

THREE GREAT PHYTOSEIID TAXONOMISTS UNITED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 30 YEARS AND HONORED BY IJA - On 11 November 2006, three of the world's greatest phytoseiid taxonomists, Dr. Donald A. Chant of Madoc, Ontario (Canada), Dr. Harold A. Denmark of Gainesville, Florida (USA) and Dr. James A. McMurtry of Sunriver, Oregon (USA), were finally able to meet one another at IJA headquarters in West Bloomfield, Michigan, where they were also honored with awards for their lifelong research. After 30 years of independent study, all agreed that the IJA gathering was long overdue.

SECOND ACAROLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP GOES TO INDIA - The second Acarology Development Foundation fellowship, named in honor of our acarologist friend Dr. Diana Sammaturo of Tucson, Arizona, USA, and consisting of \$500, has been awarded to Miss Himani Biswas of Kolcutta, India. Miss Biswas is registered as a student in the Department of Zoology, University of Calcutta, Kolcutta (Bengal), and is pursuing her Ph.D., with a dissertation on the taxonomy of mites associated with insects of economic importance in West Bengal, under the guidance of the well-known acarologist Dr. S. K. Gupta, now retired.

NEW ACAROLOGY JOURNAL ESTABLISHED IN EGYPT - Volume 1 of a new acarology journal, the Journal of the Egyptian Society of Acarology, was launched in Egypt in 2007, under the editorship of Dr. M. A. Zaher. Those interested in further information about this journal should contact Dr. Kawther El Kammah (kkammah@gmail.com) in Cairo, Egypt.

SIXTH MEETING OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ACAROLOGISTS (EURAAC) TO BE HELD IN MONTPELLIER, FRANCE - The sixth EURAAC meeting will take place from 21 to 25 July 2008 in Montpellier, France. The main theme of the meeting is 'Fundamental and Applied Acarology.' EURAAC meets every four years in different European countries. The fifth meeting was held in Berlin. Prospective attendees should contact the organizing committee. Details can be obtained at www.montpellier.inra.fr/CBGP/Montpellier2008.

DR. FARID FARAJI VISITS IRAN AND GIVES WORKSHOP ON PHYTOSEIID MITES - Dr. Farid Faraji (farid.faraji@mitox.org) of Mitox Consultants, Amsterdam, The Netherlands, organized a workshop on phytoseiid mites that ran from 14 to 18 July 2007. The workshop was conducted at the Department of Entomology, Faculty of Agriculture, Tehran University, Karaj, and was sponsored by Mitox, Tehran University, and the Acarology Development Foundation. Dr. A. Saboori was the local host. During the workshop, Dr. Faraji discussed phytoseiid sampling and preparation methods, morphology, general taxonomy, identification of the Iranian species, and how to produce scientific illustrations.

PUBLISHED PAPERS ON NEW ZEALAND FAUNA BEING DIGITIZED - Drs. Raphael Didham and Steve Pawson (steve.pawson@canterbury.ac.nz), School of Biological Sciences at the University of Canterbury, Canterbury, New Zealand (biology@canterbury.ac.nz), have been contracted by the Department of Conservation (with funds from the Terrestrial Freshwater Biodiversity Information System, TFBIS) to digitize and make publicly available all the known literature pertaining to New Zealand terrestrial invertebrates from 1775 to 1993. Currently, this project is utilizing an existing bibliography of over 15,000 articles relevant to New Zealand entomology. When complete, it is hoped that all the historical literature on New Zealand's invertebrate fauna will be accessible through an online full-text indexing facility. Interested persons should visit the Web site www.biol.canterbury.ac.nz/digital-bugs.

NEWSLETTER ON BIOLOGICAL CONTROL IN GREENHOUSES - Since the late 1970s, a newsletter on biological and integrated control in greenhouses called "STING" has been published by members of the IOBC (International Organization for Biological Control of noxious animals and plants; www.iobc-wprs.org/pub/index.html), under the leadership of Prof. J. C. van Lenteren, Laboratory of Entomology, Wageningen University, PO Box 8031, 6700 EH Wageningen, The Netherlands. The 30th issue, entitled "STING 30" and edited by Dr. Annie Enkegaard (annie.enkegaard@agrsci.dk), was released in September 2007 and is available online (<http://web.agrsci.dk/plb/iobc/sting/sting30.pdf>). The IOBC maintains various study or working groups, among them "Biological Control of Fungal and Bacterial Plant Pathogens," "Pome Fruit Arthropods," and "Insect Pathogens and Insect Parasitic Nematodes." Dr. Uri Gerson, Israel, informs us that a "study group" is a title applied to an emerging group, which, after being approved by the IOBC Council, becomes a "working group." All these groups meet every 2-3 years, publish proceedings, and are listed on the IOBC website above.

A new IOBC study group, "Integrated Control of Plant-feeding Mites," met in Jerusalem, Israel, from 12 to 14 March 2007. The organizers were Drs. P. Weintraub, Uri Gerson and Eric Palevsky. Dr. Weintraub is also the editor of the current IOBC/WPRS (West Palaearctic Research Section) bulletin (Vol. 30, No. 5), in which the proceedings of that meeting will soon be published. The contents may be viewed at: www.iobc-wprs.org/pub/bulletins/bulletin_2007_30_05.pdf. The next meeting of this group is scheduled for 2009 in Italy. Interested persons should contact Dr. Sauro Simoni (sauro.simoni@isza.it) or Dr. Eric Palevsky (palevsky@volcani.agri.gov.il).

ACAROLOGY SUMMER PROGRAM AT THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY - The world-renowned Acarology Summer Program at The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, USA, will offer the following courses over the next three years: Soil Acarology (23 June to 11 July 2008; again in 2010, dates to be announced), Medical and Veterinary Acarology (30 June to 11 July 2008; again in 2010, dates to be announced), Introductory Acarology (2009, dates to be announced), and Agricultural Acarology (2009, dates to be announced). IJA readers know that these peerless courses, which have been offered by OSU for 57 years, are prerequisites for a career in acarological research.