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"This newsletter is not deemed to be a valid publication for formal taxonomic purposes"

It's time to keep up with the changing scene in meiofaunal literature. Several recent publications will be highlighted in this Psammonella for your information. "Microfauna Marina" Volume 2 was recently published. This journal (in hard cover) continues the "Mikrofauna des Meeresbodens" series edited by Peter Ax. Volume 2 contains 15 papers, 7 in English, 8 in German. They deal with marine meiofaunal groups from Europe and North and South America, and cover structure and function, taxonomy and ecology. "Stygologia" is a periodical published by E.J. Brill in Leiden, The Netherlands. It is billed as an international journal of general and applied groundwater research (including the marine interstitial), and is devoted to studies of subterranean waters of all origins. Both biological and non-biological research are represented. J. H. Stock and L. Botosaneanu of the University of Amsterdam are the Managing Editors. The journal has published several volumes, and selected references from earlier numbers have been added to the Recent Literature Section. Finally, "Stygofauna Mundi, a faunistic, distributional, and ecological synthesis of the world fauna in subterranean waters (including the marine interstitial)" edited by L. Botosaneanu has been published in book form. A number of contributions are meiofaunal, and a partial list of titles are included in this issue. This book is expensive (US \$210), and a book review of it for Psammonella would be nice (any volunteers?). Of course we await the "Introduction to the Study of Meiofauna" edited by R. Higgins and H. Thiel. Bob and Hjalmar met in Hamburg in April to plan publication and to meet with authors. Plans are to have it ready to go to press the first of next year with publication about a year from now. Updates will follow. We welcome these new publications.

Summer is quickly approaching. Among the meetings planned for this summer are the Sixth International Symposium on Aquatic Nematodes and the Third International Conference on Copepoda. Such meetings are growing, and are, of course, very important to specialists in these groups. However, taxonomically specialized meetings cannot provide the cross-fertilization of ideas long associated with our International Meiofauna Conferences in which ecologists and invertebrate zoologists with a diversity of interests present their work. Given tight travel budgets, it may be that researchers will increasingly be forced to choose one meeting over another. Given the cost advantages and the potential for scientific exchange, wouldn't it be nice if the timing and location of the Meiofauna Conference could be coordinated with one or more of these taxonomically specialized meetings? I have asked some of our members who plan to attend the nematode or copepod meetings to bring up the idea of the coordination of our meetings, and I will pursue it with each society. Any ideas or support in this matter will be appreciated, especially from those who are also members of specialized groups.

John Fleeger

From Duane Hope

A book length publication by T.A. Platonova and V.V. Galitsova (1976. Studies of Marine Fauna. Volume XV (XXIII)). Nematodes and Their Role in the Melebenthos. Amerind Publishing Co. Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. 366 pages. Translation No. TT 79-52000) has been translated from Russian to English and printed as a hard bound book. A copy of this translation may be obtained at no cost by sending a request to W. Duane Hope, Department of Invertebrate Zoology, Stop 163, National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560, U.S.A. Please be certain to print or type clearly your name and return address.

From Howard Platt

United Kingdom sets up a Meiofauna Specialist Group. A meiofauna workshop took place at the Institute of Marine Environmental Research (Plymouth, England) in December last year. At that meeting a Meiofauna Specialist Group of the Linnean Society was formally inaugurated. An executive committee was elected, consisting of Alasdair McIntyre, Colin Moore, Howard Platt and Richard Warwick. The Linnean Society made a generous financial contribution, which in part enabled twenty scientists from nine organizations to attend the workshop. The Linnean Society has several Specialist Groups to promote specific biological activities and the advantages include use of meeting rooms and library at the headquarters in Piccadilly, London.

The primary aim of the meiofaunal group is to co-ordinate the UK research effort on taxonomy and ecology. As in most (all?) countries, what little meiofauna research that is being done is rather fragmented. In the face of a financial squeeze on research funding in Britain, it seemed a useful strategy to draw some of these disparate threads together. To raise the profile of meiofauna research in the UK, it was decided to organize a short symposium, with the modest provisional title 'The Importance of Meiofauna'. The venue and time is still to be decided, but is likely to be at the Linnean Society's headquarters in London sometime around Easter next year. A provisional list of prospective speakers and titles has been drawn up.

Having sown the seeds, the next stage would be to seek national or international funding for collaborative research programmes, but this is for the future.

Another important role for the Meiofauna Specialist Group is to co-ordinate the preparation of the Linnean Society/EBSA Synopses of the British Fauna for those animal groups found in the meiofauna. Of the two most prominent marine taxa, the nematodes are already well in hand but the harpacticoid copepods remain to be done. However, a group of four copepod specialists drew up a schedule at the meeting, with an estimated completion date for the first volume of Easter 1988.

Other meiofaunal groups waiting to be given the Synopsis treatment include gastrotrichs,

kinorhynch, turbellaria and gnathostomulids. However, some of the minor groups, including the few aberrant miniature forms of macrofaunal taxa, probably do not warrant a volume of their own. So it was proposed that there should be a special volume in the series devoted to these forms, which might also include a pictorial key to all the known meiofaunal groups.

Other possible group activities could include field-trips and workshops, with one of the aims being the checking and testing of keys and species descriptions contained in the Synopsis volumes.

Others interested in joining the UK Meiofauna Specialist Group at this early stage should write to the group secretary: H.M. Platt, Zoology Department, British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, London SW7 5BD. Membership of the Linnean Society is not mandatory but would of course be very much welcomed.

From Uwe Noidt

The second volume of 'Microfauna Marina' edited by P. Ax (Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur - Mainz and Gustav Fischer Verlag Stuttgart - New York) was published recently. Citations have been added to the recent literature listing of this issue.

NEW MEMBERS

Paul Somerfeld
Department of Zoology
Trinity College
Dublin 2, IRELAND

I am a graduate student of Zoology at Trinity College Dublin. I am studying the Irish Halacaridae. I am interested in both epiphytic and interstitial species. I am especially interested in their taxonomy but I will also be looking at other aspects of their biology such as their ecology, physiology and feeding.

Marie-Therese Venec-Peyre
M.N.H.N. Inst. Paleontologie
8, rue Buffon
75005 Paris
France

Interests: Micropaleontology, Recent Benthic Foraminifera, French Polynesia and Mediterranean.

Laurent Villiers
S.P. 91 427 France

Interests: South Pacific Copepoda Harpacticoida, from volcanic islands and atolls of French Polynesia.

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Laboratoire Arago
F 66650 Banyuls-Sur-Mer
France

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M.N.H.N.
UA 699 CNRS
Biologie des Invertébrés marins
55, rue Buffon
75231 Paris Cédex 05

Carlo Hulp
Delta Institute for Hydrobiological Research
Vierstraat 28
NL-4401 EA
Yerseke, The Netherlands

"Since April 1, 1987, I have succeeded to E.K. Duursma as Director of the Delta Institute for Hydrobiological Research in Yerseke. This research Institute depends on the Royal Netherlands Academy of Sciences and is situated in the small village of Yerseke, the center of the Dutch mussel culture, at the board of the Eastern Scheldt. It was founded thirty years ago with the aim of studying the biological changes due to the vast engineering works in the delta area after the disaster flood of 1953. Of course, over the past thirty years things have changed and research is now concentrated in three groups: one dealing with tidal salt marshes, one dealing with estuarine ecophysiology and one dealing with fluxes of matter and energy in ecosystems. The staff of the Institute includes twelve tenured scientists. I am hoping to continue some meiobenthic work there and will certainly promote international cooperation in this field."

John Kern
University Texas Marine Science Center
Port Aransas, TX 78373

John is now working for Paul Montagna as a Research Associate. He has plans to carry out independent research on harpacticoid copepods, and to take care of Paul's needs.

Wolfgang E. Sterrer
Natural History Museum
Bermuda Aquarium Museum and Zoo
PO box FL145
Flatts FLBX, Smiths
Bermuda

"I will devote my time to building up the new museum and editing a book on natural history of Bermuda, but hope to continue with meiofauna, particularly Gnathostomulida of the Pacific Ocean"

NEW PUBLICATION

STYGOFAUNA MUNDI: A faunistic, distributional, and ecological synthesis of the world fauna inhabiting subterranean waters (including the marine interstitial). 1986.

Edited by Lazare Botosaneanu
Leiden - E.J. Brill/Dr. W. Backhuys

Contents with meiofauna interest include:

Rhizopoda: Testacea (V.G. Golemsky)
Rhizopoda: Foraminifera (V.G. Golemsky)
Ciliata Interstitiels, essentiellement des sables marins (Rosinka Detcheva)
Gnathostomulida (W. Sterrer)
Microturbellaria from subterranean freshwater habitats (P. Schwank)
Nemertina (E. Kirsteuer)
Rotatoria (G. Tzschaschel)
Gastrotricha (Jeanne Renaud-Mornant)
Kinorhyncha (R. P. Higgins)
Loricifera (R. Moberg Kristensen)
Priapulida (L. v. Salvini-Plawen)
Nematoda from continental subterranean aquatic habitats (R. Eder)
Nematoda: interstitial nematodes from marine, brackish, and hypersaline environments (S. Lorenzen)
Marine interstitial Gastropoda (including one freshwater interstitial species) (P. M. Arnaud, Cl. Polzot, L. v. Salvini-Plawen)
Sipuncula: (S. J. Edmonds)
Polychaeta (incl. Archiannelida) (Gesa Hartmann-Schröder)
Oligochaeta (incl. Aphanoneura) des eaux souterraines continentales (J. Juget & Elzbieta Dumnicka)
Oligochaeta from marine and brackish-water subterranean habitats (O. Pfannkuche)
Tardigrada (Jeanne Renaud-Mornant)
Cladocera (H. J. Dumont)
Ostracoda (D. L. Danielopol & G. Hartmann)
Copepoda: Calanoida (Th. E. Bowman)
Copepoda Cyclopoida Cyclopidae des eaux douces souterraines continentales (Françoise Lescher-Moutoué)
Copepoda: Cyclopoida aus dem Meeres- und Brackwasser-Interstitial (H. V. Herbst)
Copepoda: les Harpacticoida souterrains des eaux douces continentales (R. Rouch)
Copepoda: marine-Interstitial Harpacticoida (J. B. J. Wells)
Mystacocarida (D. J. Zinn)
Syncarida (H. K. Schminke)
Amphipoda: an Introduction (J. H. Stock)
Acar: Halacaridae (Ilse Bartsch)
Acar: "Hydrachnellae" (J. Schwoerbel)
Pycnogonida (= Pantopoda) (J. H. Stock)

SYMPOSIA, COURSES, RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON AQUATIC NEMATODES, 5-9 July, Laboratoire Arago, Banyuls Sur-Mer, France. Write F. deBovee (see reply form, p. 13).

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL ECHINODERM CONFERENCE will be held at the University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C. on August 23-28, 1987. Persons wanting further information on the program or registration should contact Dr. Robert D. Bruke (Chairperson of the Conference Organizing Committee, P.O. Box 1700, Department of Biology, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., Canada

V8W 2Y2, Tel. (604) 721-7105) or Ms. Mary Ransberry (Conference Office, University of Victoria, Victoria, B.C., Canada V8W 2Y2, Tel. (604) 721-8465).

BERMUDA BIOLOGICAL STATION. June 16 - July 11: Biogeochemical Cycling Processes in Coastal Carbonate-Organic Systems; June 15-21: Cooperative Oceanographic Practicum; June 23 - July 11: Analysis of Marine Pollution; July 14 - August 1: Zooplankton Ecology; July 14 - August 15: Tropical Marine Invertebrates; July 28 - August 22: Biology of Fishes; August 4-22: Marine Microbial Ecology; August 11-20: Teacher Training Workshop. Contact: Education Director, Bermuda Biological Station, 17 Biological Station Lane, Ferry Reach GE 01, Bermuda, Tel. (809) 297-1880.

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY SUMMER PROGRAM. June 23 - July 23 or July 9-24: Introduction to Marine Biology; June 26 - August 7: Focus on the Sea/Issues and Nature; June 22 - July 8: Biological Oceanography; June 22 - July 8: Developmental Biology of Marine Invertebrates; July 9-24: Ocean, Coastal & Shore Studies for Teachers; July 27 - August 11: Marine Birds and Mammals; July 27 - August 11: Biology of Fishes; August 12-17: Diving Research Methods; August 12-27: Biological Laboratory Computing; August 28 - September 14: Benthic Marine Ecology/Techniques; Independent Research. Contact: Summer Program in Marine Biology, Marine Sciences & Maritime Studies Center, Northeastern University, East Point, Nahant, MA 01908 USA. Deadline: May 1, 1987.

DUKE UNIVERSITY MARINE LABORATORY. First Term (May 11 - June 12): Marine Invertebrate Zoology, Marine Biology, Biological Oceanography, Physiology of Marine Animals; Second Term (June 15 - July 17): Marine Ecology, Primary Productivity in the Seas, Barrier Island Ecology, Continental Margin Sedimentation; Third Term (July 20 - August 21): Marine Invertebrate Zoology, Invertebrate Developmental Biology, Marine Biology, Marine Policy, Benthic Marine Algae; First, Second, or Third Term: Independent Study (undergraduate) and Graduate Research courses. Contact: Admissions, Duke University Marine Laboratory, Beaufort, NC 28516 USA, Tel. (919) 728-2111.

FRIDAY HARBOR LABORATORIES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON. First Term (June 15 - July 18): Marine Invertebrate Zoology, Marine Algology, Advanced Topics in Biological Oceanography; Second Term (July 20 - August 22): Advanced Invertebrate Zoology, Comparative Invertebrate Embryology, Marine Fish Biology. Contact: Director, Friday Harbor Laboratories, 620 University Road, Friday Harbor, WA 98250 USA.

FOUNDATION FOR FIELD RESEARCH. Financial support for researchers is available for projects that can be appropriately funded and assisted by volunteer teams in the field. Funding is not limited by geographic area or discipline, although the project must consist of basic field research. Proposals must be submitted at least a year in advance of the project dates, and should allow the "Guidelines for Field Research Funding." Contact: Foundation for Field Research, 787 South Grade Road, Alpine, CA 92001 USA, Tel. (619) 445-9264.

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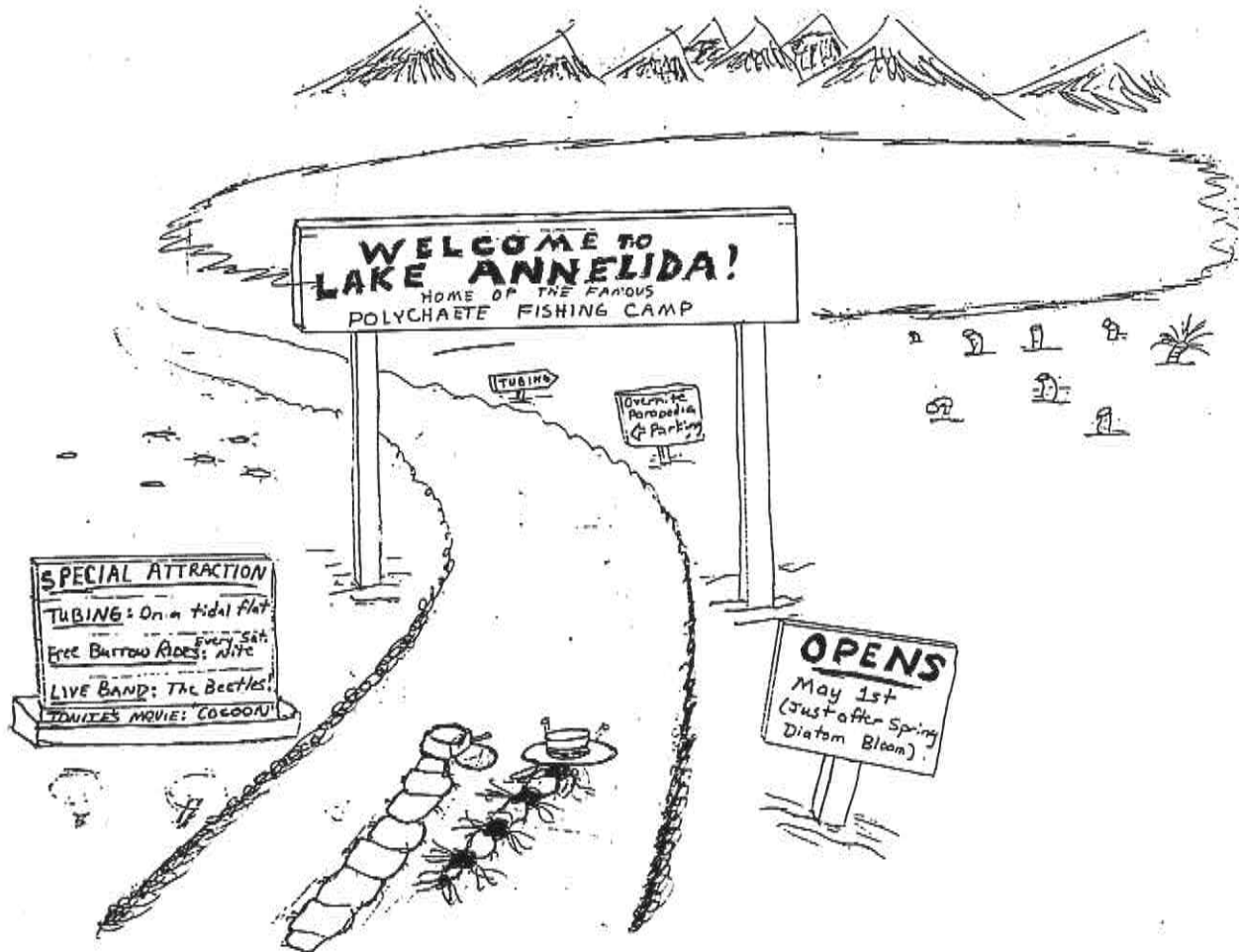
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5 to 9 July 1987
Laboratoire Arago
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Second and final announcement.

We are pleased to announce that the organization of the 6th. international symposium is now well advanced. We have received more than 30 positive definite answers from 15 different countries.

All approaches to the study of aquatic nematodes are welcome. Participants should kindly present their current investigations in an informal manner allowing sufficient time for meaningful discussions.

There are still accomodation facilities left in the Laboratoire Arago or in hotels of Banyuls.

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Looking forward to meeting you in Banyuls.

Yours sincerely,
F. de Bovée

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