

BUPRESTIS

A semi-annual newsletter devoted to the dissemination of information about buprestids and students of this group

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Dear friends,

Very soon we will have our next meeting for all friends of buprestids in Italy. So please, take care of the deadlines and give your information as soon as possible to Franco Tassi. See also the notes in "Forum".

I hope to see many of you in September.

The new deadline for the next issue of BUPRESTIS will be 15. December 2000.

Hans Mühle
Editor

A. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Svata BÍLÝ wrote: My work on the “Revision of the North-American *Melanthaxia*” continues slowly but it continues. Now I have sorted all 13.000 specimens to species and species groups and I would like to start with a key as soon as possible.

Patrick BLEUZEN finishes his revision on Neotropical Actenodes, it will be published at the end of this year or at the beginning of 2001 (it represents 90 taxas with colour pictures, drawings of the genitalia and distribution maps). But there is still time to send material, about 20 species will be described as new, of which unfortunately some males are still unknown.

Russell F. MIZELL is asking for help. He sent the following e-mail: I am an entomologist with the University of Florida with a forest entomology background and experience (25 years) in many cropping systems from deciduous fruit, ornamentals, pecan, citrus and others. I do IPM research in areas from biology to biological control and insect vector work (leafhoppers-Pierce's disease). In the last five years I have developed several trapping devices exploiting vision for Curculionidae, Pentatomidae, & Tabanidae. The traps I deploy in the forests for Curculionids are baited with ethanol and turpentine for the conifer pests - *Hylobius* spp. and *Pachylobius* sp. I also deploy unbaited traps which also work to a degree. In these baited and unbaited traps I catch quite a few (mostly unidentifiable to genera by me) Cerambycidae and Buprestidae. The Buprestids are *Agrilus*, *Chrysobothris* and a few other genera - as an educated guess.

I have another situation in Japanese persimmon orchards where Buprestids attack the crotches of trees, particularly ones infected with systemic diseases. I can catch the adults in low numbers in visual orienting traps on or off the trees. Baits (ethanol, turpentine, green plant volatiles) appear to have no effect, bark wounds do.

I find very little literature on any methods of trapping Buprestids. I assume that is because Buprestids for the most part arrive as secondary invaders. I am really not interested in passive traps like Malaise or other such general interceptors which are not practical for use in an agricultural situation.

I would be very interested in an exchange of ideas and experiences relative to trapping Buprestid adults. A discussion of relevant behaviors with regard to different sensory modalities might be of general interest and exploitable for monitoring purposes.

Thanks much.

Russ

B. SPECIES WANTED FOR RESEARCH OR EXCHANGE

Svata BÍLÝ: I started a grant project (3 years) on the bionomy of Buprestidae from Central Europe, I would be obliged for any bionomical datas on this topic. With Mark VOLKOVITSH I am studying the “Larval taxonomy of Buprestidae” (world-wide) – we would like to get any buprestid larva for this study.

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C. REQUESTS FOR LITERATURE

D. FORUM

Chuck BELLAMY sent the following lines: After more than six years at the Transvaal Museum, internal changes have caused me to accept a new position back in my home town. I will begin my new position in October and request that all communication continues via that new address or email:

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As an update on the world catalogue, as it now stands in camera ready format for printing and shipping to the publishers, Pensoft, in Sofia Bulgaria, the complete work is now more than 2500 pages, 250 pages of references and several different appendices. I have been adding information on the type repository and where possible, a type accession number. Many of our larger institutions do not have lists, databases or publications on their type holdings, so there might be some mistakes from assumptions of the locality of a certain author's types. We know that the first collection of KERREMANS went to London, but the exact date is not clear; the second collection was split between Paris and Tervuren, but none of these collections have a list of types so without spending many days at each museum, there is no way to be certain of the presence of specific types. Although the work is still not complete, missing both information on older and some new taxa. It would still be a great help if each of you could provide me with copies of your new papers, instead of me having to look for them.

For anyone involved in or contemplating any systematic study on any group of buprestids, I am willing to send you all the information on any particular group, genus or species as well as the entire list of references as far as that is complete now.

The Australian catalogue is nearly complete, pending the publication of 3 short papers by myself and Magnus PETERSON in Folia Heyrovskyana. I have sent a nearly complete version to Canberra for preliminary review.

The World of Buprestidae web pages

Unfortunately the web pages from the Transvaal Museum have been unavailable for several months and likely will not be totally redone. The email listserver has also ceased working but will be easier to fix. My new e-mail address is: bellamy@nfi.org.za (for South Africa only).

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Sybille GUSSMANN added these lines: The Transvaal Museum has been connected to a new service provider and the extension of our e-mail addresses has changed accordingly. Please note the new e-mail addresses below.

Apologies if this has caused inconvenience to any of you – we were cut off without prior notification from Internet and e-mail beginning of January and only reconnected sometime in March (I was away on leave in March myself).

Hope this will get communication going again. My new e-mail: gussmann@nfi.co.za.

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Franco Tassi, director of the Abruzzo National Park in Italy arranges from 12 –16 September 2000 the BUPRESTONET MILLENIUM MEETING. He writes:

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Having now overcome all political and organisation problems, we are ready to send you the final details information about our long-sought meeting that we hope will be a real success with a lot of participants, hosted in the oldest, most important and famous National Park in Italy.

You will promptly receive the official announcement with all attached documents and then you will be able to keep in contact with our special secretariat that will be operating since now for the whole preparation period, even in the heart of next summer. For the moment we have a list of about 30 possible participants from Italy and abroad, but we encourage all interested people to come and we will try our best in order to facilitate and lodging problem in the Park.

P.S. Some colleagues have asked for simple accommodation during their stay in the Park, provided they will not be able to obtain sufficient funding from their organisations. Supposed you are in a position to cover all your travel expenses to Rome (there are special programs and discounts connected to the Jubileum 2000, please ask you tour operator about them), the International Park Centre is developing a special 2000 cooperation project to cover all costs concerning:

- travel from Rome to the Park and back;
- lodging and catering, with simple accommodation during all the stay in the Park,
- internal transportation in the Park;

for those who are interested in it and will be ready to offer as compensation, adequate entomological material and/or collections to the new Insect Centre recently established in the Park.

Please apply for detailed information, referring to the 2000 Cooperation Project. Some other may need an official letter of invitation: please ask for it at your convenience.

The Parco Nazionale d'Abruzzo has the following addresses: e-mail: post@pna.it; website: <http://www.pna.it/>

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Sadahiro OHMOMO wrote that the book "Buprestid Beetles of the World" (coauthor the late Koyo AKIYAMA) will be published in the beginning of June 2000 by Gekkan-Mushi. The price will be ca. 260 US\$. The book has 120 colour plates, showing 1885 species (including 201 from Japan). Species of small size as *Agrilus*, *Trachys* and so on are poorly represented in the book.

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