

Acarology Bulletin

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A Newsletter of the **SYSTEMATIC AND APPLIED ACAROLOGY SOCIETY**

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News

The 2001 Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America was a success. Approximately 2,200 entomologists and acarologists attended the meeting in San Diego. **Dr. Renjie Hu**, the editor for SAAS newsletter, and several other SAAS members were also in attendance. With daytime temperatures in the 70s and only one day of rain, and despite aftershocks on December 8 from a five-point earthquake in New Mexico, many attendees found it difficult to remain inside during session breaks. The 2001 program was conducted smoothly. It consisted of 56 scientific sessions, composed of five program symposia, 21 section symposia, nine formal conferences, and 21 informal conferences. Three news crews from San Diego TV stations interviewed scientists and exhibitors, and taped the final round of the Linnaean games.

During the meeting, Dr. Larry Larson, the ESA President, stated "we have passed a budget that will generate an approximate \$270,000 surplus for 2002, which will be used to replenish some of the reserves that we have drawn down in the past several years. Consistent with our goal of concentrating on our core priorities of publications and meetings, we will be divesting ourselves of certain functions and outsourcing many other activities in the interest of saving funding and streamlining overhead."

During the plenary session, Paula Lettice expressed her gratitude in being hired as ESAs Executive Director. She later discussed the financial ground on which the Society stands. "The good news is that membership did not decline in 2001." However, she stressed that simple inflation on goods and services

costs ESA \$100,000-150,000 per year. "If income doesn't rise, programs must be cut," she noted.

The first Joseph A. Camin Fellowship, sponsored by the Entomological Foundation in partnership with the Acarological Society of America (ASA), was presented at the 2001 ESA Annual Meeting in San Diego. The recipient was Anibal Ramadan Oliveira, a zoology student at the Universidade de Sao Paulo in Brazil. An ASA member, Oliveira works with Gilberto de Moraes. He is interested in the systematics and ecology of oribatid mites, particularly Plateremaeoidea and Gymnodamaeidea. Oliveira has published nine papers. The fellowship will go towards his participation in the soil acarology workshop at the 2002 Acarology Summer Program at Ohio State University.

An informal meeting of some SAAS executive Committee members was held in Shanghai on January 3 and 4. The president of SAAS, Dr. Zhi-Qiang Zhang presided over the meeting, which was joined by Tinghuan Wen, Lairong Liang, Huiqin Dong and Xiaoyue Hong. Among the topics discussed, the journal (SAA) publication, the society management, the symposium and the editorial board of the SAA were on the top of the discussion agenda. The society will try hard in the coming year(s) to make the SAA included by the SCI and make improvements to the printing and distribution of the journal in the future. The society will also work hard to make the SAA more international and more representative in the years ahead. All attendants were very happy about the increasing influence of the SAAS and its

journals, in particular, *Acarology Bulletin* (AB). The AB is now free on the society web page and is surfed by many professional acarologists as well as non-professional acarologists every day.

IF (impact factor) of Chinese science and technology journals published. The Ministry of Science and Technology of China published the Impact Factor of major Chinese science and technology journals recently. The following summarizes the IFs of entomological and entomology-related journals in China.

IFs of entomology journal

Acta Entomologica Sinica: 0.613
Chinese Journal of Applied Ecology: 0.506
Acta Ecologica Sinica: 0.477
Acta Zoologica Sinica: 0.425
Natural Enemies of Insects: 0.404
Chinese Biodiversity: 0.377
Acta Phytophylacica Sinica: 0.358
Chinese Journal of Biocontrol: 0.339
Zoological Research: 0.318
Acta Parasitologica et Medica Entomologica Sinica: 0.250
Entomological Knowledge: 0.185
Acta Zootaxonomica Sinica: 0.161
Entomotaxonomia: 0.102
Chinese Journal of Zoology: 0.155

IFs of Entomology-related journals

Scientia Agricultura Sinica: 0.681
Journal of Nanjing Agri. Univ.: 0.235
Acta Univ. Agric. Boreali-Occidentalis
 0.233
J. Huazhong Agri. Univ.: 0.215
J. Zhejiang Univ. Agri. Life Sci.: 0.197
J. Fudan Univ. (Natural Science): 0.196
Acta Scientiarum Naturalium Univeristalis Pekinensis: 0.196
J. of South China Agri. Univ.: 0.182
J. of China Agri. Univ.: 0.140
J. of Southwest Agri. Univ.: 0.121

J. of Shenyang Agri. Univ.: 0.117
J. of Northeast Agri. Univ.: 0.102
J.I of Nankai Univ. (Nat. Sci.): 0.088

Honoring Acarologists: On November 10, 2001, the International Journal of Acarology held its Executive Board meeting at Hampton Inn, Morgantown, West Virginia and enjoyed a magnificent 25th anniversary celebration in the evening at Erickson Alumni Center, West Virginia University. More than 50 people cheerfully attended the celebration with a wine and hors doeuvres reception hosted by Jim Amrine. Major events included an exhibit about mites and acarologists, a formal ribbon cutting inauguration, reading of wishes received from acarologists around the world, tribute to our deceased acarologists and tribute to our retired acarologists. Heart-to-heart talks, speeches and technical seminars were presented, among the many speakers were Jim Amrine, Carlos Flechtmann, Dana Wrensch, R. Robbins, Gerald Krantz, R. Husband, Sabina Swift, Vikram Prasad and Eric Erbe. The 6-hour long celebration peaked with the Award presentation by Indira & Vikram Prasad to retired acarologists, acarologists and supporters of acarology, Chief Executive Board Members of IJA. In addition to a sparking plaque, each of the award winners also received a genuine lei airborne from Hawaii! (Shifu Zhao)

The following information from *International Journal of Acarology* Vol. 27, No. 3, 2001

International Course in Acarology in France -- Societe Internationale des Acarologues de Langue Francaise

(SIALF) will organize the 12th International course in acarology in Rennes, France, October 3-12, 2002. The course will be offered partly in French and English. The theme of the course is "Molecular Markers in Acarology" and will be conducted under the organization of Dr. Jean Deunff. Persons interested in attending the course should write to Serge Kreiter (kreiter@ensam.inra.fr) or Professor Jean Deunff.

XI International Congress of Acarology

-- To be held in Merida, Yucatan State, Mexico from September 8-13, 2002 is well ahead in preparations. Anyone interested in attending the Congress should write: xi_ica@biologia.unam.mx, Tila Perez (tilam@servidor.unam.mx) or Eddie Ueckermann (rieteau@plant2.agric.za)

Acarology Congress in Russia -- Dr. Valery Schectchenko

(vs@vs3969.spb.edu) has informed IJA that the VIII Congress of acarologists of Russia and other Russian speaking countries (former USSR) is planning to meet as a section of the Russian Entomological Society in 2002, possibly in autumn, in Saint Petersburg. The main language will be Russian but papers in other languages will be accepted. Anyone interested in attending the meeting should write to Dr. Serguei V. Mironov (acari@zin.ru) or Dr. Y.S. Balashov (vector@zin.ru).

Web Page for Water Mite research in Europe

-- Dr. Sebastian Scheidegger, Germany (seschei@topmail.de) has created a web site (<http://www.watermite.de>) about water mite research in Europe. This site included a list of European water mite

acarologists, bibliography database, list of new taxa, museum collections and other topics of interest.

Vitzthum Mite Collection -- Anyone interested in examining the mite collection of Graf Hermann Vitzthum should contact Dr. L. Tiefenbacher, Curator, Zoologische Staatssammlung, Munichhausenstrasse 21, D-81247, Munchen, Germany.

2002 session of the Acarology

Summer Program will be held from June 24 - July 12 at the Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.

The following are workshops to be offered and time period:

Introductory Acarology (June 24 - June 29). This one-week workshop will present an overview of the identification, systematics and biology of the major groups of Acari. A second emphasis will be on the techniques (study, collection, preservation) used in acarology. The course is designed as either a stand alone course or as an introduction for the novice to prepare for the other, more specialized, workshops (Klompen)

Soil Acarology (June 24 - July 12). This three-week workshop will concentrate on the Acari associated with soil and litter. Week one will concentrate on Mesostigmata (Walter), week two on Prostigmata (Welbourn), and week three on Oribatida (Norton). Arrangements for additional lecturers are being finalized. The main emphasis is on identification and systematics of both adults and immatures, but this course will have a strong secondary emphasis on ecology and life-history.

Medical-Veterinary Acarology (July 1 - July 12). This workshop will review the various Acari associated with humans and domestic animals. Week one will concentrate on ticks (Ixodida), while week two covers all other groups of mites. In addition to the main emphasis of identification, tick week will include extensive discussions of disease transmission (Needham, Schwan, Klompen). Week two will include discussions of various Mesostigmata and Astigmata (including feather mites, OConnor), chiggers (Trombiculoidea, Welbourn), and miscellaneous Prostigmata (Klompen) in addition to detailed discussions of dust mites (Needham)

Important Note. A combination of increasing costs and slightly declining enrollment has forced us to schedule most workshops in alternating years. For 2002 that means that **Agricultural Acarology** is not on the program. We realize that this may inconvenience some potential participants, and we are willing to reconsider if we have a clear interest for this workshop. If you would have liked to take the Agricultural Acarology workshop in 2002, let us know as soon as possible (preferably before the end of January). If enough people express interest, we will try to add this workshop. We need to know early as such an addition would require a major reorganization of the workshops.

Information on registration, fee structure, and financial aid can be found on our web-site <http://www.biosci.ohio-state.edu/~acarolog/sum2k1.htm> or by contacting Glen Needham (needham.1@osu.edu) or Hans Klompen (Klompen.1@osu.edu).

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The 10th Congress of the Japanese Acarological Society was held at Kaoliyama city, Fukushima Prefecture during September 27-29, 2001. More than 60 delegates attended the meeting. Four SAAS members, Shozo Ehara (Totoni University), Akio Takafuji (Kyoto University), Tetsuo Gotoh (Ibaraki University), and Xiaoyue Hong (Nanjing Agricultural University) attended the meeting and each gave a presentation on respective subjects. The meeting also invited Dr. Nagayama to give a keynote speech on atopic dermatitis.

Tetranychus turkestanii (Ugrou & Nikolski) has become a major pest mite on cotton in Xinjiang Autonomous Region, in particular the northern part of the area, such as Changji city, Hutubi county, Manasi county, Shihezi city, Shangwan county, Kuituan city, Wusu county and Boerta prefecture. In northern cotton area, it is only second to cotton aphids in terms of economic importance. (Yu, J.N., Wang, D.Y. and Ma, M.M. 2000. Entomological Knowledge, 37(4): 203-205).

Dr. Liu Jingze of Hebei Normal University has received a grant from the National Natural Science Foundation. The project "Studies on the structure and function of juvenile hormone in ticks" will clarify tick endocrine mechanism, JH structure and nature, and

its function in regulating tick development and reproduction. It will last three years from 2002 through 2004. His another project "Control ticks with entomopathogenic nematodes" has made great progress. The preliminary results showed that some nematodes species or strains have significant lethal effects on egg laying of the engorged females of *Dermacentor silvarum*. The project is expected to provide a new idea for tick control.

Book Review

Studies on stored product insects and agricultural mites---selected papers of Li Longshu. Published by Sichuan Science and Technology Publishing House. Price: 60 RMB Yuan. Hard cover. ISBN 7-5372-1993-1/S.355.

On the 80th birth anniversary of Professor Li Longshu, the colleagues and students of Prof. Li sponsored a series of activities to commemorate the the moment. The book, which summarizes the entire life contribution to acarology by Professor Li, is a nice present to him and Chinese acarology.

Professor Li Longshu is one of the founding fathers of modern agricultural acarology in mainland China. Born in An-Yue county of Sichuan province on November 29, 1920, he studied at the University of Sichuan majoring plant diseases and insects. He got his master degree from the National Jinling University (the predecessor of present Nanjing Agricultural University) in 1944. He joined the Agricultural College of the University of Sichuan in the same year holding a lecturer position and giving lectures on

entomology. In 1952, he was transferred to Southwestern Agricultural College in Chongqing. Under the leadership of Professor Li, the university established the major of plant protection. He was appointed the head of the applied entomology and acarology research lab by the Ministry of Agriculture in 1986. Throughout his 80 years of career, he published 140 papers, six books and four monographs.

This book is divided into three parts. The first is a collection of the research papers on stored grain insects and mites, including 36 papers, in which nine were written in English. The first paper of Prof. Li was on the stored grain insects of Chengdu in 1948. The early research conducted by Prof. Li centered on stored grain insects and mites because of the large production of rice and other cereal crops and high-humid climate in southwestern China, and serious damage caused by stored grain insects and mites there. Three papers published in *Systematic & Applied Acarology*, volumes 2 and 3, were also included. Another paper on stored grain mites listed the mites of foods in Sichuan province: sixteen mites in Acaridae, eight species in Glycyphagidae, eight species in Cunaxidae, eight species in Tydeidae, eight species in Cheyletidae, seven species in Ascidae, five species in Ameroseiidae, and so on.

The second part includes the papers on acarology. The Southwestern Agricultural University at which Prof. Li has been employed is leading China in citrus mites research. The research group under the guidance of Prof. Li has been doing ecological research on citrus mites since early 1980s and published many papers on *Panonychus citri* McGregor,

Eotetranychus kankitus Ehara, and *Phyllocoptruta oleivorus* (Ashm.). The group also found for the first time in China the relationship between the rice brown sheath symptom and *Tarsonemus talpae* Schaarschmidt. Among the 41 papers in this part, 12 papers were on taxonomy and the rest on biology and ecology of agricultural mites.

The third part contains 12 papers on other agricultural insects such as rice stem borer and rice paddy spiders. Throughout his whole life, Prof. Li has made great contribution to the following: established the research base of China stored grain insects and mites, pioneered in ecological research of agricultural mites, in particular citrus mites, and trained many talent acarologists in China. We can clearly find these in this book. His worldwide-distributed students also reflect his contribution to acarology. Some SAAS members are his students, such as Professor Zhao Zhimo (Southwestern Agricultural University, SAAS executive committee member), Professor Jin Daochao (Guizhou University, SAAS executive committee member, Dr. Fan Qinghai (Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University), Dr. Guo Fengying (China Agricultural University), Dr. Chen Wenlong (Shanghai Jiaotong University), and Drs. Yue Bisong, Wang Kaihong, Chen Bing, Wang Jinjun, Liu Yinghong, Zhang Yongyi in the United States.

This book is useful for Chinese acarologists who want to know or should know the research of Professor Li Longshu and his associates. It is also a reference for foreign acarologists who may have interest in citrus mites and stored grain mites. Professor Li is also very supportive of SAAS. He was the member of the executive committee of the SAAS and the

member of the editorial board of SAA from 1996 to 1999. He and his students jointly submitted four papers to SAA. He also keeps frequent contacts with SAAS officers. Let us remember the motto of Prof. Li: "determination, hard work and realistic approach" and wish him have more peaceful and happy later years.

Xiaoyue Hong

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Systematic & Applied Acarology Society

Application for membership

Systematic and Applied Acarology Society (SAAS) aims at promoting the development of acarology and fostering cooperation among acarologists in different parts of the world. Anyone interested in the study of mites and ticks is welcome to join SAAS. There is no fee for basic membership. Members can publish free of page charge in *Systematic and Applied Acarology* (SAA), can participate in elections of SAAS officers and enjoy 25% discount in page charge for publishing in the rapid journal *Systematic and Applied Acarology Special Publications* (SAASP). Members who volunteer contributions of 35 US dollars becomes sustaining members and will receive SAA and the printed version of *Acarology Bulletin*. Electronic versions of AB and SAASP are available online for free: www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/acarology/saas/

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Address: _____

Telephone: Business: _____ Home: _____
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Dr Ting-Kui Qin
 Plant Biosecurity, Biosecurity Australia
 Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry
 GPO Box 858 Canberra, ACT 2601
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