, 1988 (now *Tumecauda magnifica* (Strümpel, 1988))
18. *Lycoderes fernandezi* Strümpel, 1988 (now *Lycoderides fernandezi* (Strümpel, 1988))
19. *Lycoderes viridis* Strümpel, 1988 (now *Stegaspis viridis* (Strümpel, 1988))
20. *Adippe amseli* Strümpel, 1988
21. *Enchophyllum falciferum* Strümpel & Strümpel, 2006
22. *Enchophyllum markantum* Strümpel & Strümpel, 2006
23. *Enchophyllum sakakibarae* Strümpel & Strümpel, 2006
24. *Enchophyllum subconvexum* Strümpel & Strümpel, 2006
25. *Enchophyllum ucayaliensis* Strümpel & Strümpel, 2006
26. *Enchenopa brasiliensis* Strümpel & Strümpel, 2007
27. *Enchenopa albifrons* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
28. *Enchenopa amazonensis* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
29. *Enchenopa anseriformis* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
30. *Enchenopa castanea* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014

31. *Enchenopa cuneata* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
32. *Enchenopa eurycephala* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
33. *Enchenopa grandis* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
34. *Enchenopa longimaculata* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
35. *Enchenopa longula* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
36. *Enchenopa montana* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
37. *Enchenopa pachycornuta* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
38. *Enchenopa pichinchaensis* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
39. *Enchenopa pilosa* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
40. *Enchenopa pittieri* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
41. *Enchenopa reclinata* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
42. *Enchenopa recticornuta* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
43. *Enchenopa richteri* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
44. *Enchenopa schremmeri* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
45. *Enchenopa serrata* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
46. *Enchenopa singularis* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014
47. *Enchenopa subtilis* Strümpel & Strümpel 2014

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