

## INTRODUCTION

This issue of the journal "Nachrichten des Entomologischen Vereins Apollo" is specially dedicated to the group Bombycoidea; on 260 pages it contains 17 papers written by international authors, illustrated with 17 colour plates (several of which were already printed in advance).

The articles are systematically arranged; the issue starts with a paper on Endromididae, followed by an article on Brahmaeidae *sensu lato* and a paper on Bombycidae; then 14 contributions on Saturniidae. The subjects treated cover a wide sequence, from short papers about new taxa, rearing reports, faunistic and systematic papers to large, basic treatises.

9 of the 17 papers are in German, 7 in English, 1 is in French. German and English abstracts accompany most papers. There are 13 authors, who come from Germany, France, the USA, Mexico, South Africa and Swaziland. Most of the worldwide saturniid specialists are under these authors.

Such special issues on systematic or thematic subjects will be published when there are sufficient manuscripts on a subject available at a time (either by chance or because an active "managing editor" compiled them). How often this will happen depends both on the presence of such a "managing editor" and on the availability of financial resources to cover the printing costs. It is not planned to make it a regularly appearing series.

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