

Editorial

In 2007, *Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica* (SEL) is publishing the 30th volume of *Nota lepidopterologica*. With 650 subscribers worldwide, our journal is widely distributed and well known in the field of lepidopterology. Over time, *Nota lepidopterologica* developed as one of the most important journals on Palaearctic lepidopterology, and the present council and editorial board have agreed that the focus of the journal should remain the same.

During the last few years, the mean number of contributions per year exceeded 20, while for 2007 it is going to exceed 30. The entire contents of our journal can be read on our Society's homepage (www.socleurlp.com), where papers are also freely available in portable document format (pdf) from volume 26 (2003) onwards, with the exception of the two most recent years. An improved version of the instructions for authors is available at the end of this issue and on the homepage. These provide directives and recommendations on how to prepare a paper for submission to *Nota lepidopterologica*. Please follow them conscientiously.

For a long period, *Nota lepidopterologica* has been called a quarterly journal, but in the 29 volumes published so far, only nine were comprised of four distinct issues. In addition, the last issue of every year was published notoriously late. Only two volumes, 21 (1998) and 22 (1999), edited by Alain Olivier, appeared timely. Therefore, during the 2005 SEL Congress in Rome the editorial board members voted for a biennial publication rate to achieve timely appearance of *Nota lepidopterologica* and this change is introduced with the ongoing volume. The two issues are planned to be published on May 15 and November 15 of every year. The yearly reduction in the number of issues will save printing and postage costs, and these savings are planned to be used to print more pages each year. Late in 2006, Bernard Landry accepted to become co-editor of *Nota lepidopterologica*. As shown by our work on this issue, it is now easier to manage the increasing number of manuscripts in a timely manner.

For Lepidoptera, Europe is probably the most intensively studied region in the world. Further discoveries of new species can hardly be expected in Northern and Central Europe, but the Mediterranean and eastern Palaearctic regions continue to provide new finds, especially in the microlepidoptera. However, taxonomic revisions and phylogenetic analyses are still badly needed for many subgroups of Lepidoptera. Moreover, Palaearctic Lepidoptera are still in need of much more study regarding their ecology and habitats. A precise knowledge of the life history of a given species is mandatory for its proper conservation and habitat management. Taking into account that the host plants of a huge number of Lepidoptera are still insufficiently known, much is left to do and this knowledge is urgently needed. For example, we rarely see the results of research on the lepidopteran species associated with endangered or rare plant species.

A new field of research is how global climate change influences Palaearctic Lepidoptera. Habitat and areal shifts are already observed and more are expected. Europe is espe-

cially well suited to observe those changes, as no other continent has such a large set of records over such a long time for so many species.

We thank the authors for their contributions to make *Nota lepidopterologica* an interesting journal to many lepidopterists. The increasing number of manuscripts convinces us that there is still more than enough to investigate with regards to Palaearctic Lepidoptera or topics of general concern to our science.

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Zeitschrift/Journal: [Nota lepidopterologica](#)

Jahr/Year: 2007

Band/Volume: [30](#)

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