



The Mayfly Newsletter

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THE MAYFLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 3 No. 1

Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096-3098 USA

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Mayflies and Maine

The VIIIth International Conference on Ephemeroptera, held 3-6 August 1992 in Orono, Maine, was an outstanding success! Cassie Gibbs and her crew are to be congratulated for hosting the largest mayfly conference yet. The final tally had 61 registered scientists and 14 registered guests from 18 countries. These individuals presented 36 papers, 17 posters, 1 workshop, and 1 roundtable discussion.

The meeting began on Monday with Pat McCafferty dedicating the conference to George Edmunds. The invited address, "Mayflies as Bioindicators of Water Quality on a Global Scale," was then presented by Vladimir Landa.

Contributed paper sessions during the conference covered the topics of water quality, phylogeny and systematics, faunistics, taxonomy, regional studies, morphology, biology, ecology, life cycles, life histories, and behavior.

Dave Funk organized a workshop on mayfly photography and presented some outstanding slides.

A roundtable on developing an international database on Ephemeroptera was also held. An article on this roundtable appears later in this issue.

A sumptuous feast of lobster was served Tuesday evening at the conference dinner. Fortunately for me, Steve Burian sat at our table and presented a remedial session on how to eat a lobster. Local folk singer Anne Dodson provided wonderful entertainment after dinner.

Steve led a collecting trip on Wednesday to the Carrabassett River. It was nice to collect *Baetisca* again and watch them swim in their interesting way.

Lynda Corkum and Jan Ciborowski are currently editing the proceedings of the conference which will be published by Sandhill Crane Press.

I know my wife and others especially enjoyed the programs planned for guests of registrants. There were also several post-conference tours to watch whales, collect, or visit local sites.

Bill Peters, President of the Permanent Committee of the International Conferences on Ephemeroptera, announced that the next mayfly conference will be in Switzerland in 1995. Peter Landolt and colleagues will host this conference. Peter will be writing an announcement about the conference for the next *Newsletter*.

More good news for the *Newsletter*: Bill Peters also mentioned that the Permanent Committee has chosen the *Newsletter* to communicate with ephemeropterists worldwide. Bill will provide a formal summary of the VIIth conference for the next issue.

After writing about all of the above, I don't think I can wait until 1995!



Mayfly Publications

A new book has just been published on the Ephemeroptera of Switzerland. This book offers information on the 90 known mayfly species in Switzerland and neighboring regions. Illustrated keys allow the identification of families, genera, and species for larvae and adults. Information on the development, ethology, nutrition, habitats, and distribution is also provided. To obtain a copy (45 SFr.), write to Departement d'Entomologie, Ephemeroptera, Institut de Zoologie, Universite de Fribourg, Perolles, CH-1700 Fribourg, Suisse.

John Flannagan has announced that a few copies of the Proceedings of the IVth Ephemeroptera Conference are available either from him (Freshwater Institute, 501 University Crescent, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R3T 2N6) or Bill Peters (Entomology, Agricultural Research Service, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida 32307 USA). The price is US \$35.00 or CAN \$40.00. These copies were donated by Vladimir Landa and Tom Soldan. All of the money contributed goes into the Ephemeroptera Scholarship Fund.

The 1991 North American Benthological Society's *Current and Selected Bibliographies on Benthic Biology* has just been published. The Ephemeroptera portion contains over 160 references. Copies of this bibliography may be purchased from Susan P. Davies, Secretary, North American Benthological Society, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, State House Station 17, Augusta, Maine 04333 USA.



International Database

During the VIIth International Conference, a roundtable discussion was held on establishing an international database on Ephemeroptera. Judging from the attendance, there seems to be a strong interest in such an endeavor. Presentations describing personal databases were made by Javier Alba-Tercedor, Jean-Marc Elouard, and Mike Hubbard.

As was mentioned often, constructing an individual database is extremely time consuming. So, rather than having each person develop his or her own database, it seems much more practical for a number of people to contribute to one database, which would be available for general use.

Javier has agreed to serve as coordinator for developing such a database. If you would like to help with this project (e.g., offer assistance, describe your database, suggest a format), write to Javier at Universidad de Granada, Facultad de Ciencias, Departamento de Biología Animal, Ecología y Genética, 18071-Granada, Spain. Assisting Javier are Eduardo Dominguez (Argentina) and Manny Pescador, Mike Hubbard, and Pete Grant (USA).

E-Mail Addresses

Mike Hubbard is compiling a list of ephemeropterists with e-mail (electronic mail). This is a very quick, efficient, and inexpensive way of communicating internationally by using a computer. If you have e-mail, please send Mike your address (Entomology, Agricultural Research Program, Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, Florida 32307 USA. If you don't have e-mail, you might want to request it for your institution.

Mayflies on Video

Ken Wood has a one hour VHS videotape of 60 genera (mostly North American) of mayfly nymphs. For each genus the collection record is shown as well as some features of the entire nymph and detailed anatomy of the labrum, labium, maxilla, mandibles and hypopharynx. (Ken presented this video during a poster session at the Maine conference.) This video is available for US \$20.00 from Ken Wood, Route 1, Box 1322, Whigham, Georgia 31797 USA.

Need for Publications

I received two letters from colleagues who are having difficulty obtaining needed publications. Shih-Chang Kang (Taiwan) indicated he is currently working on the mayflies of Taiwan. While he has compiled a rather extensive bibliography of mayfly literature, he still needs to obtain copies of most of the articles.

Another letter I received (sorry, but I could not read the signature!) requested information on how to obtain a copy of Eaton's (1883-1888) monograph.

I'm sure there are many others who are experiencing the same difficulty. I believe we must help our colleagues with this problem, many of whom live in countries in which the mayfly fauna has never been extensively studied or in which biodiversity is threatened.

Perhaps the readers of the *Newsletter* could offer some suggestions on how to remedy this situation. A couple of possibilities could be to (1) have depositories in certain countries where copies of mayfly reprints would be sent upon publication. (2) Consider donating a reprint collection upon retirement. (3) We could establish a new tradition: When visiting a colleague with a small reprint collection, a stack of reprints could be presented as a gift. Likewise, when such a colleague visits a laboratory with an extensive reprint collection, time and resources could be arranged for that individual to photocopy needed reprints. And (4) we could have a reprint swap at international conferences.

Send in your suggestions and comments on this situation. All submissions will be published.

The Mayfly Newsletter is published twice a year to facilitate communication among ephemeropterists. Subscriptions to the *Newsletter* are free. To place your name on the mailing list or to contribute information for the next issue, contact Peter M. Grant, editor, *The Mayfly Newsletter*, Department of Biological Sciences, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, Oklahoma 73096-3098 USA, phone (405) 774-3294, FAX (405) 774-3795. This publication was authorized by the Dean of Arts and Sciences and was printed at a cost of \$45.00 for 500 copies.

VIIIth International Conference
Switzerland
1995