

## Zootaxa Plecoptera: Co-Subject Editors update

In 2021, Subject Editorship for Plecoptera at Zootaxa passed to three individuals: Ed DeWalt (University of Illinois), Scott Grubbs (Western Kentucky University), and Dávid Muranyi (Eszterházy Károly University, Hungary). Because of the high volume of papers published in previous years and the workload that was placed on the previous subject editor, we enforced an existing Zootaxa policy that states that the journal publishes only taxonomic papers and does not publish single species descriptions without first meeting one or more preconditions (see Perla 39). In 2021, some 40 manuscripts were submitted. All were scrutinized before review to determine if preconditions for publication were met. five manuscripts were rejected outright. A total of 29 were shepherded to completion and six carried over to 2022. Three of the latter have published.

A predictable outcome of these preconditions were that Plecoptera scientists sent some 20 taxonomic papers to other suitable outlets such as Aquatic Insects, Natural History, and ZooKeys. At first blush, this seems negative for Zootaxa, but it is not. Taxonomic articles suffer from self-citation. Journal Citation Reports (JCR, Clarivate™) used algorithms that calculated impact factors that, until recently, downgraded the impact of taxonomic journals because of self-citation and within journal citations (Pinto et al. 2021). In fact, Zootaxa was suppressed from the Journal Citation Reports (JCR, Clarivate™), hence, no impact factor calculated for a short time. Complaints from the taxonomic community forced JCR to modify their algorithms, resulting in a 15% jump in impact factor for Zootaxa and increases for several taxonomic journals. Spreading our taxonomic papers to other journals helps Plecoptera science and strengthens other journals that publish taxonomic work. It also spreads the work of editing among more colleagues who freely donate their time to help stonefly taxonomists improve their important works.

Pinto ÂP, Mejdalani G, Mounce R, Silveira LF, Marinoni L, Rafael JA (2021) Are publications on zoological taxonomy under attack? Royal Society Open Science 8201617201617.  
<http://doi.org/10.1098/rsos.201617>

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