

Acarology Bulletin

http://www.nhm.ac.uk/hosted_sites/acarology/saas/ab.html

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

Acarology Bulletin Editors

Editor Dr Qing-Hai Fan (China/New Zealand)

Assistant editors

Dr Xiaoyue Hong (China)

Dr Ting-Kui Qin (Australia)

Dr Zhi-Qiang Zhang (New Zealand)

SAAS Officers and Executive Committee for 2004–2007

President Zhi-Qiang Zhang (New Zealand)

Secretary Xiaoyue Hong (China)

Treasurer Ting-Kui Qin (Australia)

Executive Committee Members

Anne Baker, UK

Huiqin Dong, China

Qing-Hai Fan (China/New Zealand)

C.H.W. Flechtmann, Brazil

Uri Gerson, Israel

Tetsuo Gotoh, Japan

Xianguo Guo, China

Chyi-Chen Ho, Taiwan

Renjie Hu, USA

Daochao Jin, China

Lairong Liang, China

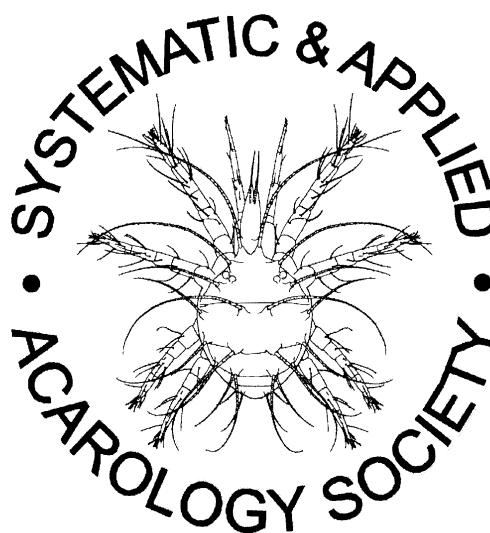
Jingze Liu, China

Tinghuan Wen, China

Bin Xia, China

Jintong Zhang, China

Zhimo Zhao, China



In this issue.....

- 14 Acarological News
- 14 XIIth International Congress of Acarology
- 15 The 8th National Conference of Acarology of China
- 15 2004 Minutes
- 18 Obituary
- 19 New Books
- 19 Our members
- 20 Contents of Journals
- 20 Acarina
- 21 Acarologia
- 22 Experimental and Applied Acarology
- 23 International Journal of Acarology
- 23 Journal of the Acarological Society of Japan

© 2005 Systematic & Applied Acarology Society
Printed in Auckland, New Zealand

Acarological News

XIIth INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 21–26 August 2006

FIRST CIRCULAR

It is with great pleasure that we announce the 12th International Congress of Acarology, to be held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, on 21–26 August 2006. We look forward to meeting in Amsterdam anyone with a keen interest in mites and/or ticks.

The Congress program will include invited presentations, contributed papers, posters and workshops, covering all possible aspects of acarology. With this first circular we call for suggestions for Symposium themes. Furthermore we invite you to express your interest in receiving the second circular in due time, with more detailed Congress information (e.g. on housing and abstract submission).

Congress venue and date

The Congress will be held in the centre of the city, in and around the auditorium of the University of Amsterdam, from Monday 21 until Saturday 26 August 2006.

Fee

280 Euro Early registration, until 1 April 2006

100 Euro On request for those with insufficient financial means (e.g. MSc-students, retired acarologists – final decision by the local organizing committee)

Language

English

Organizing committee

Maurice Sabelis (President), Martijn Egas (Secretary), Hans Breeuwer, Jan Bruin (Proceedings), Arne Janssen and Iza Lesna.

E-mail address

ica2006@science.uva.nl

If you are interested in receiving the 2nd circular, please return the following information to *ica2006@science.uva.nl*:

Name / E-mail address / Organization / Postal address / Country

If applicable

Intention to submit an oral presentation/a poster [mention subject/preliminary title]

Suggestion for Symposium theme [topic, organizers, speakers]

<http://www.acarology.org/~ica2006/>

THE 8TH NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF ACAROLOGY OF CHINA

The 8th National Conference of Acarology of China will be held in October, 2005, as part of the Entomological Society of China annual meeting in Fuzhou, Fujian.

<http://www.biomite.org/>

ASA news: 2004 MINUTES OF MEETINGS

INITIAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order at the Salt Palace Convention Center by President Angela James at 5:15 pm, November 13, 2004. Present were Executive Committee members Ronald Ochoa, Michael Levin and Norman Fashing (also Secretary/Treasurer). Committee members absent were Hans Klompen, Quentin Fang, Lynell Tanigoshi, and David James. Also absent were President Elect Doug Norris, Past-president Carl Childers, Archivist James Keirans, and Newsletter Editor Harold Harlan.

Student Awards Committee: President James announced that Sandy Allan was stepping down as chair of the Student Awards Committee this year, and that Diana Sammataro volunteered to take over that position. The topic then turned to a discussion of methods to encourage student membership. It was decided that the ASA should formally recognize exceptional student contributions to acarology at annual meetings. A committee will be formed to work out the details, and the first formal recognition of students will take place at the 2005 annual business meeting in Fort Lauderdale.

Newsletter: It was decided that newsletter issues should be published in March and July, and that the present dues structure should be retained.

Journal: The discussion then turned to membership benefits and the possibility of a journal. President James said her e-mail poll of Executive Committee members resulted in a negative vote on negotiating a reduced membership price for Experimental and Applied Acarology. The main objection was the cost of the journal and the minimum number of members that Kluwer Publishing Company required in order to obtain a reduced subscription price. It was suggested that the ASA investigate the possibility of joining with the Systematic and Applied Acarological Society in publishing their journal. Ron Ochoa said he would discuss the issue with Zhi-Qiang Zang, Editor-In-Chief of Systematic and Applied Acarology, and report back to the Executive Committee.

Formal Symposium Lecturer: President James then brought up the establishment of a formal lecture by a prominent acarologist to be given at each annual meeting as part of the symposium. The lecturer would be chosen by the symposium organizers and could also be provided an honorarium of a yet to be determined amount. President James said that an earlier e-mail poll of Executive Committee members resulted in a 50:50 vote

for such a lecture series. A committee will be formed to study the issue and report back to the Executive Committee.

Constitution and Bylaws: Secretary/Treasurer Norm Fashing reminded committee member that the Constitution and Bylaws were in need of updating and that he had sent copies of those documents as well as a copy of a file outlining the duties of the various ASA offices as e-mail attachments earlier in the year. It was decided that officers and Executive Committee members should read those documents and send suggested revisions/corrections to all members of the Executive Committee.

2005 Symposium Topic: A possible topic for next year's formal symposium was then discussed. The only topic suggested was by Ron Ochoa and involved "Invasive mites and ticks". With no other suggestions, it was decided that this topic would be proposed at the business meeting.

Election Nominations: President James informed the Committee of the candidates nominated for election at the 2004 annual business meeting: President-elect (David James and Michael Levin), and Executive Committee (Lorenza Beati, Joel Hutcheson, Gary Mullen and Jay Yoder). Norman Fashing pointed out that a one year replacement for Executive Committee member Doug Norris was needed and that one more person should therefore be added to the list of nominees. Ron Ochoa volunteered to be placed on the list since his current term will expire in 2004. The Committee agreed to add his name to the candidate list.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

The annual business meeting was called to order in the Salt Palace Convention Center by President Angela James at 4:00 pm, November 14, 2004. President James thanked the speakers and moderators for an excellent 2004 program.

Student Awards: President James announced the winner of the 2004 Camin Award, an annual financial award presented to a graduate level student to assist in attending the Acarology Summer Program at Ohio State University or an equivalent institution where they can obtain training in acarine systematics. This year Hans Klompen, Angela James, and Norman Fashing reviewed the applications and selected Fiaboe Komi, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya, as the winner. President James then called upon Student Awards Committee chair Sandy Allan to announce the winners of the ASA student awards. Michael McAloon, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut, was the recipient of both the Travel Award and the Best Student Paper Award.

Election of Officers: An election was held to fill the positions of President-elect, two three-year Executive Committee terms, and one one-year Executive Committee term. Candidates proposed by the Executive Committee for President-elect were David James and Michael Levin, and for the Executive Committee, Lorenza Beati, Joel

Hutcheson, Gary Mullen Jay Yoder and Ron Ochoa. Nominations were opened to the floor, but none came forth.

Secretary/Treasurer's Report: Norman Fashing reported that the balance in the ASA account stood at \$8,488.66. Still outstanding for the 2004 meeting were the student travel award and the invited speaker honorarium.

Newsletter Editor's Report: Harold Harlan thanked Joel Hutcheson for his help in producing and sending the electronic newsletter. Newsletters in 2005 will be published the last week of March and July, and Harold requested that information for the newsletter be sent to him well ahead of the publication schedule. This year some items arrived too late to be included. President James announced that 2005 dues must be paid by mid-March to remain on the membership list and receive a newsletter.

Membership Decline: President James commented on the membership drop in ASA, and announced that the Executive Committee was working on ways to potentially increase membership by providing more benefits. A committee will be formed to investigate the implementation of a method to recognize exceptional acarological research by students, both undergraduate and graduate. Another committee will investigate the possible implementation of an annual lecture by an acarologist of national or international stature at the annual meeting symposium. Ron Ochoa will head a committee to investigate the possibility of an association of a journal with membership in the ASA. And, last but not least, it was suggested that mentors encourage their students to join the ASA.

2005 Symposium Topic: President James called for topics for the 2005 ASA symposium from the floor. None came forth. She said the Executive Committee had discussed the issue and proposed the topic "Invasive mites and ticks". After a discussion, it was decided to go with the Executive Committee topic and that Ron Ochoa would organize the symposium. It was suggested that an attempt be made to coordinate the ASA program with the ESA Section D program. Angela James said she and Doug Norris had attended the Section D business meeting last year and requested Section D not schedule programs to conflict with the ASA program. They will request this again this year.

Election Results: It was announced that David James had been elected to serve as President-elect, and Joel Hutcheson, Gary Mullen (three-year terms) and Ron Ochoa (one-year term) to serve on the Executive Committee.

Installation of New President: President James installed Doug Norris as the 2005 ASA President and passed the gavel. President Norris then presented Past-president Angela James with a plaque recognizing her contributions to the Society. President Norris then asked for new business from the floor, but none was brought forth.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

FINAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

The Executive Committee meeting was reconvened at 4:35 p.m. on November 15 by President Doug Norris in the Hilton Salt Lake City Center lobby. Members present included Angela James (Past-president), David James (President-elect and Executive Committee member), Norm Fashing (Secretary/Treasurer), Harold Harlan (Newsletter Editor), and Garry Mullen, Michael Levin, and Ron Ochoa (Executive Committee Members). Absent were Archivist James Keirans, and Executive Committee members Hans Klompen and Joel Hutcheson.

Committees: The formation of the committees discussed at the initial Executive Committee meeting and the Business Meeting were discussed. The Lecture Committee will include Angela James and Gary Mullen, and the Student Recognition Committee will include Michael Levin and Sandy Allan. The committees will request the help of others as necessary.

Constitution and Bylaws: Executive Committee members were reminded that they should review the Constitution and Bylaws and the Officer Duties booklet and send comments concerning corrections and modifications to all Committee members by January 1, 2005. Committee members will then examine all comments and make suggestions for final changes. Doug Norris will be in charge of reviewing the comments, revising the documents, and producing rough drafts to be sent to the Executive Committee for approval.

Symposium Speaker Honorarium: The amount of the honorarium for the 2004 invited speaker was discussed. It was decided that \$700 would be appropriate. It was suggested that a maximum honorarium amount should be established, and the Executive Committee agreed. The Executive Committee will wait for the report from the Lecture Committee before determining a maximum for honoraria.

2005 ASA Meeting: Discussion turned to the 2005 ASA meeting. Ronald Ochoa will organize the symposium, and David James will coordinate the submitted papers session. It was pointed out that there will again be an early deadline for the submission of papers since the session is now handled as an ESA "symposium". It was suggested that a call for papers be sent to ASA members by e-mail and also to all acarologists who subscribe to the acarology list server.

President Norris adjourned the meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Norman Fashing, Secretary/Treasurer

OBITUARY

Dr. Edward W. Baker died on June 19th, 2005. He was over 90 years old.

He joined the USDA in 1944. His research encompassed a wide range of families of mites important to agriculture, livestock, and stored grain. Additionally, he carried out extensive studies of predatory, saprophytic, and parasitic mites. Together with G.W. Wharton, he authored the first major text on the subject of mites, *An Introduction to Acarology*. Published in 1952, the book provided a broad overview of the Acari and was accessible to a wide audience, which included the general public as well as students. Because of his many outstanding contributions to acarine classification, systematics, and taxonomy, his peers honored him along with Wharton as the "Fathers of Modern Day Acarology." Even though he retired in 1987, he continued to perform extensive research on plant-feeding mites of the families Tetranychidae and Tenuipalpidae until 1996, when he moved to the Philippines with his wife, also a USDA Acarologist, M. Delfinado-Baker.

Extracted from: <http://www.sel.barc.usda.gov/acari/index.html>

New Books

Fauna of New Zealand Number 52. Raphignathoidea (Acari: Prostigmata)
Qing-Hai Fan & Zhi-Qiang Zhang, May 2005

- Keys to world families and genera of Raphignathoidea
- Review of taxonomy, biology, and ecology of world Raphignathoidea
- Full descriptions of 76 NZ species (21 new species) belonging to 20 genera (1 new genus) and 5 families with taxonomic, references, habitats, and distribution of each species.

<http://www.wm.edu/biology/mites/notices.htm>

Our members

New SAAS member, 2005

Mr Yubao Cui

Department of Parasitology

Hainan Medical College

Chengxilu, Haikou, P.R.China

Ph: 0086 898 66893745

E-mail: ybcui1975@yahoo.com

Research Interest: house dust mites, storage mites and allergic disorder.

Contents of journals

Acarina

2004 (30 July 2004), Volume 12, Issue 1

Mironov, S.V. (2004) Taxonomic notes on four genera of the feather mite subfamily Pandalurinae (Astigmata: Psoroptoididae). 12(1), 3–16.

Tuzovsky, P.V. (2004) The idiosomal chaetotaxy and lyriform organs of water mites of the family Thermacaridae (Acariformes, Hydrachnida, Hydryphantoidea). 12(1), 17–21.

Bochkov, A.V., Klimov, P.B. (2004) A new predaceous mite, *Nodele* (*Aztecocheyletus*) *conquistador* subg. n., sp. n. (Acari: Cheyletidae), phoretic on a bee *Aztecantidium tenochtitlanicum* (Hymenoptera: Megachilidae). 12(1), 23–27.

Bayartogtokh, B. (2004) New damaeid mites (Acari: Oribatida: Damaeidae) from Eastern Mongolia. 12(1), 29–36.

Asçi, F., Özkan, M. (2004) A new water mite (Acari, Hydrachnellae, Hydryphantidae) species from Turkey. 12(1), 37–40.

Khaustov, A.A., Mitrofanov, V.I. (2004) Two new species of mites of the genus *Pygmodispus* (Acari: Heterostigmata, Scutacaridae) from Crimea. 12(1), 41–46.

Khaustov, A.A. (2004) New replacement names for *Pyemotes moseri* Khaustov, 1998 and *Archidispus kurosai* Khaustov, 2004 (Acari: Heterostigmata: Pyemotidae, Scutacaridae). 12(1), 47.

Ghostal, S., Gupta, S.K., Mukherjee, B. (2004) Seasonal abundance of phytophagous and predatory mites on mangrove vegetation and agri-horticultural crops of Sundarban Biosphere Reserve. 12(1), 49–56.

2004 (30 March 2005), Volume 12, Issue 2

Bochkov, A.V., Oconnor, B.M. & Gorog, A.J. (2005) New species and records of fur mites (Acari: Astigmata: Atopomelidae) from Southeast Asian rodents (Rodentia: Muridae). 12(2), 67–85

-
- Khaustov, A.A. & Chydyrov, P.R. (2005) New species of mites of the family Scutacaridae (Acari: Heterostigmata) associated with ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae) from Turkmenistan. 12(2), 87–103
- Tuzovsky, P.V. (2005) Toward the systematics of the water mite *Lebertia convergella* Tuzovskij (Acariformes, Lebertiidae). 12(2), 105–107
- Khaustov, A.A. & Hajiqanbar H. (2005) *Bakerdania uniseta* sp.n. a new species of mites (Acari: Pygmephoridae) associated with scarab beetle *Pleurophorus anaticus* (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae) from Iran. 12(2), 109–112
- Akimov, I.A., Bedyk, S.V., Berezovskaya, O.P. & Sidorenko, A.P. (2005) RAPD analysis of intraspecific genetic variability of the mite *Varroa destructor* (Parasitiformes, Varroidae) in Ukraine. 12(2), 113–119
- Alekseev, A.N. & Dubinina, H.V. (2005) Eurasian *Ixodes* tick types, their properties and vector capacity. 12(2), 121–139
- Dubinina, H.V., Alekseev, A.N. & Svetashova E.S. (2005) New *Ixodes ricinus* tick populations appearing as a result of, and tolerant to, cadmium contamination. 12(2), 141–149
- Sanyal, A.K. (2005) Notes on the ecology of soil mites (Acari) in two contrasting sites of Schirmacher Oasis, East Antarctica. 12(2), 151–157

Acarologia

2003 (2004), Volume 44, Issue 3–4

- Baker, A.S., Bignell, D.E. & Block, W. (2003) Professor John Anthony Wallwork (1932–2004). 44(3–4), 135–136.
- Sylla, M., Pourrut, X., Faye, N. Bâ, K., Cornet, J.-P. & Camicas, J.-L. (2003) Argasidae (Acari: Ixodida) parasites of wild and domestic animals in Senegal: 1 – Review and distribution. 44(3–4), 137–150.
- Sylla, M. & Thonnon, J. (2003) Argasidae (Acari: Ixodida) parasites of wild and domestic animals in Senegal: 2 – Arboviruses isolation and epidemiological implications. 44(3–4), 151–156.
- Kim, C.M. (2003) Trignyaspida (Acari: Mesostigmata): new diagnosis, classification and phylogeny. 44(3–4), 157–194.
- Moraza, M. & Johnston, D.E. (2003) *Neoepicrius*, gen. n., from Western North America (Acari: Mesostigmata: Epicriidae). 44(3–4), 195–208.

-
- Edwards, D.D. (2003) In search of fluctuation asymmetry: no evidence among *Chironomus tentans* (Diptera: Chironomidae) parasitized by the water mite *Unionicola folii* (Acari: Unionicolidae). 44(3–4), 209–218.
- Shatrov, A.B. (2003) Ultrastructure of the salivary gland complex in unfed larvae of *Platytrombidium fasciatum* (C.L. Koch, 1836) and *Camerotrombidium pexatum* (C.L. Koch, 1837) (Acariformes: Microtrombidiidae) 44(3–4), 219–230.
- Zhang, P., Fu, R. and Wang, Y. (2003) Karyotype analysis of two species of Oribatida (Acari). 44(3–4), 231–234.
- Chen, J., Behan Pelletier, V.M., Wang, H.-F. & Norton, R.A. (2003) New species of *Gymnodampia* (Acari: Oribatida: Ameroidea) from China. 44(3–4), 235–252.
- Hubert, J., Šustr, V. & Pekár, S. (2003) Estimation of seasonal changes of population feeding activity of the oribatid mite *Galumna elimata* (Acari: Oribatida). 44(3–4), 253–260.

Experimental and Applied Acarology

2005, Volume 35, Numbers 4

- Villanueva, R.T. & Childers, C.C. (2005) Diurnal and spatial patterns of Phytoseiidae in the citrus canopy. 35(4), 269–280.
- Hubert, J., Doleková-Mareová, L., Hýblová, J., Kudlíková, I., Stejskal, V., Mare, M. (2005) *In vitro* and *in vivo* inhibition of α -amylases of stored-product mite *Acarus siro*. 35(4), 281–291.
- Wongkamchai, S., Rongsriyam, K., Nochot, H., Mahakittikun, V., Sermsart, B., Choochote, W., & Kanjanopart, K. (2005) Efficacy of various synthetic pyrethroid-impregnated encasement materials against house dust mite under laboratory conditions. 35(4), 293–300.
- Hornbostel, V., Zhioua, E., Benjamin, M., Ginsberg, H. & Ostfeld, R. (2005) Pathogenicity of *Metarhizium anisopliae* (Deuteromycetes) and permethrin to *Ixodes scapularis* (Acari: Ixodidae) nymphs. 35(4), 301–316.
- Boroviková, B. & Hypa, V. (2005) Ontogeny of tick hemocytes: a comparative analysis of *Ixodes ricinus* and *Ornithodoros moubata*. 35(4), 317–333.
- González-Acuña, D., Beldoménico, P.M., Venzal, J.M., Fabry, M., Keirans, J.E. & Guglielmone, A.A. (2005) Reptile trade and the risk of exotic tick introductions into southern South American countries. 35(4), 335–339.
- Tomassone, L., Camicas, J., Meneghi, D., Giulio, A. & Uilenberg, G. (2005) A note on *Hyalomma nitidum*, its distribution and its hosts. 35(4), 341–355.

International Journal of Acarology

2005, Volume 31, Issue 1

Chant, D.A. & McMurtry, J.A. (2005) A review of the subfamily Amblyseiinae Muma (Acari: Phytoseiidae): Part V. Tribe Amblyseiini, Subtribe Proprioseiopsina Chant and McMurtry. 31(1), 3–22.

Estébanes-González, M.L. & Cervantes, F.A. (2005) Mites and ticks associated with some small mammals in Mexico. 31(1), 23–37.

Flechtmann, C.H.W. (2005) *Suracarus inusitatus* n. gen., n. sp. (Mesostigmata: Laelapidae) from the nest of a stingless bee from Brazil. 31(1), 39–43.

Flechtmann, C.H.W. (2005) *Suracarus inusitatus* n. gen., n. sp. (Mesostigmata: Laelapidae) from the nest of a stingless bee from Brazil. 31(1), 39–43.

Saboori, A., Nemati, A. & Mossahebi, G. (2005) A new genus and species of Trombellidae (Acari: Trombidoidea) from Iran. 31(1), 45–50.

Saboori, A., Zhang, Z.-Q. & Nemati, A. (2005) A new genus and species of larval Chyzeriidae (Acari: Prostigmata: Chyzeroidea) from Iran. 31(1), 51–56.

Kamali, H. & Amrine, J.W. Jr. (2005) Studies on the eriophyid mites (Acari: Eriophyidae) of Iran: I. Two new species of *Aceria*, with a key to Iranian species. 31(1), 57–62.

Navia, D., Flechtmann, C.H.W. & Amrine, J.W. Jr. (2005) Supposed ovoviviparity and viviparity in the coconut mite, *Aceria guerreronis* Keifer (Prostigmata: Eriophyidae), as a result of female senility. 31(1), 63–65.

Sammataro, D., Untalan, P., Guerrero, F. & Finley, J. (2005) The resistance of varroa mites (Acari: Varroidae) to acaricides and the presence of esterase. 31(1), 67–74.

Frances, S. (2005) Potential for horizontal transmission of *Orientia tsutsugamushi* by chigger mites (Acari: Trombiculidae). 31(1), 75–82.

Hanson, P., Ghisays, F. & Thompson, T.M. (2005) A preliminary report on the capacity for chlorophenol production by microorganisms present in tick tissues. 31(1), 83–86.

News (2005) 31(1), 87.

Index (2005) 31(1), 88.

Journal of the Acarological Society of Japan

2005 (May, 2005), Volume 14, Issue 1

-
- Kongchuensin, M., Charanasri, V. & Takafuji, A. (2005) Geographic distribution of *Neoseiulus longispinosus* (Evans) and its habitat plants in Thailand. 14(1), 1–12.
- Mansoor-ul-Hasan, W. W., Bashir, F. & Kwon, Y. J. (2005) Descriptions of two new species of the genus *Brevipalpus* (Acari: Tenuipalpidae) Donnadieu from Punjab, Pakistan. 14(1), 13–18.
- Karasawa, S. & Hijii, N. (2005) Efficiency of sampling oribatid Mites (Acari: Oribatida) from the canopies of broad-leaved trees in Japan: a comparison between the washing and direct methods. 14(1), 19–24.
- Hinomoto, N. & Maeda, T. (2005) Isolation of microsatellite markers in *Neoseiulus womersleyi* Schicha (Acari: Phytoseiidae). 14(1), 25–30.
- Shimano, S. & Kamimura, K. (2005) A cysticeroid in *Mixacarus exilis* (Acari: Oribatida) nymph as an intermediate host of anoplocephalid Cestodes. 14(1), 31–34.
- Proceedings of 13th Annual Meeting of the Acarological Society of Japan (In Japanese). 14(1), 35.

Acarology Bulletin (ISSN 1361-8091) is a newsletter of the Systematic and Applied Acarology Society (c/o Dept. of Entomology, The Natural History Museum, London SW7 5BD, UK). It is published in four issues in 2004 and is distributed free to sustaining members of SAAS. All correspondence should be sent to the Editor, Dr Qing-Hai FAN, Landcare Research, Private Bag 92170, 231 Morrin Rd, Tamaki, Auckland; Ph: +64-9-5744108; Fax. +64 9 574-4101; E-mail: fanqh@acarology.org. Non-member subscribers should order the journal from Dr Ting-Kui Qin (Plant Biosecurity, Biosecurity Australia, GPO Box 858, Canberra, ACT 2061, Australia). Subscription rate for vol. 9 in 2004 is US\$10 plus \$6 for postage.