



Lacewing News



NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF NEUROPTEROLOGY

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Presentation

With great pleasure and enthusiasm we witness, after a period of dormancy, the return of our newsletter. The buzz on an interesting group of many-veined insects, with wings delicate as lace; the latest about projects and accomplishments by our hard-working community, all about *Lacewing News*, we expect to tell and find out through present and future lines. Please, all feel free to contribute, short communications about history, projects, theses and students, news from meetings and other events, photographs of favorite species, specimens wanted and to exchange, future activities, recent literature, and the like. This is a start, a come back, which will only make sense with everyone's participation, so please feel the newsletter is yours. We will do our best to maintain a frequency of two issues per year, so opportunities to communicate will not be scarce. Please send all communications to acramos@uaeh.edu.mx (Atilano Contreras-Ramos). Questions about the International Association of Neuropterology may be addressed to our current president, Dr. John D. Oswald (j-oswald@tamu.edu). Concerns about the X International Symposium on Neuropterology, to be held in Slovenia in 2008, should be directed to Dr. Dusan Devetak (dusan.devetak@uni-mb.si).

From Roberto Pantaleoni

Dear Colleagues,

I wanted to let you know that, after many ups and downs, we have finally managed to finish the Photo Album of the Symposium. You can find it at:

http://www.afssardegna.it/photo_album.htm

and you can download any photos that interest you in large format.

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Brief notices from Agostino Letardi

1) I have updated the web resource for Italian Neuropterida (with several publications in pdf format freely downloadable); the new URL is <http://neuropterida.casaccia.enea.it>

2) Roberto Pantaleoni & co. have found a new (African?) Ascalaphidae in Europe (see <http://www.cnr.it/cnr/news/CnrNews?IDn=1381>)

3) A pupil of Prof. Dallai, Dr. Valentina Zizzari, has discussed her degree in Biology with a thesis entitled "Indagine ultrastrutturale sullo spermatozoo dei Neuropterida". Now she started her PhD in the University of Siena on morphology of spermatozoa of Neuropterida.

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8th meeting of the study group 'Neuropteren' of the German Society for General and Applied Entomology

The 8th meeting of the study group 'Neuropteren' was held at Schwanberg Castle near Würzburg at the end of April 2005. The number of participants was similar to previous meetings however, five persons met the study group for the first time. As a tradition, most members arrived on Friday afternoon and the evening was used for first discussions in the 'Kamingewölbe' of the old castle. In the following two days 12 oral presentations were given and intensively discussed. The subjects of the lectures were wide spread, reaching from faunistics and zoogeography to morphology and physiology, to questions of applied research:

- Zur Verbreitung der Neuroptera in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern einschließlich der Insel Rügen. KURT RUDNICK; HENRI HOPPE UND AXEL GRUPPE
- Neue Nachweise von *Nineta principiae* Monserrat 1980 in Bayern (Neuroptera, Chrysopidae). AXEL GRUPPE
- Über Netzflügler (Neuropterida) in Baden-Württemberg. ERNST-JOACHIM TRÖGER,
- Die Neuropterida des Eichkogels bei Mödling (Niederösterreich). FRANZISKA ANDERLE
- Die Raphidiopteren der Apenninen-Halbinsel : eine biogeographische Analyse. HORST ASPÖCK UND ULRIKE ASPÖCK
- REM- Untersuchungen an Genitalsegmenten ausgewählter Neuropterengattungen. ULRIKE HÖRMANN, ULRIKE ASPÖCK UND WALTRAUD KLEPAL

- *Im Dschungel von Borsten, Kämmen & Wachsdrüsen – REM-Untersuchungen an zwei Coniopterygiden (Neuroptera, Neuropterida)*. DOMINIQUE ZIMMERMANN
- Zur Homologisierung der Genitalsklerite der Neuropterida unter dem Gesichtspunkt der phylogenetischen Relevanz. ULRIKE ASPÖCK UND HORST ASPÖCK
- Auswirkungen des Klimawandels auf die Neuropteren am Südostrand der Alpen. JOHANNES GEPP
- Verhalten der Larven von *Libelloides ictericus ictericus* (Carpentier 1825) (Neuroptera, Ascalaphidae). AXEL GRUPPE
- Versuche zum Management von Florfliegen in der Sonderkultur Hopfen: Stand der Dinge (Neuroptera: Chrysopidae). FLORIAN WEIHRAUCH
- Welchen Effekt hat die Baumkronenbenetzung mit Pyrethrum auf verschiedene Insektengruppen der Kiefern-Lebensgemeinschaft? JÜRGEN SCHMIDL

Abstracts (in German) of the presentations can be found on the homepage of DGaaE (<http://www.dgaee.de>).

With regard to the organization the study group decided the following:

- Meetings will be held every 2nd year at Schwanberg castle.
- Abstracts of all presentations will be published in 'DGaaE Nachrichten' and on the homepage of the society (<http://www.dgaee.de>).
- A bibliography of the members will be organized by Florian Weihrauch (Florian.Weihrauch@LfL.bayern.de).
- The aim of the study group is to organize meetings with the intention of bringing together entomologists with a general interest on Neuroptera as well as professional Neuropterologists.

The next meeting will be held between the 27th and 29th of April 2007 at Schwanberg castle.

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From Stefano Maini

I have attended the Ferrara meeting and I am glad to be in this mailing list because I am not really a neuropterologist. Please take also into account the possibility to send papers for publication in Bulletin of Insectology (just issued the complete vol. 58 with cover dedicated to Prof. M.M. Principi) Please visit the web site: www.bulletinofinsectology.org.

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Morphological phylogeny of fishflies and alderflies: specimens wanted

A genus level phylogeny of dobsonflies (Megaloptera: Corydalidae: Corydalinae) was solidly proposed by Glorioso in 1981. There have been two revisions, one by Penny in 1993, and by one myself in 1998. A third analysis is under revision. Moreover, it seems likely that fishflies (Megaloptera: Corydalidae: Chauliiodinae) are, or contain, the sister group of alderflies (Megaloptera: Sialidae). For all the above, it is a logical step to evaluate the phylogeny of fishflies and alderflies together, within a single analysis. This would provide a global hypothesis of Megaloptera phylogeny, which might offer interesting insights into the evolution and biogeography of the group. In turn, morphological results should be contrasted with equivalent molecular hypotheses. With the goal of performing such study, specimens of representative species of each genus of world Sialidae and Chauliiodinae are kindly requested. One or two males and females, respectively, of a species, and one or two species of each genus, should suffice, at least for a good start and to detect difficult or rare taxa.

Please contact me or send specimens to:

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Mantispidae from the National Insect Collection (IB-UNAM), Mexico

I'm working on my undergraduate thesis on Mantispidae from The National Insect Collection (IB-UNAM). The goal of the project is to determine the species' name for the specimens placed in the collection. The project contains a key for Mexican genera and diagnoses for each genus and species with their respective figures. All these aspects are in relation to increase the mantispid knowledge in Mexico.

Frequently, we go out and put a black light to catch mantispids to improve our collections of these interesting insects. I have realized that this is a nice group to work with and I think it would be great to continue working on it.



Above: Light trap in San Luis Potosí, Mexico with a mantispid. Below: The same mantispid observed under a dissecting microscope.

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Hemerobiidae of Rancho Santa Elena, Mexico

My undergraduate thesis work is a faunistic study of the family Hemerobiidae (brown lacewings) in Rancho Santa Elena, Huasca, Hidalgo, Mexico. The study area has a temperate, subhumid climate with summer rains, and it is located within the Mexican Volcanic Belt, at about 2,300 m of altitude. Vegetation is mostly oak-pine forest. Results will be based on one year of sampling using two Malaise traps, which were set up permanently and inspected monthly. Sampling started in March 2005 and has been recently concluded. Up to now, specimens of the genera *Hemerobius* (the most common), *Micromus*, *Nusalala*, and *Symphorobius*, have been identified. Identification to species level will be attempted.



Above: One of the two Malaise Traps used in the project. Below: A specimen from a Malaise trap sample.

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Molecular phylogeny of Hemerobiidae (Insecta: Neuroptera)

The family Hemerobiidae, or brown lacewings, presents a cosmopolitan distribution, although

many genera are regionally endemic. The major goal of this project is to produce a phylogeny of the world genera of brown lacewings based on molecular characters, using DNA sequence data, in particular 16S ribosomal DNA (rDNA), cytochrome oxidase (COI) and the CPSase region of CAD. Currently, 27 extant genera of Hemerobiidae are recognized in Oswald's phylogeny, which was based on morphological characters. Specimens of 19 of these genera are already available for sequencing, and there are efforts to obtain missing taxa. Molecular results will be analyzed on the basis of parsimony and maximum likelihood, as well as under a total evidence approach, using molecular and morphological data. For this master's thesis project I am co-advised by Dr. Shaun Winterton (Plant Pest Diagnostics Branch, California Department of Food and Agriculture, USA) and Dr. Atilano Contreras-Ramos (CIB-UAEH, Pachuca, Mexico).

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Neuropteroid Puzzler #1

So, you think you know the length and breadth of the neuropteroids. How are you with the length and breadth of their names? Test yourself with the following:

- (1) What are the longest and shortest currently valid neuropteroid genus-group names (genus-group name only)?
- (2) What are the longest and shortest currently valid neuropteroid species-group names (species-group name only)?
- (3) What are the longest and shortest currently valid neuropteroid species names (generic and specific names only, without the space)?
- (4) Extra Credit: The shortest available neuropterid species name (generic and specific names only, without the space, original or subsequent combination) is only 8 letters long. Can you name it?

ANSWERS

- (1) Shortest: An easy one to warm up with. Take your pick of any of the nine valid 4-letter genus-group names: *Abia*, *Baga*, *Cuca*, *Jaya*, *Nosa*, *Obus*, *Puer*, *Rexa* or *Suca*.
Longest: Take a deep breath for each of the two valid 21-letter names: *Aserbeidshanoraphidia* and *Pseudoproctarrelabris*. The first of these is a valid subgeneric name, but I did ask for “genus-group” names! Extra points for knowing that there are no valid names with 20 letters – the next-longest name measures in at only 19 letters (*Quasispermophorella*).
- (2) Shortest: Not as easy as short generic names was it! There are eleven valid 4-letter species-group names: *ata*, *boi*, *chi*, *coa*, *hui*, *ioi*, *lii* (3 different species), *par* and *una*.
Longest: Well, four names measure in at 17 letters – *quadrituberculata*, *paramyrmeleonides*, *neuropterologorum* and *christianodagmara* – but these only win if the 20-letter European chrysopid name *marianachlorocephala* turns out to be invalid (to my knowledge it hasn't been synonymized yet).
- (3) Shortest: There is only one valid neuropteran name of 9 letters: *Nemia lata* (a nemopterid). If you guessed a 10-letter name you were close, but there are 35 such names (including names for 11 different valid species in the genus *Cueta*), so the pickings are much easier!
Longest: There is only one valid neuropteran name of 34 letters: *Austroclimaciella quadrituberculata* (a mantispid). If you didn't guess that one, maybe you got one of the four names of 32 letters: *Pseudoproctarrelabris elegantulus*, *Manselliberothera neuropterologorum*, *Quasispermophorella neuropunctata* or *Protoaristenymphes bascharagensis*. There are currently no valid neuropteran names of 33 letters.
- (4) Shortest Available Neuropterid Species Name: *Jaya gulo* (a myrmeleontid; a subsequent combination of *Myrmeleon gulo*, now a junior synonym of *Jaya atrata*).

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Pictures from the IX International Symposium on Neuropterology, 20-23 June 2005, Ferrara, Italy



At Monastero San Girolamo (symposium site): Roberto Pantaleoni, Valentina Zizzari, and Simone Cossu.



Ulrike Aspöck.



Horst Aspöck.



At Comacchio-Trepponti: Martha, Dušan, and Nada, 22nd June.



John Oswald and Dušan Devetak.



At Comacchio: Paula Lourenço, Maria Ventura, and Mrs. Mirmoayedi, 22nd June.



At Monastero: Johanna, Laura, Kerstin, Dominique, Franziska, and Maria.



At Ristorante "La Zanzara", 22nd June.



At Ristorante "La Zanzara", 22nd June.



At Monastero, Ladies Social Photo.



At Ristorante "La Zanzara", 22nd June.



Herbert Hölzel and Dušan Devetak.



At Ristorante "La Zanzara", 22nd June.



Break between sessions at Monastero.



View from house with cave at Brisighella, 24th June.



Hotel at Campigna, short excursion, 24th-25th June.



Inside the house with cave at Brisighella, 24th June.



At Zattaglia, City Mayor, 24th June.

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

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