

# PSAMMONALIA

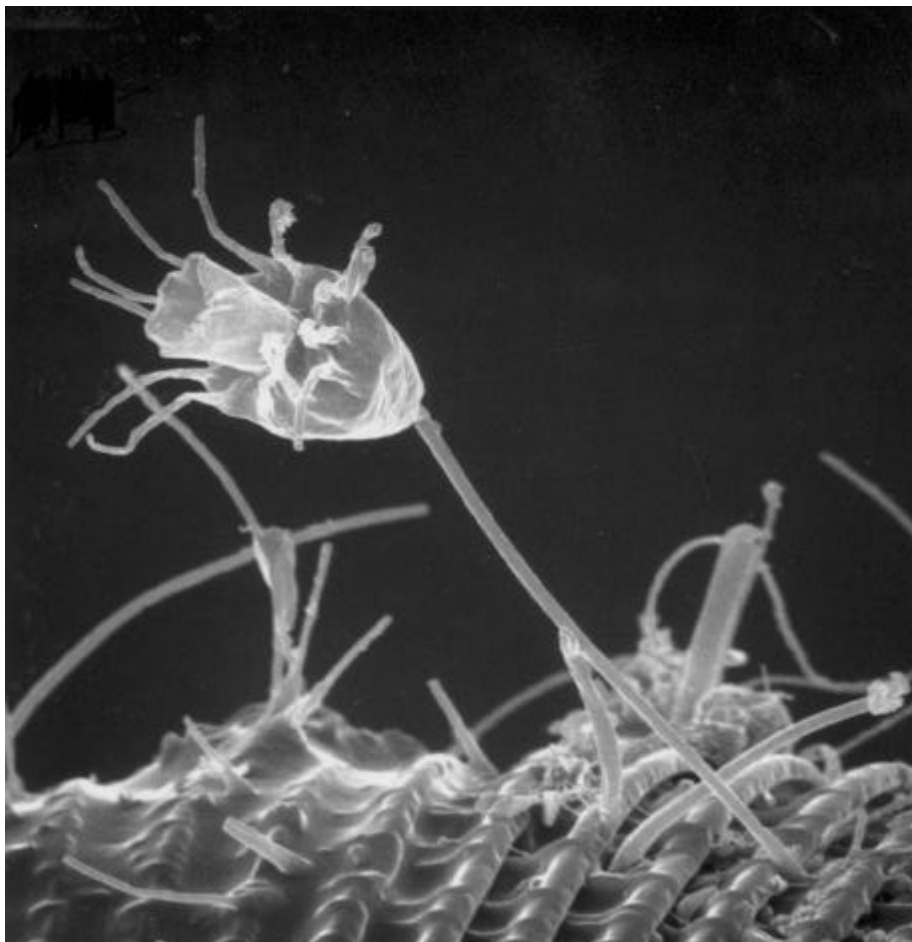
Newsletter of the  
International Association of Meiobenthologists

Number 126, November 1999



Composed and Printed at Seto Marine Biological Laboratory, Kyoto University  
Shirahama cho, Wakayama Prefecture, 649-2211, Japan

## A Flower on a Worm



*This Newsletter is not part of the scientific literature for taxonomic purposes*

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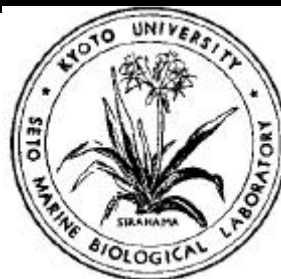
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You may make your donations to the *Bertil Swedmark Fund* directly to the IAM bank account (account number 6586667) of the Lloyds Bank (Sort code 30-96-68), 8 Royale Parade Plymouth PL1 1HB, UK.

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Motohiro Shimanaga, Yoshihisa Shirayama



## EDITORIAL

This is the last issue of *Psammonalia* printed in the year of 1900s. This millennium has been years of the dawn for meiobenthology. Since the firm recognition of the meiofauna in 1942, thousands of papers have been published on taxonomy and ecology of meiofauna. Then what is the perspective of the next?

Though more than a half century has passed, the meiobenthology is partially still in the primitive stage of expedition. If you go to a virgin place of meiobenthic research, you will find many new taxa. Comparing this kind of study with research pursuing a mechanism of basic biological questions using analytical strategies and animals the biology of which is well known such as *C. elegance*, it is very difficult to get funding agencies' interests on our research. The main reason of the above is, I think, that it is difficult for our research, especially taxonomy, to build a distinct framework and a concrete goal.

It is honest to write in your grant proposal, "It is expected to find more than one hundred of new species belonging to various phyla through this expedition to the heaven island, because nobody studied meiofauna around the island." But the reviewer probably thinks "SO WHAT?"

If we can write in the application form "It is expected to find a key species that will explain the evolution of *Meionema marsensis* from *Meionema jupiteresis* through this expedition to Saturn island, because the island is situated in the middle of the distribution of two species in question", I believe this application will appeal more, because there is a clear and feasible purpose in the research plan.

When we can step on such a step? In some European area, the information of meiofauna is enough, but in most areas fragmental. In this number, I prepared a series of questionnaires forecasting the development of meiobenthology. In the next issue, I will report the result of your answer, and let you know the average figure of meiobenthic research our member imagine in the next millennium. I would appreciate your active responses to that.

Anyway, I wish you a merry Christmas and a happy new year, and hope your computers work without trouble in the first day of the year 2k.

## Our New Website Still at Beta-Test

There is a beta-test version of the new IAM website located at:

<http://www.mtsu.edu/~kwalt/meio2>

Any comments/suggestions would be appreciated! Please feel free to forward or suggest the new website to others for their comments. All comments should be sent to: [kwalt@mtsu.edu](mailto:kwalt@mtsu.edu)  
Thanks for your input!

Keith Walter

## Membership directory

With this issue, the membership directory of IAM is enclosed. Please take a look on it, and if you find any errors, please notice them to the editor via e-mail to [yshira@seto.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:yshira@seto.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

## Annual dues

Please pay your annual dues for the year 2000 now. Your payment status is shown on the address label of this issue. To those who have not payed the due of 1999, this issue is not sent. If your friend complains not receiving this issue, please advice them to pay the due for BOTH 1999 and 2000.

The enclosed membership directory includes members who have not paid 1999 annual dues for the convenience of the good members.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Meetings

#### Xth International Colloquium on Amphipoda

April 16-21, 2000

Heraklion, Crete, Greece

The Xth International Colloquium on Amphipoda will be held at the Institute of Marine Biology of Crete in Heraklion, 16-21 April 2000. The Colloquium will provided an opportunity for researchers to meet and exchange their research experience and scientific achievements. It is open to anyone who has an interest in the Amphipoda.

For more information see the following

[http://www.imbc.gr/whats\\_new/index.html](http://www.imbc.gr/whats_new/index.html)

and check out the Amphipod Web site at

<http://www.odu.edu/~jrh100f/amphome/>

Contact Wanda Plaiti ([wanda@imbc.gr](mailto:wanda@imbc.gr)) or Adam Baldinger ([abaldinger@oeb.harvard.edu](mailto:abaldinger@oeb.harvard.edu)) with specific questions.

### Symposia on Pollutants, Aquaculture, Extremophily

The European Society for Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry is organizing in July 2000 a large international congress including symposia on Pollutants, Aquaculture, Extremophily, and more which may be of interested to many of you. Have a look at [www.ulg.ac.be/physioan/escpb.htm](http://www.ulg.ac.be/physioan/escpb.htm) for a look at the general program.

### 9th International Congress on Invertebrate Reproduction and Development.

July 2001

Rhodes University,

Grahamstown, South Africa

Conference Organizer: Alan Hodgson, Department of Zoology & Entomology, Rhodes University, Grahamstown 6140, South Africa e-mail: zoah@giraffe.ru.ac.za; Fax: +46 622 4377.

The first announcement and preliminary program details are available at: <http://www.rhodes.ac.za/conferences/icird2001>  
Suggestions for workshops are welcome

### **The second annual MacMillan Coastal Biodiversity Workshop**

June 17-25, 2000

Bamfield Marine Station (BMS).

The Bamfield Marine Station is located in Bamfield, British Columbia, on the southern shore of the pristine Barkley Sound, West Coast of Vancouver Island. A 9-day workshop program open to senior undergraduate students, graduate students, junior faculty, as well as government employees and NGO members interested in a unique, hands-on experience in coastal biodiversity research, taxonomy, as well as monitoring and assessment techniques.

For the year 2000 the focus of the workshop is: "Diversity, Monitoring and Assessment Techniques of Intertidal Seaweed and Invertebrate Communities". These workshops are subsidized by the MacMillan Family Fund with the assistance of Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC).

Please contact BMS ([www.bms.bc.ca](http://www.bms.bc.ca)) for the list of guest speakers, workshop instructors, as well as application procedure and fees. Deadline for applications: March 31, 2000. Maximum: 15 participants. Or, contact: MacMillan Biodiversity Workshop, Bamfield Marine Station, Bamfield, B.C., V0R 1B0, Canada Tel.: (250) 728-3301 Fax: (250) 728-3452 E-mail: [info@bms.bc.ca](mailto:info@bms.bc.ca)

### **Workshop on Marine Spatial Modeling**

6-8 March, 2000

Radisson SAS Royal Hotel Bryggen, Bergen, Norway.  
Information: Chairman Jarl Giske or coordinator Geir Huse (address below).

Website: <http://www.ifm.uib.no/msw>

Application deadline: 20 January 2000.

#### **Background**

The management of fishery resources is today based on catch statistics and data from acoustic surveys and bottom trawl surveys. The data is typically analyzed with area integrated, single species models (VPA). In recent years, numerical model systems that include physical variables, nutrients, phytoplankton and zooplankton have been developed for marine ecosystems. There has also been considerable progress in developing individual-based models for fish and zooplankton and

data assimilation in large, spatially distributed systems. Such systems may provide a new approach in fisheries assessment based on representing physical and ecological processes in large-scale spatial models.

#### **Workshop**

The workshop will focus on the potential of applying spatial models in fisheries assessment. Topics include, but are not limited to physical oceanography, data assimilation, ecosystem modeling, fisheries assessment and individual-based modeling. A special issue of the marine journal *Sarsia* will be published based on the contributions to the conference.

Participants are invited to submit papers. Please register through our web site (see above) or send an email to the address below providing title and abstract of your talk and whether you intend to submit a paper to the *Sarsia* issue. The following experts will give keynote speeches on these themes:

Keith Brander, ICES: Fisheries assessment; past, present and future

Geir Evensen, NERSC: Data assimilation and validation of models

Icarus Allen, Plymouth Marine Lab: Ecosystem models  
Dan Lynch, Dartmouth college: Physical ocean modeling

Francisco Werner, University of North Carolina: Individual-based models

Jerald Ault, University of Miami: Spatial models of fish distribution

Contact address:

Dr. Geir Huse

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phone +47 55 58 44 39 fax +47 55 58 44 50

email [geir.huse@ifm.uib.no](mailto:geir.huse@ifm.uib.no)

### **9th Deep sea Biology Symposium**

25-30th June 2000

Galway Ireland

These symposia are only held every three years and provide an ideal opportunity for those with interests in this area to meet their colleagues.

The theme for the symposium is "The Deep Ocean Biosphere - Change and Sustainability" and it is hoped to feature keynote speakers to address aspects of this topic. As with previous symposia, however, papers and posters on any aspect of deep-sea organisms (from macro to micro) and ecosystems will be welcome. Please remember that "deep-sea" is not only the abyssal benthos but also deep waters and the deep sub-seafloor biosphere. Interdisciplinary papers are particularly encouraged.

I am sure that those of you who have attended previous symposia will agree with me that some of the most interesting ideas have arisen outside the formal

sessions. It is my intention to allow time for this, even if it proves necessary to limit the number of oral presentations. There will, of course be the traditional program of social events including an excursion, and a banquet with plenty of local food and drink.

It is intended that information on the symposium will be promulgated mainly by electronic means. If you wish to be on the symposium Email list please contact [john.patching@nuigalway.ie](mailto:john.patching@nuigalway.ie) If you have colleagues who are interested in the symposium, but do not have access to Email or the internet, please advise them to write to me. The symposium website is at <http://marinemicro.ucg.ie/deepsea.html> and will be updated periodically. Those on the symposium Email list will be sent registration details and notified when the website is updated.

John W. Patching  
The Martin Ryan Marine Science Institute, National University of Ireland, Galway, Ireland  
Email: [John.Patching@nuigalway.ie](mailto:John.Patching@nuigalway.ie)  
Phone: +353-91-750456 Fax +353-91-525005

### **9th International Coral Reef Symposium**

Bali, October 2000

Details are posted at  
<http://www.nova.edu/ocean/9icrs/9icrs.html>

### **35-th European Marine Biology Symposium**

September 18-22 2000  
Crimea, Ukraine

First announcement

This is to inform you that the 35-th EMBS will be held in the Crimea, Ukraine, from September 18 to 22 inclusive, 2000. We will send out registration materials to those who respond to this first announcement.

TOPICS:

1. The functional diversity of marine organisms, populations, communities.
2. Anthropogenic impact on marine biota.
3. Ecology of gelatinous organisms.

We prefer your response via e-mail. Please return your information to:

[ibss@ibss.iuf.net](mailto:ibss@ibss.iuf.net) or [post1@ibss.iuf.net](mailto:post1@ibss.iuf.net)  
Fax: 0692-55-78-13 Phone: 38-0692-544110

Address for Regular Post:

Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas (IBSS)  
2, Nakhimov ave., 99011 Sevastopol, Ukraine

Updated information on the conference will be available under <http://www.ibss.iuf.net/>

### **Aquatic Sciences: Research Across Boundaries**

June 5-9, 2000

Copenhagen, Denmark.

The special session number SS40 "Bioturbation: the water-sediment interface is under control" will be held. *Bioturbation: the water-sediment interface is under*

*control.*

Among the different aquatic interfaces, the water-sediment boundary is the most biota-influenced interface. The different activities of meio-, macro- and mega-benthos (e.g. burrowing, bio-irrigation, faeces deposition) modify the characteristics of the sediments with major effects as on the solutes exchanges between the porewater and overlying water. The knowledge of the different aspects and effects of bioturbation on the physical, chemical and biological properties of the sediments are thus indispensable to understand and model the processes at the sediment-water interface.

We encourage you to submit abstracts to participate in this session. The deadline for Abstracts is 15 January 2000. Any topic related to the role of organisms on sediment properties and processes as well as the environmental parameters controlling bioturbation is pertinent.

Complete information about the Copenhagen ASLO 2000 Meeting are available at: <http://www.aslo.org/copenhagen2000/>

Bioturbation Special Session Co-conveners:

Franck Gilbert ([gilbert@com.univ-mrs.fr](mailto:gilbert@com.univ-mrs.fr))

Georges Stora ([stora@com.univ-mrs.fr](mailto:stora@com.univ-mrs.fr))

Laboratoire d'Océanologie et de Biogéochimie, Campus de Luminy - Case 901, F-13288 Marseille cedex 9, France

Tel.: int+33 4 91 82 91 04; Fax: int+33 4 91 82 65 48

Web page: <http://www.com.univ-mrs.fr/LOB/bioturb/>

### **Biogeography of Southeast Asia Congress**

June 4-9, 2000

the Netherlands

General information at the web site  
<http://nhncml.leidenuniv.nl/symposia/Biogeography2000/program.htm>

or can contact

Dr. Bert W. Hoeksema

Co-ordinator Marine Research (Fauna Malesiana Marina), National Museum of Natural History Naturalis, P.O. Box 9517, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands

Tel.: +31.71.5687631; Fax: +31.71.5687666

E-mail: [Hoeksema@Naturalis.NNM.nl](mailto:Hoeksema@Naturalis.NNM.nl)

### **Position available**

#### **Two Faculty Positions in Conservation Biology**

The Department of Biological Sciences at the University of New Orleans is expanding with the initiation of a new Ph.D. program in Conservation Biology. The University is committing substantial resources to ensure the success of the new program, and we hope to create an innovative and exciting climate for research on ecology, systematics, genetics, and reproductive biology. The following advertisements will appear in the December 10 issue of Science. We would welcome applications from qualified

candidates and please bring this opportunity to the attention of anyone you know who may be interested. UNO is a growing university of 16,000 students, located in a pleasant residential neighborhood on the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain. Questions regarding these positions may be directed to Steve Johnson (sgjohnso@uno.edu) or people listed in each ad.

*Assistant or Associate Professor in Conservation Biology*

The Department of Biological Sciences at the University of New Orleans invites applications for an Assistant or Associate Professor. Applicants specializing in any area of Conservation Biology including, but not limited to, ecology, genetics, reproductive biology or management will be considered. The successful applicant will have a Ph.D., postdoctoral experience, and will be expected to develop a strong, externally-funded research program, direct students in the new Ph.D. program in Conservation Biology, and teach at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

The University is affiliated with the Audubon Institute Center for Research of Endangered Species and the Louisiana Universities Marine Consortium, and opportunities for research at and collaboration with these institutions are available. For more information about the department visit our web site: <http://www.uno.edu/~bios>

Applicants should submit a CV, statements of research and teaching interests, and contact information for three references to: Conservation Biology Search Committee, Department of Biological Sciences, University of New Orleans, New Orleans, LA 70148. Questions may be directed to [jjhoward@uno.edu](mailto:jjhoward@uno.edu). Review of applications will begin January 31, 2000, and will continue until the position is filled. The University of New Orleans is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer.

*Chairperson*

The Department of Biological Sciences is seeking a Chair at the rank of Professor to lead the development of a new Ph.D. program in Conservation Biology while maintaining the Department's current strength in undergraduate and masters level education. The successful candidate will be expected to have prior administrative experience, establish a funded research program, and supervise doctoral students. The area of research specialization is open. Preference will be given to candidates with research specialties in areas related to the field of conservation biology. For more information about the department see our web site, <http://www.uno.edu/~bios>

Send a CV, names and addresses of five references, a statement of administrative philosophy, and statement of research interests to: Dr. James S. Rogers, Department of Biological Sciences, University of New

Orleans, New Orleans, LA 70148. Questions may be directed to [jsrogers@uno.edu](mailto:jsrogers@uno.edu). Review of applications will begin January 30th and will continue until the position is filled.

**Lecturer; Center for Marine Sciences, Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory, University of The West Indies (Mona)**

The University of the West Indies is seeking a Lecturer (Assistant Professor, tenure track) as Assistant Director of the Centre for Marine Sciences, to be based at (and live near) the Discovery Bay Marine Laboratory. She/he will take part in the Laboratory's research and teaching program, interact with visiting scientists and classes, and participate, in a supervisory/ advisory capacity, in the management of the Laboratory. Applicants should have a Ph.D. and preferably experience of research in coastal physical oceanography OR in the geology, biology or management of coral reefs or related systems.

Further particulars of the post, and the Centre, are available at [www.uwimona.edu.jm](http://www.uwimona.edu.jm) and details of the Laboratory at [www.dbml.org](http://www.dbml.org). Prior to January 17, 2000 (an extension of a previous closing date), send detailed applications (two copies) giving full particulars of qualifications and experience and the names, addresses and fax numbers of three referees (who should be asked to send their references unsolicited) to the Campus Registrar [Attention: Senior Assistant Registrar (Appointments)], University of the West Indies, Mona, Kingston 7, Jamaica

**Postdoctoral Fellowship - Deep-sea Harpacticoida**

A postdoc is needed for a project designed to provide an understanding of mechanisms responsible for structuring deep-sea meiofauna communities. The study area is from 300 - 3000 m in the northern Gulf of Mexico. The postdoc will be responsible for identifying harpacticoids to the lowest taxonomic level possible. The position is for three years preferably beginning in June or September 2000. A letter of application must include the names and e-mail addresses of two references, and a statement of the candidate's background and expertise. Please send applications to: Dr. Paul Montagna  
University of Texas at Austin, Marine Science Institute,  
750 Channelview Drive, Port Aransas, Texas 78373  
USA  
Phone: 361-749-6779 FAX: 361-749-6777  
Email: [paul@utmsi.utexas.edu](mailto:paul@utmsi.utexas.edu)  
Homepage: <http://www.utmsi.utexas.edu/staff/montagna>

**Interesting websites**

**Nematode paper on a web**

Tarjan AC and Keppner EJ (1999): Illustrated key to the genera of free-living marine nematodes in the superfamily Chromadoroidea exclusive of the Chromodoridae. Extension Publication #EENY-82:39pp, 115 figs. was published on a web: [http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~insect/nematode/marine\\_nematodes.htm](http://www.ifas.ufl.edu/~insect/nematode/marine_nematodes.htm)

Dr. Tarjan added some information. Although I've had my research published since 1948, this is the first time a paper of mine has been "published" on the WEB and I was relatively unfamiliar with the way to properly bring up the important "hidden" information.

The systematic paper has two areas which require explanation. To the left of the title "TAXA INCLUDED IN THE KEY" there appears a small diagram. Clicking the cursor on that diagram will enlarge it.

ALSO, under the title "ALPHABETICAL LIST OF GENERA AND INFORMATION SOURCES" there appears a list of genera. Clicking on any one of these will bring up the figures for that genus.

(Thank you Dr. Tarjan)

#### **The National Museum of Wales website**

has just been updated and improved. See:

<http://websrv1.nmgw.ac.uk/biosyb/index.en.shtml>

Specimen info. on

<http://zoology.nmgw.ac.uk:591/Museum/Home.htm>

#### **Link to species keys for selected plant-parasitic nematodes**

Please see <http://pppweb.clemson.edu/nematode.htm>

This list can also be seen in the latest Society of Nematologists' Nematology Newsletter 45(3):9-22. This is an updated list supplementing that published in NNL 29(4):9-18 by E. C. Bernard and S. M. Baird in 1983. I would appreciate knowing of any suggested additions to the list, including other computerized keys.

Also, see the link to the recently verified list of nematology web sites compiled by Earl Flack, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. We are interested in knowing about more non-US, multi-language sites. (By Dr. Stephen A. Lewis, Professor and Chair Department of Plant Pathology & Physiology, 116 Long Hall, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina 29634-0377, USA E-mail [<slewis@clemson.edu>](mailto:slewis@clemson.edu))

<http://pppweb.clemson.edu/>

<http://pppweb.clemson.edu/nematode.htm>

#### **Nematode identification keys**

Regularly I get requests for info regarding nematode identification keys. For those, not aware of our homepage I would like to draw attention to

[www.spg.wau.nl/nema/ident\\_lit.html](http://www.spg.wau.nl/nema/ident_lit.html)

where an overview is given.

Further plans are to publish the complete nomenclatorial datasystem of Piet Loof on line. This datasystem includes all references to original

descriptions, additional descriptions, keys and other nomenclatorial info as way of type indication, homonyms, synonyms, opinions etc. It covers all terrestrial, freshwater and marine nematodes and is kept updated as soon as new descriptions appear or nomenclatorial changes. We are looking for funding of this project. (Tom Bongers, Curator Nematode Collection, Wageningen University, The Netherlands)

#### **Bibliography of climate change**

The third edition of our searchable online bibliography of climate change and impacts on flora and fauna species and associated ecosystems has been posted on our site. The bibliography now has more than 1900 citations and is available in both HTML and PDF formats.

Should you wish to be informed about future editions of the bibliography, please sign up on our announcement list, found on our home page.

Wil Burns, Co-Chairman, American Society of International Law - Wildlife Interest Group, 1210 Floribunda Ave. #7, Burlingame, CA 94010 USA

Phone: 510.325.3037; Fax: 801.838.4710

<mailto:ASILwildlife@pacbell.net>

<http://www.eelink.net/~asilwildlife>

#### **DIVERSITAS, An International Organization for Biodiversity Science,**

is pleased to announce the publication of a new website for the DIVERSITAS-International Biodiversity Observation Year (IBOY) 2001-2002 (<http://www.nrel.colostate.edu/IBOY>).

DIVERSITAS-IBOY is an unprecedented global effort by scientists and educators to explore the exuberant richness of life on Earth. IBOY projects, involving hundreds of international scientists from a wide range of disciplines, will gather and disseminate new information about biodiversity and its contribution to the functioning of ecosystems and human societies. These projects will make a compelling case for concern and action about biodiversity loss

In addition to its arts, education, policy, and media components, DIVERSITAS-IBOY aims to provide a platform to facilitate a new cohesion of biodiversity science. As part of this effort, we are planning international synthesis workshops to integrate individual research projects.

Our new website (<http://www.nrel.colostate.edu/IBOY>) contains detailed information on all present IBOY projects, as well as a description of the history and aims of IBOY. Publicity efforts are presently moving into high gear. In December we plan to publish a full-color brochure to raise IBOY's global profile and increase the range of IBOY projects. We welcome your comments on the website and your participation in DIVERSITAS-IBOY.

The DIVERSITAS-IBOY effort is coordinated

by a Steering Committee chaired by Dr Diana Wall, Colorado State University, USA, and vice-chair, Dr. Geoff Boxshall, of the Natural History Museum, London.

Please contact Dr. Diana Wall or Dr. Gina Adams, Scientific Program Officer of IBOY, at the IBOY Secretariat ([iboy@nrel.colostate.edu](mailto:iboy@nrel.colostate.edu)) for further information on how to become involved in the excitement of DIVERSITAS-IBOY.

Sheri Simmons

Research Assistant, DIVERSITAS-IBOY 2001-2002  
NREL, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO  
80523-1499, USA  
Tel: +1 970 491 4068; FAX: +1 970 491 3945  
[sheri@nrel.colostate.edu](mailto:sheri@nrel.colostate.edu)

### BioDiversity Beta 2

is now available at :

<http://www.nrmc.demon.co.uk/bdpro/>

This page "Checklist of Software for Field Biologists" is also of interest :

[http://www.euronet.nl/users/mbleeker/prog/soflis\\_e.html](http://www.euronet.nl/users/mbleeker/prog/soflis_e.html)

### Full title of journals

When writing a scientific paper it is sometimes required to write journal titles in full or abbreviated forms. This is sometimes difficult because one only has the abbreviated or full title and needs the other. On the crustacean listserver one subscriber has compiled a list of websites which have information on the full names of scientific journals:

<http://arachne.prl.msu.edu/journals/>

<http://161.55.72.103/styleman/bindex.htm>

<http://www.ios.doi.gov/nrl/Journalx.html>

<http://www.wkap.nl/journals/>

<http://aginfo.snu.ac.kr/journal/journala.htm>

<http://arachne.prl.msu.edu/journals/> - *Biological Journals and*

*Abbreviations*

<http://161.55.72.103/styleman/bindex.htm>

<http://arachne.prl.msu.edu/journals/>

<http://www.esd.ornl.gov/journals.html>

<http://www.csa.com/helpV3/ssrclist.html>

[http://www.brzn.de/cgi\\_bin/nph\\_wwwredir/www.brzn.de](http://www.brzn.de/cgi_bin/nph_wwwredir/www.brzn.de)

<http://arachne.prl.msu.edu/journals/>

<http://161.55.72.103/styleman/bindex.htm>

<http://library.caltech.edu/admin/abbreviations/>

<http://www.csa.com/htbin/srcsrch.cgi?dbs=www.csa.com+210+/wais/indexes/srcjnl/asfa001-src>

<http://www.brzn.de/cgi-bin/nph-wwwobnmenu?PAGE=OBACCESS&LANG=EN&EXT=ON>

<http://www.bioscience.org/atlas/jourabbr/list.htm>

<http://www4.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/htbin-post/PubMed/wgetjrs>

<http://www.csa.com/htbin/sjldisp.cgi?filename=/wais/d>

<http://www.csa.com/htbin/sjldisp.cgi?filename=/wais/d>

<http://www.csa.com/htbin/sjldisp.cgi?filename=/wais/d>

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<http://www.csa.com/htbin/sjldisp.cgi?filename=/wais/d>

(Dr Mark J. Costello, Ecological Consultancy Services Ltd (EcoServe), 17 Rathfarnham Road, Terenure, Dublin 6w, Ireland.)

### HMS Beagle's "Web Pick of the Day"

Our website <http://www.mtsu.edu/~kwall/meio/> has been chosen as HMS Beagle's "Web Pick of the Day", and will be featured on our home page within the next few days with a link to your site. Your site will then be listed on Beagle's "Favorite Web Sites" page for 30 days, as well as permanently catalogued in BioMedLink (<http://biomedlink.com>), our comprehensive, evaluated database of biological and medical websites.

HMS Beagle is a biweekly webzine for biological and medical researchers, with a daily digest of the highest-quality Web resources and published material. We were recently selected as one of Yahoo's top 32 "incredibly useful" Web sites, and have more than 100,000 visits to every issue. At least a thousand readers check our daily updates each day.

## NEWS

### Obituary

It is with shock and great sadness that I inform you that Dr Alan Bird died on 14, December. Alan's considerable and continuing contributions to nematology are well known and highly regarded. His death is a significant loss to the discipline. For those who knew him personally, the loss is particularly acute. He will be deeply missed. (Ian Riley)

### Russian Scientist arrested

If you have not yet seen recent Nature, this is to alert you to the fact that Sergei Piontkovsky and four of his colleagues at the Institute of Biology of the Southern Seas (IBSS) in Sevastopol have been arrested by the Ukrainian KGB and that they face charges that could land them in prison for many years. What they are charged with is the norm in international cooperation in oceanography and we have all had to do exactly the same in order to work with foreign colleagues.

You may have seen the series of papers that have appeared recently as a result of research, by which some Ukrainian scientists have emerged from isolation.

Bob Williams of Plymouth is a co-author and has helped the Ukrainians to join the rest of the world; please look at 'The bioluminescent field of the Atlantic Ocean' in Marine-Ecology Progress Series 156, 33-41, and other in MEPS 128, 35-41 and MEPS 148, 145-154.

What to do? I suggest we ALL write letters



expressing surprise that the Ukrainian government should wish to cut itself off from contact with western science, an association that can only be to its own benefit. And saying that cooperation between scientists of different countries is the norm in oceanography, involves the free exchange of data in all directions and often the financial support of scientists in another country. Point out that it can only be to the detriment of Ukrainian interests not to participate. Say that you will not consider travelling to meetings in the Ukraine until the matter is satisfactorily resolved.

Such letters should go to the Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in Kiev, with copies to the Ukrainian embassy in your own country. Unfortunately, the Ukraine is holding presidential elections right now, the results of which will not be known until 14 November. Contact the Academy of Sciences of your country and request them to contact as a matter of urgency the Ukrainian Academy. If you can send copies by e-mail as well, so much the better.

You may also wish to contact Piotkovsky's colleagues or Bob Williams at (bw@wpoi.nerc.ac.uk) and ask them to suggest other concrete measures to be taken: IBSS home page is [ibss.iuf.net](http://ibss.iuf.net), or try [zoo@ibss.iuf.net](mailto:zoo@ibss.iuf.net) or [plankton@ibss.iuf.net](mailto:plankton@ibss.iuf.net), or [zalex@ibss.iuf.net](mailto:zalex@ibss.iuf.net). IBSS director is Prof. V. Zaika, deputy is Dr Yu. Tokarev. The mailing address of IBSS is 2 Nakhimov Avenue, 99011 Sevastopol, Ukraine, fax (380) 392 557813.

Please copy this whole e-mail to your colleagues; it would be good if letters came in from as many different countries as possible. AND QUICKLY! Sergei Piotkovsky is said to be going to court in less than a month now.

### **16th Baltic Marine Biologists Symposium**

The 16th Baltic Marine Biologists Symposium was held 21-26 June 1999 in Klaipeda, Lithuania, hosted by the Coastal Research and Planning Institute of the Klaipeda University. The Symposium had "Functional diversity and ecosystem dynamics of the Baltic Sea" and "Alien species in the brackish water ecosystems" as its major topics. Some 44 oral presentations were given and about 100 posters were shown. Sadly to say, meiofaunal studies were rather poorly represented on the program, possibly reflecting the slow pace of meiofaunal research within the Baltic Sea area. Oral presentations of interest to meiobenthologists included "The utility of functional group analysis in marine benthic ecology" by T. Pearson (SEAS Ltd, Oban, Scotland); "Man as a part of southern Baltic sandy littoral ecosystems" by J.M. Weslawski et al. (Polish Academy of Sciences' Institute of Oceanology, Sopot, Poland); "Fluffy sediment layer and aggregates in shallow brackish waters" by U. Schiewer (Rostock University, Rostock, Germany); and "Peculiarities of biosynthesis and transformation of organic matter in water and bottom sediments of the northern part of Kursiu Marios Lagoon" by R.A. Paskauskas et al.

(Klaipeda University, Klaipeda, Lithuania). There were also a few posters dealing directly or indirectly with the meiobenthos, namely "Deep-burrowing bioturbators as important ecological factor for the Vistula Lagoon" by V.A. Chechko and E.E. Ezhova (Shirshov Institute of Oceanology, Atlantic Branch, Kaliningrad, Russia); "Meiobenthos vs. sedimentary variables in an eutrophic lagoon; the Szczecin Lagoon 1997 example" by T. Radziejewska et al. (Agricultural University, Szczecin, Poland); and "Vertical distribution of meiobenthos in sediments of the Pomeranian Bay (southern Baltic)" by J. Rokicka-Praxmayer and T. Radziejewska (Agricultural University, Szczecin, Poland). (By Teresa, Thank you!!)

### **Congratulations for Ph.D. Degree**

I am pleased to inform the "meiobenthological community" that I successfully defended my Ph.D. dissertation at the University of Quebec at Rimouski (UQAR), Canada, on September 3, 1999. The thesis was supervised by Dr. Gaston Desrosiers (UQAR) and co-supervised by Dr. Magda Vincx (University of Gent, Belgium). The title of the thesis was "La meiofaune de la region estuarienne du Saint-Laurent (Quebec, Canada): zone intertidale (Parc du Bic) et zone subtidale (Fjord du Saguenay)". The thesis consists of a general Introduction (French) followed by six chapters and a general Conclusion (French). The six chapters are the following: 1) New type of hand-held corer for meiofaunal sampling and vertical profile investigation: a comparative study (English); 2) Intertidal meiofaunal assemblages and possible interactions with the macrofaunal polychaete *Nereis virens* (English); 3) Sediment disturbance and predation of the intertidal polychaete *Nereis virens* (Sars) on the associated meiofaunal assemblages (English); 4) Size spectra, body width and morphotypes of intertidal nematodes: an ecological interpretation (English); 5) Diversity and vertical distribution of nematode assemblages: the Saguenay Fjord (Quebec, Canada) (English); 6) Crue éclair de juillet 96 au Saguenay - Lac St-Jean: 2. Impacts sur les sédiments et le biote de la baie des Ha! Ha! et du fjord Saguenay (French). The six chapters were written in the form of articles. Corresponding articles of chapters 1, 3, 4, and 6 are presently in press in different reviews while articles of chapters 2 and 5 are presently submitted. Dates of publication will be announced on Psammonalia.

I am also happy to be able to say that I was not unemployed for a longtime after my Ph.D. defense. Indeed, since September 15 I started a post-doc project at Louisiana State University, Department of Biological Sciences. The project is directed by Dr. John Fleeger. We shall study the interactive effects of heavy metals and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH) on the feeding rates of the goby fish, which is a meiofaunal consumer. We also want to study the influence of PAH on the bioaccumulation of heavy metals in the goby's tissues. New address:

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### **RECENT LITERATURE**

(To make this section as complete as possible, please do not forget sending literature information via e-mail to the editor when you publish papers.)

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**International Association of Meiobenthologists**

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OR RENEWAL**

The International Association of Meiobenthologists is a non-profit scientific society representing meiobenthologists in all aquatic disciplines. The Association is dedicated to the dissemination of information by publishing a quarterly newsletter and sponsoring a triennial International Conference. The newsletter, *Psammonalia*, is published mid-month in February, May, August and November.

Membership is open to any person who is actively interested in the study of meiofauna. Annual membership dues are 10 euro (\$ 10 US) and you may pay up to 3 years in advance, i.e. 30 euro (\$30). New members will receive *Psammonalia* beginning with the February issue of the current year. If you are able, please add extra money to be contributed to the Bertil Swedmark Fund, which is used to help students or others who wish to attend the triennial International Conference.

Please check appropriate boxes:

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For **North American members** : dues can be paid in US dollars. Make checks payable to Intl. Assoc. of Meiobenthologists. Send dues and applications to: Dr. Robert Feller, Belle W. Baruch Institute, Univ. of South Carolina, Columbia, SC 29208 USA

For **all other members** : dues can be paid in euro.. Make (euro)checks payable to Ann Vanreusel. If possible make use of the credit card transaction possibilities. Send dues and applications to : Dr. Ann Vanreusel, Marine Biology Section, Ledeganckstraat 35, B-9000 Gent , BELGIUM

Interests: \_\_\_\_\_

(\*) New members please introduce yourself in 10 lines International Association of Meiobenthologists

## Questionnaire for the perspective of Meiobenthology in the new Millennium

Please answer to the questionnaires below. Your input will be greatly appreciated. The results of this survey will be reported in the next issue of Psammonalia.

Your answer may be sent to the editor via

1) e-mail to [yshira@seto.kyoto-u.ac.jp](mailto:yshira@seto.kyoto-u.ac.jp)

2) fax to +81-739-42-4518

3) snail mail to Yoshihisa Shirayama, SMBL, Kyoto Univ., Shirahama, Wakayama 649-2211, Japan

Please select your answer to each question from A to E as:

A: between the year 2000-2025

B: between the year 2025-2050

C: between the year 2050-2075

D: between the year 2075-2100

E: later than the year 2100

Q-I. When do you estimate most harpacticoid species will be described?

I-1: In the European Waters \_\_\_\_\_

I-2: In the coastal area world wide \_\_\_\_\_

I-3: In the deep sea world wide \_\_\_\_\_

I-4: In the fresh water world wide \_\_\_\_\_

I-5: Throughout the globe \_\_\_\_\_

Q-II. When do you estimate most nematode species will be described?

II-1: In the European Waters \_\_\_\_\_

II-2: In the coastal area world wide \_\_\_\_\_

II-3: In the deep sea world wide \_\_\_\_\_

II-4: In the fresh water world wide \_\_\_\_\_

II-5: Throughout the globe \_\_\_\_\_

Q-III. When do you estimate most ciliate species will be described?

III-1: In the European Waters \_\_\_\_\_

III-2: In the coastal area world wide \_\_\_\_\_

III-3: In the deep sea world wide \_\_\_\_\_

III-4: In the fresh water world wide \_\_\_\_\_

III-5: Throughout the globe \_\_\_\_\_

Q-IV. Most taxonomic literature will become accessible through Internet. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-V. Microscope to observe meiofauna *in situ* will be available. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-VI. Automatic sorting machine of meiofauna will be available. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-VII. Automatic identification system of meiofauna will be available. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-VIII. A system for long-term *in situ* monitoring of meiofauna population dynamics will be available. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-IX. Completely automatic genome sequence analyzer for meiofauna will be available. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-X. Psammonalia will be sent only via e-mail. \_\_\_\_\_

Q-XI. International Meiofauna Conference will be held via internet meeting system. \_\_\_\_\_

Your name(Optional) \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you for your cooperation.*

