

ACAROLOGY NEWS, NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS

SCHOLARSHIP AVAILABLE FROM ADF - A \$500.00 "Michael J. Abbatiello" scholarship from the Acarology Development Foundation will be available in 2007 for training in acarine taxonomy anywhere in the world. Readers will recall that ADF was established on 24 October 2004 at IJA headquarters in West Bloomfield, Michigan, for the purpose of fostering acarology, especially acarine taxonomy, on a global basis. This first scholarship is named for our esteemed friend Michael J. Abbatiello, of Kinston, North Carolina, who worked on plant-associated mites with Dr. Edward W. Baker for many years and has been a staunch supporter of ADF. To be considered, scholarship applications should be sent to Dr. Vikram Prasad (v.prasad@ix.netcom.com) by 31 December 2006. Preference will be given to applicants who are already established at a college, university or research institute, have a record of achievement in acarology, and desire additional training, including that available through the Acarology Summer Program at the Ohio State University, Columbus, USA. This scholarship is also open to students enrolled in M.S. or Ph.D. programs in acarology and to those wishing to travel to collect mites or ticks for taxonomic studies leading to formal publications. Announcement of the recipient will be made early in 2007.

IJA NOW ONLINE - The International Journal of Acarology, volume 32, issues 1 and 2, is now available online and may be downloaded by subscribers via a password provided by Indira Publishing House. The contents and abstracts of these issues, as well as IJA News, are downloadable free of charge. Instructions to authors and additional information about IJA and Indira Publishing House are available at www.indirapublishinghouse.net or www.internationaljournalofacarology.com.

DVD ON XITH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY - A two-hour DVD entitled "Memories of Acarology: XIth International Congress of Acarology, Merida (Yucatan), Mexico, September 8-13, 2002" has just been released by Vikram Prasad, Managing Editor of IJA. The per-copy cost is \$20.00 + 5.00 postage/handling, with proceeds to be donated to the Acarology Development Foundation in the name of the purchaser. For those who couldn't attend this congress, the DVD provides a glimpse of the various sessions and activities that were so capably organized by our Mexican colleagues. The DVD concludes with the Congress Dinner, featuring a lovely performance by the Yucatan Ballet with live orchestral accompaniment.

CREATIVITY IN ACAROLOGY - Acarologists continue to demonstrate their creativity by producing material expressions of their enthusiasm (see IJA issues of 2005 and 2006 for further discussion of this subject). Some recent examples include: (1) stamps, composite photos, and acarology art by Vikram Prasad, West Bloomfield, Michigan, USA; (2) quilts employing mite, tick and spider motifs by Diana Sammataro, Tucson, Arizona, USA; (3) origami, wirework and plastic models of mites by Anibal Ramadan Oliveira, São Paulo, Brazil; and (4) animation of salivary gland functions in an eriophyid mite by Enrico de Lillo, Bari, Italy.

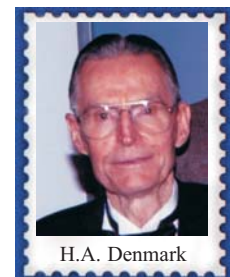
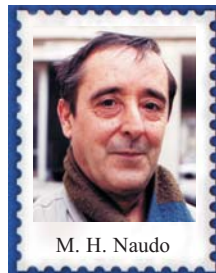
VALERY SHEVCHENKO'S LABORATORY AGAIN TARGETED BY THIEVES - For a second time, the laboratory of Dr. Valery G. Shevchenko, in Moscow, Russia, has been the target of thieves. The latest break-in resulted in the loss of most of Dr. Shevchenko's cherished equipment, including his dissecting and phase contrast microscopes. In the acarological community, Valery is renowned for his research on the eriophyid mites of Russia. It should pain all IJA readers to hear him lament: "I remember that terrible time...we won, but we have lost too much...we have lost nearly all we had...It is so hard to our Russia...And now, I am nearing the end."

OBITUARY - With sadness, we must report the death of Michel Henri Naudo in May of this year. In a recent letter, Dr. Michel Bertrand relates that Mr. Naudo had worked for many years in acarology (Opilioacarida and Prostigmata) at the Laboratoire de Zoologie (Arthropodes), Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle, 61 Rue de Buffon, F-75231 Paris Cedex 5, France. He began his career with Prof. Marc André and Max Vachon and continued on the staff of the journal *Acarologia* under the direction of Prof. Yves Coineau. Michel was responsible for managing the National Museum's arthropod collection until his retirement a few years ago.

ADDRESS CHANGES - (1) H. Joel Hutcheson (h.joel.hutcheson@aphis.usda.gov) has joined the U.S. Department of Agriculture to work on tick taxonomy. His new address is: National Wildlife Research Center, USDA-APHIS WS, 4101 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521-2154, USA. (2) Jurgen Otto (jurgen.otto@aqis.gov.au) is now working for the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service in Sydney, Australia. His address is: Quarantine Entomologist, AQIS Entomology, 1 Crewe Place, Rosebery, NSW 2018, Australia. (3) Ignace Zannou (zannouignace@yahoo.fr), Benin, West Africa, is doing postdoctoral research under Dr. Gilberto de Moraes. His address until 2008 is: Departamento de Entomologia, Fitopatologia e Zoologia Agricola, ESALQ, Universidade de São Paulo, 13418-900 Piracicaba, SP, Brazil.

BOOKS RECEIVED - (1) *Insects and Mites Infesting Medicinal Plants in India*, by S. K. Gupta, published in December 2005 by Ramakrishna Mission Ashrama, Narendrapur, Kolkata 700 103, India, price \$80.00. (2) *Oribatida*, by Gerd Weigmann, published in 2006 by Verlag Goecke & Evers, Kelttern, price 95 Euros.

Richard G. Robbins
News Editor



Acology Art - "Stamps" honoring scientists who have devoted their lives to acarology. These are the handiwork of Vikram Prasad, Managing Editor, IJA, West Bloomfield, Michigan, USA. Photos of A. Fain, D. R. Cook and M. H. Naudo taken during visits by V. Prasad; remaining photos from previous issues of IJA.