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Hot news : '...as a large migratory group of meiobenthologists is expected to land in the area of Plymouth sometime next year, ...'
More details inside this issue.

TENTH INTERNATIONAL MEIOFAUNA CONFERENCE (XIMCO)

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH (U.K.)

27th-31st July 1998

COUNCIL

International Association of Meiobenthologists - Founded 1966

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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.

IN MEMORIAM

Ulrich Einsle
*** 24 April 1935 - † 24 December1996**

Ulrich Einsle was not only a scientist with heart and soul, but also an athlete when he was young, his favourite disciplines being high jumping and sprints. He was highly interested in history and he also was a musician, to be exact, he played the accordion. In his student days Uli made dance music with his trio in the distinguished "Parkcafé" and in the villa "Haus Margarete" in Konstanz. Ulrich did joinery, partly rebuilt and completed his house in the "Sonnentauweg" and even put in a fire-place all by himself. He also liked working in the garden. As a scientist he knew how to quiet the croaking frogs in his pond when neighbours were complaining. What he did not like at all was to repair the car or to tinker at engines - apart from that he was an all-purpose man. Ulrich distinguished himself in the mid-sixties in the public discussion on the conservation of the threatened water of Lake Constance. He contributed to the monitoring programmes of the "Internationalen Gewässerschutzkomission für den Bodensee" [International water monitoring committee for Lake Constance]. From 1975 to 1980 he was even a member of the Konstanz municipal council as a representative of the "Konstanzer Freien Wählergemeinschaft" [Free Electors' Initiative of Konstanz]. Owing to his knowledge and experience in biology and freshwater fauna he became the nature protection expert of the district of Konstanz. In all of these honorary functions he threw off his modest reservedness and committed himself to the public welfare with enthusiasm and success.

Ulrich Einsle was born in Konstanz on 24 April 1935 and graduated from the Humboldt secondary school in 1954. He studied biology, chemistry and sports in Freiburg. The first impulses for his future scientific career came from Professor Friedrich Kiefer, the Grand Old Man of copepodology, who was his biology teacher. Uli completed his doctoral thesis on the genus *Cyclops* in Lake Constance in 1963 under the supervision of Professor Hans-Joachim Elster and Professor Kiefer. As a doctorand he already worked at the "Anstalt für Bodenseeforschung" in Konstanz [Institute for research on Lake Constance], temporally as a scientific assistant. After taking his doctor's degree in February 1963 he worked with Professor Kiefer in a private employment holding a scholarship by the German Science Foundation. On 1st April 1966 the institute was put under municipal administration and he became a municipal employee of the town of Konstanz. When the "Anstalt für Bodenseeforschung" was put together with the "Landesanstalt für Umweltschutz" [Federal institute for environment protection] in Langenargen on 1st January 1970, Uli became a federal official. In 1982 he became the head of the branch office in Konstanz-Staad. In the summer of 1995 he moved to his new office in Langenargen. The main function of the federal institute is water monitoring in the federal state of Baden-Württemberg, especially the monitoring of Lake Constance.

However, Ulrich was always devoted to the taxonomy, systematics, and ecology of cyclopoids, which is demonstrated by his publications from 1959 until 1996.

Cyclops s.str., which was considered a taxonomically very problematic genus all along, was in general recorded and classified morphometrically. Ulrich regarded this an unrenounceable method to describe a population at a certain moment. Applying chromatin diminution for the systematics of *Cyclops* s.str. allowed for an exact determination on a species level, although quantitative statements are not possible as yet. As a valuable tool for population analysis he lately applied enzyme electrophoresis which - combined with the two other methods - yielded quite surprising details. Uli focused his ecological research on the question of how daily periodicity influences the developmental rate of some *Cyclops* species. Owing to his rich collection of material he succeeded in proving the expected relationship in his experiments. He also investigated the annual occurrence of pelagic copepods, their vertical and horizontal distribution as well as their daily migrations in Lake Constance "Obersee", "Untersee" and "Seerhein", and particularly in the "Buchenseen" and "Mindelsee". Besides this work he helped supervising diplomands and doctorands in the field of limnology.

Until few weeks before his death Ulrich was busy completing scientific articles and he lived to see them published. He was very happy about dedicating *Cyclops heberti* to his Canadian friend and colleague Paul Hebert and about completing his contribution to the "Guides to the Identification of the Microinvertebrates of the Continental Water of the World" (H.J.F. Dumont) for determination of *Cyclops*, *Megacyclops*, and *Acanthocyclops*. He wanted this volume by all means to be published before the Conference on Copepoda in Oldenburg. Plans for other contributions to the "World Guide" and for other monographs of American and African cyclopoids, however, had to be abandoned.

Unfortunately, I came to know Uli very late. He was a kind man who never wanted to thrust himself forward with his qualities. Whenever I paid our friends in Allensbach a visit, we met in the institute or in the near-by restaurant "Schiff" directly at the landing stage of the ferry to Meersburg. I will badly miss these friendly conversations with Uli.

In the last years of his life Ulrich suffered from cancer of the tongue. He endured the post-operative consequences very, very patiently. The cancer, which he fighted for more than three years, finally deprived him of speech. When I last met him he communicated with me on scraps of paper.

The radiotherapy had awful consequences. Every operation filled him with new hope, but ended up in disappointment.

Ulrich Einsle died on Christmas Eve 1996. He died much too early at an age of 61. His death is a painful loss to his wife Helga, his son Oliver, who also studies biology, and his 91 year-old mother Hildegard, who can still be found pulling weeds in the garden.

Thomas Glatzel, Oldenburg

EDITORIAL

The front page of this issue contains the logo of the TENTH INTERNATIONAL MEIOFAUNA CONFERENCE (XIMCO) to be held in Plymouth next year. We wish the organisers and especially Mike Gee all the best and we are already looking

forward to meeting everyone there. As Paul Montagna reminded me a few weeks ago, the raffle at the banquet in Perpignan was great (Mike Gee will certainly remember it). It provided some fun and raised a good deal of money for the Swedmark fund. Together with Paul, I would like to suggest to the organisers of XIMCO to think about a similar activity again.
Perhaps each of us can help in providing prizes so that more than one category can be honoured. Personally I'm in favour of three categories of awards : (1) student award for the best presentation (and people should indicate if they want to compete with their paper); (2) award for the best poster and (3) award for the most original contribution to the symposium. I think that awards can stimulate young scientists to prepare good presentations and a committee can set some criteria for selection. In my opinion this will not influence the friendly and open character of the meeting at all but on the other hand can be a stimulus for young biologists to keep on believing in meiofauna importance (since you can get awards for it). Reactions to be send to myself or to Mike Gee.

M. Vincx

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Inference and Application of Phylogeny in Systematics and Evolutionary Biology

A 10-day Short Course sponsored by NERC and the Systematics Association

September 1-12, 1997

As part of the NERC Initiative for Taxonomy, the Glasgow Centre for Taxonomy is pleased to announce its biennial short course in taxonomy and systematics. The aim of this course is to provide an overview of modern methods of inferring evolutionary trees, together with the applications of trees in systematics, palaeontology and evolutionary biology.
The first part of the course deals with inferring phylogenies from a range of data, including morphological and molecular. Emphasis will be on "hands-on" experience using the latest software packages, several of which have been written by the course instructors (e.g., PAUP, Spectrum). Participants will be encouraged to bring their own data sets for analysis using new and established techniques.
The second part of the course focuses on applications of phylogenies to a range of biological questions, such as ancient biodiversity, biogeography, host-parasite coevolution, conservation, molecular evolution, macroevolution, adaptation, and medicine.
The course will be taught by a mixture of lectures, practical sessions, and informal evening discussion sessions. Course lecturers include David Swofford (Laboratory of Molecular Systematics, Smithsonian Institution), Nick Goldman (Univ. Cambridge), Andy Purvis (Imperial College), Ken Johnson, Mike Charleston, and Rod Page (University of Glasgow).
The cost of the course will be 500 pounds, to include Bed & Breakfast Accommodation (in University Halls of Residence), Course Manuals, Use of Equipment, etc. Because of the emphasis on practical work, the number of participants is strictly limited to 25; places will be allocated on a "first-come, first -served basis" and a deposit of 100 pounds will secure a place. The course is not restricted to Ph.D. students, but is open to all who are interested in taxonomy and phylogeny.

New Directions in Systematics - ESF Workshop

Hersonissos, Crete, Greece
15-18 October 1997

The fifth and final workshop of the European Science Foundation Network in Systematic Biology will look to the future of systematics, at a time when its importance is gaining new recognition.
Advances in biological techniques, the development of analytical tools to study huge data sets, and international interest in improving the conservation and management of biodiversity, are highlighting our basic need for a well-founded framework in which to generate, organise and communicate knowledge about the natural world. This workshop will focus on three areas which present opportunities and challenges to systematists in providing this framework:
-Taxonomic Challenges of Species-Rich Groups
-Links Between Developmental Biology and Systematics
-Bioinformatics: Communicating and Using Taxonomic Knowledge

Central objective of the workshop will be to develop the key elements of a proposal for an ESF-funded Programme in Systematic Biology. The purpose of this Programme will be to advance systematics by promoting European integration and collaboration, based around the three themes above. The workshop will recommend the most important issues to be addressed and the ways in which the Programme could best capitalise on Europes extensive resources in systematic collections and expertise.
During the workshop, participants will divide into three working groups, each focusing on one of the themes. The working group sessions will include offered presentations.
Registration fee: 60 pounds sterling, including documentation.

Confirmed speakers include:
Pere Alberch, Museo Nacional Ciencias Naturales, Madrid
Mark Chase, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
John Lambshead, The Natural History Museum, London
Alessandro Minelli, President of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature
Bernard Picton, Ulster Museum
Ronald Sluys, University of Amsterdam
Erko Stackebrandt, DSMZ
Diethard Tautz, Zoological Institute of University of Munich

Short (10 minutes) presentations are invited for each of the three themes. Papers should be based on particular issues within the theme that could be addressed within a future European Science Foundation Programme. Titles of proposed presentations should be submitted as soon as possible to the address below.

Nicola Donlon
ESF Network in Systematic Biology
The Natural History Museum

Cromwell Road
London
SW7 5BD
UK

International Conference : New methods in Copepod taxonomy

4-8 May 1998 - St Petersburg, Russia

Topics:
The central goal is to bring together researchers dealing specifically with morphology as it relates to taxonomy in various groups of Copepods, in order to better delineate species. New and rare used methods are of particular interest: DNA - analysis, chromosome analysis (chromosome diminution especially), enzyme analysis, hybridization of closely related species, LARVAL sign analysis., etc. Other topics include analysis of variability and taxonomic weight of signs used in describing copepods now to validate the many new species that have been described in the last decades using morphological details only.

In the context of this meeting two workshops are planned:
1. chromosome diminution
2. hybridization techniques
using the Fischer's Cyclopoid species.
Conference is dedicated to the memory of Dr. Ulrich Einsle.

For more information you can contact:
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Interests: I am head of the department of Hydrobiology of Active Zones of the Sea. During 20 years I am working on meiobenthos of the Black Sea, Sea of Azov and coastal zones.

RECENT LITERATURE

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A WORD FROM THE PRODUCTION EDITOR

Regrettably, it seems that the "In Memoriam" column is becoming a regular item of Psammonalia. We want to express our sincere feelings of sympathy with the concerned families. Let us also all hope that this column can stay empty in the future issues of our newsletter.

To be able to end with a more plesant tone, I would like to thank everyone who sent me their words of congratulations on my new job, and remind every systematist among you of the possibility for using our museum as a possible collection address for your type specimens. If you are working on taxonomy of any meiofauna group, do not hesitate to send us type material of your new species to register and add to our recognized type collection. The address for this is :

Dominick Verschelde
University of Gent
Museum voor Dierkunde
K.L. Ledeganckstraat 35
B-9000 Gent, Belgium
Tel : (0)9-264.52.28
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Send your email reflections to :
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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 300 Belgian francs ($ 10 US) and you may pay up to 3 years in advance, i.e. 900 BEF ($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:
☐ New member (*) ☐ Renewing member 300 BEF or $10 ☐ Change of address
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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 Belgian francs. Make (euro)checks payable to Ann Vanreusel. If possible make use of the creditcard 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

TENTH INTERNATIONAL MEIOFAUNA CONFERENCE (XIMCO)

to be held at the

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH (U.K.)

on

27th-31st July 1998

Jointly organized by Plymouth Marine Laboratory and the University of Plymouth

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Conference Theme. The conference will welcome contributions on all aspects of the ecology, physiology, behaviour and systematics of marine and freshwater meiofauna. Specific themes have not yet been decided upon but the following have been suggested by the organising committee: - 1.Biodiversity: global and regional patterns and processes in individuals to communities; 2. Ecosystem function; aspects of ecosystem function in polar, temperate, tropical, freshwater, coastal marine and deep sea habitats; 3. Specialist studies in systematics, behaviour and genetics.

Conference organization. The conference will be held in the Robbins Building of the University of Plymouth and very reasonably priced accommodation will be provided in the University Hall of Residence attached to the conference centre, close to the centre of town. Lecture (and poster) sessions will be scheduled for the morning and afternoon each day except Thursday afternoon when there will be a coach ride over the Dartmoor National Park to the Conference Dinner in the mediaeval banqueting hall of Buckland Abbey. There will also be an evening excursion up the Tamar estuary by boat. Visits to country houses, historic sites and coastal villages will be arranged for accompanying persons depending on demand. The full conference fee will probably be in the region of £130 (including the dinner) and the preferred method of payment will be by credit card.

Registration. **THIS IS THE ONLY GENERAL NOTIFICATION WHICH WILL BE GIVEN**. If you wish to be put on a mailing list for further notification and for registration forms you must fill in the expression of interest slip and return it by post, fax, or E-mail to the address below. Future communication will be conducted primarily by E-mail; details will be sent by post only to those people who return this form but are not on E-mail.

XIMCO (J.M. Gee); Plymouth Marine Laboratory; Prospect Place; West Hoe; Plymouth PL1 3DH; U.K.
Tel. (0)1752 633100; Fax. (0)1752 633101; E-mail ximco@plymouth.ac.uk

✂----------

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST. Please return by post, fax, or E-mail before 31st August 1997.
Tick where appropriate

☐ Please put my name on the conference mailing list for further information.

☐ It is probable that I will be attending the conference.

☐ It is probable that I will be accompanied by ..... persons.

☐ I plan to present a paper / poster whose theme might be .....

NAME.....

ORGANIZATION.....

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.....

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