

Literature

Campbell, I. C. (ed.), *Mayflies and Stoneflies: Life Histories and Biology*. — Series Entomologica 44:1–366. ISBN 0-7923-0289-3.

International congresses and symposia form an important part of today's scientific life. In such meetings much new information is circulated, giving the participants first-hand knowledge of progress in the field. Yet only a small portion of all the workers in the field can participate in such gatherings, and it is therefore very important that non-attenders also have a chance to acquaint themselves with what had been presented. Unfortunately some congresses have been rather negligent with their reports, and even good congress reports have often only been provided to the participants themselves.

The main international congresses of entomology have already reached such proportions that it is impossible for participants to attend more than a small part of the entire program. Nowadays there are therefore numerous entomological congresses each covering a more restricted field. One such meeting was held in Australia in 1987, being the combined 5th International Ephemeroptera Conference and 9th International Plecoptera Conference. There were 62 participants from 21 countries. The congress report, including 44 papers, is issued as a volume of Series Entomologica, and can therefore be ordered by anybody interested in the subject.

The first question one would ask when seeing this book might concern the advisability of combining a congress of Ephemeroptera and Plecoptera. Actually only two of the papers treat both orders, while 29 are concerned with Ephemeroptera and 13 with Plecoptera. Yet there are important similarities in life history between the two orders, and the dissimilarities again may offer additional insight into the evolutionary forces that have shaped the present situation.

The largest group of papers in the report is ecological, covering either entire life histories, or some parts of them. There are also a substantial number of other aspects covered, and maybe they are to be included under the term "biology" in the book title. There are several zoogeographical papers from various parts of the world, varying in geographical extent from transantarctic connections to a single river system in Japan. Some of the papers include descriptions of hitherto unknown nymphal or adult stages, or of teratological specimens.

Two new genera and four new species are also described in this volume, all within Ephemeroptera. The new species are *Siphonurus ireneae* Alba-Tercedor from Spain, *Muteloctoeon bihoumi* Gillies & Elouard from Africa, *Sulawesi haema* Peters & Edmunds from Indonesia and *Caenis knowlesi* Gillies & Knowles from Africa; *Muteloctoeon* and *Sulawesi* are also new genera, the former in Baetidae, the latter in Leptophlebiidae. For two of the four new species the title of the paper indicates taxonomical novelties, the other two might easily elude a casual reader.

The book ends with an index of all scientific names that have been mentioned, and, bearing in mind the heterogeneous nature of the book, this index will certainly be most useful. As always when many specialists contribute to one volume there are some different names for the same species — *Electrogena lateralis*/*Ecdyonurus lateralis* catch the eye here — but such cases do not normally cause serious confusion.

Hans Silfverberg