

## A SUGGESTED NAME CHANGE IN TAENIOPTERYGIDAE

In my days as a schoolboy, when I was an avid beetle collector, I was familiar with little creatures of the genus *Brachypterus* (Nitidulidae, Kateretinae) abounding in the flowers of stinging nettles. However, I did not expect that I would, much later, "be in the nettles", because of these beetles.

When I proposed a new subfamily of Taeniopterygidae, Brachypterinae (1973), derived from the stem Brachypter- of the generic name *Brachyptera*, I did not think of the tiny beetles. Had I remembered them, I would nevertheless have been unsuspecting because they were then known under the beforementioned family-group names. In the meantime, however, during taxonomic work on Coleoptera, Dr. Audisio (Rome) found that already Erichson (1845) proposed a family group-name based on the beetle genus *Brachypterus*. The name is now in use (Coleoptera: Kateretidae: Brachypterinae), and valid; the unexpected homonymy needs to be removed.

There is no synonym which could replace the junior homonym among the Plecoptera. Therefore, P. A. Audisio, R. Fochetti and I have applied to the International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature (Case 2865, Bull. Zool. Nomencl. 51(4): 309-311, 1994), requesting that the homonymy be removed by regarding the complete stonefly name, *Brachyptera*, as the stem from which the stonefly subfamily name is formed, i.e. Brachypterinae. This appears to be the simplest solution, and although a decision of the commission is still pending, I suggest that stonefly students start using the new name, Brachypterinae, now.

Peter Zwick

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## LOCATION OF THE J. RAÜSER COLLECTION REMAINS UNKNOWN

Everybody who worked taxonomically and borrowed types knows how vitally important it is that collections are well kept and remain accessible. I am grateful to Alain Thomas of Toulouse for his kind help with loans from the collection of the late C. Berthélemy, and am pleased that he provides information on that collection. I wish I could do the same regarding the collection of my late friend, Jaroslav Raüser. When I prepared the obituary (PERLA 12) I did not mention this point, hoping to fill the gap in the present issue of PERLA. Unfortunately, where Jarek's collection now is remains uncertain.

During his long work on Plecoptera of Czechoslovakia, Jaroslav must have accumulated an important specimen collection from his country. Second, there should also be a considerable collection of Balkanian material, including a number of holotypes of species he named, mainly from Bulgaria. I have myself only seen some of the third component of the collection, which formed the basis for Jaroslav's important study of larval Plecoptera (1980). This paper was actually completed many years earlier: Jarek had the manuscript with him during a visit to Schlitz, in 1968. The collection consisted of boxes with numerous slide-mounted larvae and exuviae of reared larvae of many European species. Jaroslav showed me this unique collection in his home, in 1979.

The Institute of Geography of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences at Brno where Jaroslav worked was closed in 1992. Its material, library etc. were given to the archives of the Czech Academy of Sciences (Dr. J. Helesic in a letter). So far, I have been unable to find out whether all or part of Jarek's collection remained at home, or in the institute, and where they may now be, but I am pursuing this further.

Peter Zwick

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## REPORT FIRST PLECOPTERA MEETING OF JAPAN

The First Plecoptera Meeting of Japan was held at the Higashi-Yoshino Field Station, Nara Women's University, Nara Prefecture, Japan, May 14-15, 1994. The symposium was planned by Drs. Teizi Kawai, Yu Isobe and Shigehazu Uchida, and was kindly hosted by Y. Isobe. Eighteen workers and students participated, and all presented papers, information and/or photographs on stoneflies. A swarm of *Oyamia* and *Kamimuria* (Perlidae) welcomed us by an upstream flight over the field station at dusk on May 14th. A barbecue was held, where a variety of information was exchanged and hot discussion continued in the evening on the shore of the Takami River.

Japanese workers on stoneflies were associated in a loose society at this occasion and now have a newsletter, "Oyamia," in Japanese, which is edited by Dr. Tohru Kishimoto. The first number of "Oyamia" was issued in March, 1995.

The next Plecoptera Meeting of Japan will be held in Tokyo, 1997. For additional information on the meeting and the society, please contact Miss Satoko Hanada, Department of Biology, Nara Women's University, Kitaoyanishimachi, Nara 630, Japan.

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