

Buchbesprechungen

7. Lehane, M. J.: *The Biology of Blood-Sucking in Insects*, 2nd ed., Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2005. 321 pp. ISBN 0-521-54395-9 (paperback).

Man kennt zur Zeit etwa 14000 Arten von blutsaugenden Insekten, von denen etwa 300 bis 400 genauer untersucht sind. Aber diese Arten sind von ungeheurer großer Bedeutung für die Menschen, die sie einerseits direkt belästigen und ihnen Schmerzen verursachen, andererseits, da sie schwere und gefährliche Krankheiten übertragen. In dem vorliegenden Band, dessen erste Auflage 1991 erschienen war, ist die Biologie dieser bedeutsamen Insekten zusammengestellt. Dabei wurde der ursprüngliche Text gründlich überarbeitet und auf den neuesten Stand gebracht. Das Werk gliedert sich nach den Themen, die für blutsaugende Insekten typisch sind, wie zum Beispiel das Auffinden der Wirte, Besonderheiten der Verdauung, Wirt-Insekt Beziehungen und Übertragung von Parasiten. Daß immer wieder von Moskitos und Tsetse-Fliegen die Rede ist, liegt nicht an einer einseitigen Betrachtungsweise, sondern einfach daran, daß über wenige Arten besonders viel geforscht wurde. Das Werk bemüht sich aber, wo immer möglich, grundsätzliche Probleme und Themen aufzuzeigen, es ist sehr gut und flüssig zu lesen, aber dennoch von wissenschaftlicher Qualität. Von allgemeinem Interesse sind zum Beispiel die Ausführungen über die Evolution der Insekten zur blutsaugenden Lebensweise, denn dieser Evolutionsschritt hat zweifelsohne mehrfach (mindestens 6 mal) unabhängig voneinander stattgefunden. In einem abschließenden Kapitel, das man auch als eigenständigen Review oder als hervorragende Einleitung lesen kann, werden alle Taxa blutsaugender Insekten systematisch zusammengefaßt und ihre Bedeutung und Biologie wird kurz zusammengestellt. Das vorliegende Werk kann man sowohl Entomologen als auch medizinisch Interessierten uneingeschränkt empfehlen.

K. Schönitzer

8. Otte, D. & P. D. Brock: *Phasmida Species File. Catalogue of Stick and Leaf Insects of the World.* – Insect Diversity Association, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, 2005. 414 pp. 210 × 280 mm, ringbound. ISBN 1-929014-08-2.

Since almost two decades the species of the insect order Phasmatodea, the stick insects and walking leaves, find the interest of more and more enthusiasts. Many of them start engaging in taxonomic work, resulting in a considerable number of publications. But only two major publications, 2001 Bragg's "Phasmids of Borneo" and 2004 Zompro's "Revision of the genera of the Areolatae" dealt with the order. A catalogue, urgently required, was still missing. Otte & Brock tried to fill this gap with the present work. Considering the high price a high quality book-production can be expected, but a ringbound collection of loose leaves is delivered. The cover was damaged after a short use already. This way of binding is unsuitable for the claims on the quality of a book which

shall be used constantly. The buyer must be recommended to cut and bind the book in a more suitable way.

On p. 2 the book is called a "second edition". This is not really correct, the so called previous edition did not fulfil the requirements of article 8.6 of the International Rules of Zoological Nomenclature. A consequence is that all taxonomic acts must be dated 2005 and not 2003, as suggested in the introduction. The authors stick to the grammatically incorrect term "Phasmida" instead of the correct term "Phasmatodea". Fortunately, the use of "Phasmida" is decreasing, and hopefully it will not be encouraged again by this book again.

A considerable number of errors is corrected on a separate sheet of paper. This includes a link to a website, where further errors and additions shall be published. At the moment this site is offline. Considering the high price a more thorough revision of the manuscript would not only been desirable, but urgently necessary, since the value of such a catalogue is more or less solely defined by the correctness of its contents.

One chapter contains collections of references dealing with the biogeographical regions. The way of selection of these references is not obvious, minor generic revisions stand beside an unpublished thesis and species lists of all groups of insects, while several important works are missing. One of the most important works on nearctic phasmids (Zompro 1998: Revision of Diapheromerinae) is not cited for the Nearctic, and another work dealing solely with this fauna (Helfer 1987: How to know the Grasshoppers, Cockroaches and their allies) can only be found in the section "General".

The sections "Type catalogues", "Taxonomic Arrangement" and "List of genera" appear well-done, but the sense of the prominent rendering of self-creating tribal names as, for example, Necrosciini, the single tribe in the subfamily Necrosiinae, is confusing.

In the section "Taxa above the level of genus" almost all more recent important publications are missing, though some of them are mentioned on the separate leaf.

In the main part "Genera and Species" many spelling mistakes like "dulterina" instead of "adulterina" (S. 228) could have been avoided with a careful review. This is also true for formatting, *Athertonia* is placed as a valid genus under "T", instead of "A". At a closer look it becomes obvious that this is a wrongly formatted synonym. The weakest treatment concerns *Heteronemia*. 23 species are listed in this genus, which actually belong to various genera (*Heteronemia*, *Pseudosermyle*, *Baculum*, etc.) and families (*Heteronemiidae*, *Diapheromeridae*, *Phasmatidae*), almost without exception their actual assignment has been published in major revisory works already.

Systematics of Phasmatodea are changing, and the next years will bring a considerable number of changes. Valuable as it is, this work is still premature, and, considering the high price, it cannot really be recommended. This might change when a second, thoroughly corrected edition will (hopefully) be published.

O. Zompro

ZOBODAT - www.zobodat.at

Zoologisch-Botanische Datenbank/Zoological-Botanical Database

Digitale Literatur/Digital Literature

Zeitschrift/Journal: [Spixiana, Zeitschrift für Zoologie](#)

Jahr/Year: 2006

Band/Volume: [029](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): diverse

Artikel/Article: [Buchbesprechungen 102](#)