

AGRION

NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLDWIDE DRAGONFLY ASSOCIATION

PATRON: Professor Edward O. Wilson FRS, FRSE

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NEWSLETTER OF THE WORLDWIDE DRAGONFLY ASSOCIATION

AGRION is the Worldwide Dragonfly Association's (WDA's) newsletter, published twice a year, in January and July. The WDA aims to advance public education and awareness by the promotion of the study and conservation of dragonflies (Odonata) and their natural habitats in all parts of the world. *AGRION* covers all aspects of WDA's activities; it communicates facts and knowledge related to the study and conservation of dragonflies and is a forum for news and information exchange for members. *AGRION* is freely available for downloading from the WDA website at <http://ecoevo.uvigo.es/WDA/dragonfly.htm>. WDA is a Registered Charity (Not-for-Profit Organization), Charity No. 1066039/0.

Editor's notes

Keith Wilson [kdpwilson@gmail.com]

Gordon Pritchard

Many of you will have heard the recent sad news that Dr. Gordon Pritchard passed away on 23 December 2012 after a long illness. Gordon served WDA, almost since its inception, as a Trustee, Coordinator of International Symposia of Odonatology and as President from 2007-2009. He will be greatly missed.

Conference news

The postponed 2011 International Congress of Odonatology, originally scheduled to be held at the Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History in Odawara City, Kanagawa, Japan in July-Aug 2011, was successfully held from 28 July to 2 August 2012 at the same venue. A detailed account of this Congress is provided by Hide Natsume, pages 10-14. A summary of international conference news is provided by Richard Rowe the WDA International Conference Coordinator at page 9. Further details of the 2013 International Congress of Odonatology scheduled to be held 17-21, June 2013 in Friesing, Bavaria, Germany are available at page 15 of this newsletter and at the congress website [http://www.ico2013.eu/crbst_4.html].

The Second European Congress on Odonatology was held 2-5 July 2012 at Belgrade, Serbia. Fifty delegates attended representing 19 countries. The next European Congress is scheduled to be held from 7 July 2014 in Montpellier, France, which is close to the Camargue, a Ramsar designated wetland and the largest river delta in western Europe.

AGRION header addition

Following a suggestion from Ian Endersby an 'Agrion' header indicating the volume, issue and date has been added to each page of the Newsletter so that any stand-alone reprints can be correctly cited.

Treasurer wanted

David Fitch has ably served the WDA Board of Trustees as Treasurer since 2003 and has indicated that after 10 years service he would like hand over to a new Treasurer from 2013. If anyone would like to take on the position please contact Göran Sahlén, WDA President [Goran.Sahlen@hh.se].

Next issue of AGRION

For the next issue of *AGRION*, to be published at the beginning of July 2013, please send your contributions to Keith Wilson [kdpwilson@gmail.com] or Graham Reels [gtreels@gmail.com]. All articles, information and news items related to dragonflies or of interest to WDA members are most welcome and will be considered for publication. Please send all text and figure captions in a Word file by email, preferably, or on a disk by post. Please do not include artwork with the text but provide a separate file or files in soft copy form, ideally in a compressed format (e.g. 'jpeg' or 'gif'), or as files on disk if sent by post.

If you have an odonate photo illustrating any rarely observed aspect of dragonfly biology, or an unusual species, or simply a stunning dragonfly shot, please submit it for consideration for publication on the front cover of *AGRION*.

Cover photo: *Nannophya pygmaea* male and female; the smallest odonate with an abdomen length of ca. 12-13 mm and a wingspan of just 20 mm. Members attending the 2012 International Congress of Odonatology, encountered this diminutive dragonfly at north Hamamatsu, Japan during the Post Congress Field Tour. It is widespread but local throughout subtropical and tropical Asia. Credit: Keith DP Wilson.

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Message from the President

Dear WDA members. As the snow just came, temperatures dropped and then rose again and snow mostly melted away, a typical Swedish winter is here... What has transpired during the past six months? First I'd like to mention the Congress in Odawara, about which you can read a very detailed account elsewhere in this issue. I'd like to express my cordial thanks to the organisers for making this important odonatological meeting a splendid success. We continue the tradition of dragonfly meetings with a friendly atmosphere, visited by positive people - I have said that several times before but we can put some emphasis on it. A friendly atmosphere is a first step to constructive discussions. For those of you who had not the opportunity to go to Japan, please note that you will have your chance next summer: our next Congress takes place in Bavaria, Germany in June. I hope that as many of you as possible will make it there!

More immediate concerns are the recruitment of new people for the board. We have a need for a new treasurer as David Fitch is stepping down after ten long years. I'd like to give David a big thank you for all his efforts during these many years, taking care of financial matters; a significant part of any dynamic society. But we also need to find people to fill other positions in the board! Please let me or our secretary Sónia Ferreira know if you or anyone you know would like to participate in the board of the WDA, from June this year or perhaps in two years' time. Send us a mail!

As for all the other people in the board, outside the board or 'just' working on dragonflies in some way or another; thank you for all your relentless work which forms the base and network of ideas upon which our society is built. A Happy New Year to all of you.

...And what more can you do? What more can I say? Perhaps this: Try to recruit more members! We must grow in order to do even more things...!

Uppsala, January 2, 2013

Göran Sahlén

**Diagnostic characters of the larvae of
Austropetalia Tillyard (Anisoptera Austropetaliidae),
including some mainly pictorial history**

**Gunther Theischinger [Gunther.Theischinger@environment.nsw.gov.au] and
Cheryl Tang, Water Science, Office of Environment & Heritage, Department of Premier &
Cabinet, PO Box 29, Lidcombe NSW 1825, Australia**

Introduction

The first Australian dragonfly with red wing spots was discovered in November 1903 at Leura, Blue Mountains, New South Wales. One of the two collected specimens was sent to Cambridge, England, and the other specimen was examined, in succession, by the top odonatologists of the day (R.J. Tillyard, R. Martin and F. Ris). The dragonfly was identified by Tillyard (1907) as *Petalia Apollo* Selys, a species previously known only from the Andes. After a few more encounters with it, including the collection of a just-emerged female and its exuvia, Tillyard (1910) realized that the Australian 'Redspot' was distinct from the South American species. He described and named the 'exceedingly beautiful' species *Phyllopetalia patricia* in honour of his wife Patricia.

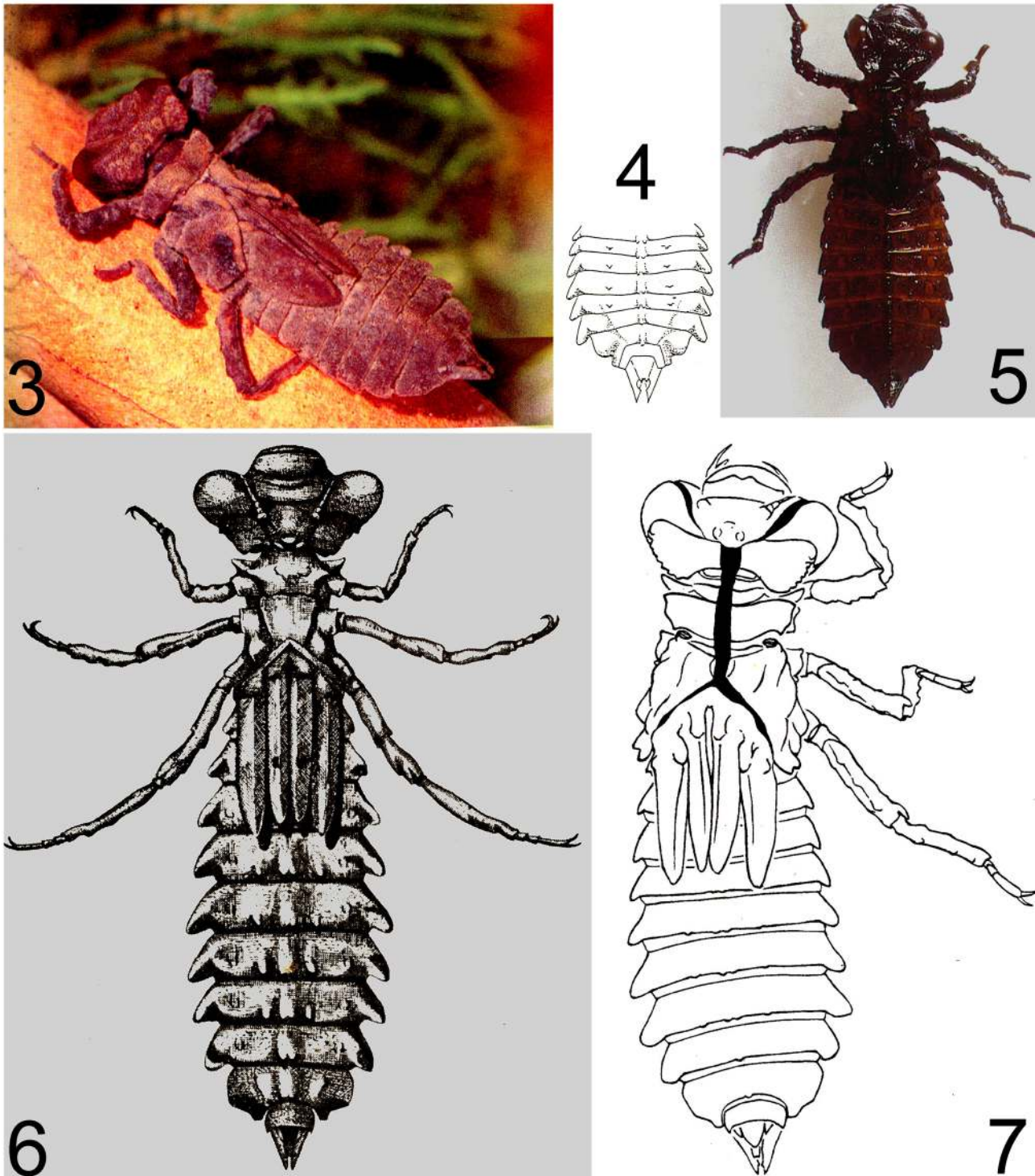
For the introduction and illustration of the species Tillyard had only females and an exuvia. The male and a new genus, *Austropetalia*, for the species were finally described by Tillyard (1916). Fraser (1933) listed *A. patricia* as occurring only in the Blue Mountains, whereas material from a wider variety of locations, the Blue Mountains, the Berrima and Kosciuszko Districts and Victoria, was recorded in Fraser (1960). This distribution was also cited by Hawking (1986) and Watson et al. (1991) with an additional illustration of the larva presented



Figs 1-2. *Austropetalia* sp., final instar exuvia, dorsal: (1) *A. patricia* (Tillyard); (2) *A. tonyana* Theischinger (Photos G.Theischinger).

by Hawking (1986). Almost simultaneously G. Theischinger and F. Carle independently noticed that *Austropetalia* was not monotypic, and based on material from more or less the same localities they described *Austropetalia tonyana* (Theischinger 1995) and *Austropetalia victoria* (Carle 1996). Lohmann (1996) immediately considered the latter as a junior synonym of *A. tonyana*. New illustrations of *Austropetalia* larvae/exuviae appeared in Theischinger (2002), Theischinger & Hawking (2003, 2006), Theischinger & Endersby (2009), whereas others (e.g. Hawking & Theischinger (1999)) only recycled Tillyard's (1910) illustration.

The supposed disjunct distribution of the two species appeared sufficient for the identification of the *Austropetalia* larvae. In spite of this, however, a photo of an exuvia of *A. tonyana* and for good measure of *A. patricia* were displayed in a presentation on the dragonflies of the Snowy Mountains for the Fisheries Scientific Committee in 2012.



Figs 3-7. *Austropetalia* sp. larvae/exuviae, dorsal: (3-5) *A. tonyana*: 3, 5) from Theischinger (2002); 4) from Hawking (1986); (6, 7) *A. patricia*: 6) from Tillyard (1910); 7) from Theischinger (2002).

Results

Subsequent to the “Fisheries presentation” and to help support the planned listing by Jane Williamson of *Austropetalia tonyana* and *A. patricia* as VULNERABLE species in New South Wales, available illustrations in the literature, new photos of the exuviae of the two *Austropetalia* species and further material were studied in more detail. Whereas characters often diagnostic at species level in related dragonflies, like shape of prementum and labial palps or prothoracic armature (e.g. Theischinger (2012)), did not give any conclusive results, the outline of the two taxa in dorsal view revealed two morphs that allowed these species to be separated. The specimens attributed to *A. patricia* appear flatter and have at least the lateral lobes of segments 5-8 largely distinctly wider and definitely more laterally directed than the specimens attributed to *A. tonyana*. This can be seen in Figs 1-7, and even more clearly in Figs 8-10.

Prospects

As the listing of the two *Austropetalia* species will make the collecting of adults and larvae even more difficult, future finds of final instar exuviae may provide further important information about these species. Whereas this article provides characters useful for the specific identification of larval material of *Austropetalia* as studied for this paper, it is possible that geographic isolation and different ecological situations for isolated populations may change the picture painted above.



Figs 8-10. *Austropetalia* sp., final instar exuviae, lateral lobes of abdominal segments 5-8, ventral: (8) *A. patricia*; (9, 10) *A. tonyana*: 9) from Mt Buller, 10) from Mt Donna Buang (Photos G. Theischinger).

Summary

The two Australian species of Austropetaliidae, *Austropetalia patricia* (Waterfall Redspot) and *Austropetalia tonyana* (Alpine Redspot), were hitherto generally identified by their geographic distribution. Recently planned listing as VULNERABLE species necessitated a closer look at the larvae. As a result, it became possible to identify the available larval material of the two species on the basis of size and direction of the lateral abdominal lobes on segments 5-8 and to present diagnostic photos in the present article (Figs 1-10).

Acknowledgements

Dr D. Bickel and Mr M. Krogh (both Sydney) are thanked for reading the manuscript and helpful suggestions, Prof. Dr P. Zwick (Schlitz, Germany) for material.

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Obituary
Robert W. (Bob) Reimer
18 December 1953 – 25 January 2012

Wolfgang Schneider [Fri.Wol@t-online.de]

I was in contact with Bob Reimer from late 2007 when he started to develop an interest in Arabian Odonata. A keen and excellent photographer of natural history objects, he began his studies by not netting them, but by shooting damsel and dragonflies with his camera. These pictures were then sent by e-mail to colleagues with a request to help with identification where necessary. Very soon he became acquainted with a number of odonatologists.

Being a taxonomist of the old school, I have in most cases no confidence in species identification by photography alone, and Bob in turn was reluctant to collect some voucher specimens and insisted he was able to recognize even some of the more difficult bluetail damselflies (genus *Ischnura*), including morphs of both sexes.

Finally, I convinced him to collect a few voucher specimens of “difficult species” and to visit me in the Senckenberg Museum of Natural History in Frankfurt. He and his wife Barbara came in April 2009, and the three of us spent several wonderful days in my lab identifying his specimens, comparing them with ones from my Arabia collection. Before they left we made plans to publish a photographic field guide of the Odonata of the Emirates. I also asked Bob to join as one of the authors of a “Monograph on the Odonata of the Arabian Peninsula”.

Bob had joined the Worldwide Dragonfly Association earlier and became an active member of the society, publishing also in WDA’s newsletter *AGRION* as of 2008. With his participation in the Middle Eastern Biodiversity Congress in October 2008 in Aqaba, Jordan, Bob manifested his serious interest and engagement in the Natural History of Arabia. In July 2010, he participated in the first European Congress of Odonatology in Porto, Portugal – actively participating not only in scientific but also in social activities. After very little time, Bob had become an active member of a flourishing young scientific society.

Between 2009 and 2011 I had the honour to be President of WDA. When our then Secretary Natalia von Ellenrieder decided not to run for a second term, I asked Bob to stand for election. He accepted his nomination, although as early as March 2010, he had learned about his fatal disease.

We continued to plan for the future, and in March 2011 he and Gary Richard Feulner organized a collecting trip in Oman and the UAE for me – despite my bad health. Bob, Barbara, and Gary did their utmost to make my stay comfortable and rewarding in every aspect.

During this stay, the earthquake and the tragic events following it made it necessary to postpone the International Congress of Odonatology to be held in Odawara in 2011 to the year 2012. Gary helped us to draft a message to all WDA members. But this and his bad health news did not hinder Bob and me making plans for the future.

As President I realized as early as March 2011 that, following the events in Japan, we would need an extraordinary BGM (Biannual General Meeting) to vote on constitutionally required procedures, i.e. the election of a Board for the period 2010 to 2013.

Bob was duly elected Secretary of WDA at a special biennial meeting in June, organised by Vincent Kalkman in the National Museum of Natural History (Naturalis) in Leiden (Netherlands), displaying his usual enthusiasm and commitment and continuing to submit papers for publication until his advancing illness forced him to step down.

During only a very short period of years, Bob made an important contribution to the knowledge of the region’s Odonata. He will be much missed.

Wolfgang Schneider
Immediate Past President of WDA



Bob Reimer, Zakher Pools, May 2011.

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International Congresses

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Following a delay due to the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami the 2011 International Congress of Odonatology was held in Odawara, Japan from 28 July to 2 August 2012. The Congress was small and very well organised. Presenters ranged from high school students to top line hard scientists. The rest of the world has much to learn from Japan when it comes to conservation programmes and to generating the next generation of Odonata workers. The hard science presented was also at the very top level. The mid-Congress trip was a treat, with numerous surprises arranged to keep the taste buds of the mind alert. On a more sombre note we celebrated the life's work of Syoziro Asahina, a giant of Odonata science.

The 2013 International Congress is to be held in Freising, Germany from 17 to 21 June 2013. A separate detailed announcement from the organisers is provided at page 15.

Enquiries for letters of invitation from WDA for administrative purposes should be sent to me – richard.rowe@jcu.edu.au clearly stating the purpose so the letter can be targeted.

Enquiries for letters of invitation for visa purposes should be addressed to the organisers via the Congress web site.

Enquiries for funding support should be addressed to Dr Vincent Kalkman, Dorpsstraat 84, 2343BB Oegstgeest, The Netherlands. E-mail: kalkman@naturalis.nnm.nl.

There are very limited funds available and priorities are to students and to active workers from areas with weak currencies.

The Odawara meeting received, and accepted, an invitation from Javier Muzon to hold the 2015 International Congress at La Plata city, 60 km south of Buenos Aires, Argentina, and associated with the Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Museo de La Plata and Instituto de Limnología. The timing is not yet set. A meeting in November would involve a post Congress trip to Patagonia, whereas a February meeting would involve a post Congress trip to Esteros del Iberá (in Corrientes province), a tropical wetland.

Richard Rowe

**2012 International Congress of Odonatology,
Odawara, Japan, July 28 - August 2, 2012**

Hide Natsume [romluna@symphony.plala.or.jp]

Website: <http://www.odonata.jp/ico2012/index.html>



The 7th WDA International Congress was originally scheduled to take place in 2011, following the 6th Congress at Xalapa, Mexico in 2009. Unfortunately no Japanese members could participate in the congress in Mexico mainly because of swine flu. So the organizers of the congress in Japan had to start preparations with little experience of the previous congress.

At the same time organizers in Japan thought that more Japanese dragonfly lovers should join this kind of international occasion to exchange more worldwide communications not only in odonatological issues but also in experiencing international atmosphere by sharing opportunities with visitors from overseas. So we sought the patronage of the Japanese Society for Odonatology, the oldest society only for Odonata in the world, which was established in 1957, to help with the organisation of the congress. We also called upon the SIO Japanese Group to cohost this congress, as our goal was very simple, why not facilitate all dragonfly lovers to get together at this wonderful occasion in Japan, where many people have historically loved dragonflies as friendly creatures around their lives for many hundreds of years. Actually the ancient name of the archipelago of Japan was called Akitsu-shima, the Island of Dragonflies. Accordingly, the title of the congress was changed to "2011 International Congress of Odonatology (ICO2011)".

However, immediately after the official website of ICO2011 opened, a massive earthquake hit Japan on March 11th 2011, eventually triggering a tsunami in northeast Japan, mainly affecting the Pacific coastal area of Tohoku District. Then hydrogen explosions in the buildings of the Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant and the failure of the reactor cooling systems caused radiation leakage. The Organizing Committee of ICO2011 was naturally obliged to discuss many things regarding this unfortunate situation. After the '3.11' incident some overseas country organizations kindly offered alternative venue sites outside of Japan. Although greatly affected by a series of tragic events triggered by '3.11', most of the Organizing Committee members expressed their intention not to give up the congress in Japan. Consequently our decision made in 2011 was to organize the international congress for the following year, namely in summer 2012. The main theme for the congress was "Dragonflies in the Changing World".

The 2012 International Congress of Odonatology was held at the Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History. In spite of the difficult situation caused by the ongoing recovery from disastrous earthquake and tsunami and many 'Alert Reports' concerning the nuclear accident issued by many governments, 75 participants from 16 countries attended the congress during the period from 28th July to 2nd of August. Also the Post Congress Field Tour, lasting four days, was conducted successfully from 3rd to 6th August, 2012. I am so glad to make a short





Top left: Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History in Odawara City; top right: Registration counter desk; 2nd row, left: 'Junior' Samurai warriors; 2nd row, top right: Welcome Tea Ceremony in the style of 'Sencha-do' hosted by Bido Aoyama and Y. Tsubaki, Chair of ICO2012; 2nd row, bottom right: Female chorus group 'Ensemble Otamajakushi (tadpole)' performing Aka-tombo on stage at the main Congress Hall; 3rd row, left: Welcome Reception (left to right: S. Ugai, H. Naraoka, Hide Natsume, Y. Nagahata); 3rd row, right: Mid-Congress Field Trip to Mt. Fuji, 31st July, 2012; bottom: Congress photo of delegates taken at the main entrance of the museum.

report about 2012 International Congress of Odonatology (ICO2012 hereafter) as one of the organizers for this fantastic moment as summarized below:

On 28th July, the Public Talk Session, titled “Dragonflies of the World: their charm and conservation” was opened by several dragonfly songs finely sung by a local female chorus group named ‘Ensemble Otamajakushi (tadpole)’. The sweet voices of the group stirred the audience and we were all soothed with their beautiful chorus of several traditional songs about *Tombo* (Odonata).

In the Public Talk Session, chaired by Haruki Karube, Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History, Japan, the speakers were Yoshiyuki Nagahata (Yamagata, Japan), Adolfo Cordero Rivera (Universidad de Vigo, Spain) and Mike J. Samways (Stellenbosch University, South Africa). The latter speaker brought to the audience the past, the present and the future landscapes for the conservation of dragonflies.

In the opening ceremony Hidenori Ubukata (Secretary of the Organizing Committee, Hokkaido University of Education, Japan) declared the opening of ICO2012. Yoshitaka Tsubaki (Chair of the Committee, Kyoto University, Japan) and Y. Saito (Executive Director of Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History) welcomed the participants and gave the opening address. Göran Sahlén (President of the Worldwide Dragonfly Association, Halmstad University, Sweden), Kiyoshi Inoue (President of the International Odonatological Foundation S.I.O., Osaka, Japan), Shigeo Eda (Honorable President of the Japanese Society for Odonatology, Nagano, Japan) all delivered congratulatory addresses.

During the Congress, eight plenary lectures, 27 oral presentations, nine poster presentations, one video presentation, four photo presentations and five workshop reports were presented to the delegates. The first oral session given by Shigeo Eda was dedicated to the late Syoziro Asahina and began with an introduction to Asahina's biography and his extensive Odonata publications.

Besides scientific programmes, participants enjoyed many events during the congress including Reception Tea Ceremony, Mid Congress Field Trip, Congress Dinner, Dragonfly Photo Exhibition & Contest and ICO2012 Awards. Furthermore “the Great Expositions of Dragonfly 2012” was held from July 14th to November 4th at the Kanagawa Prefectural Museum of Natural History, so the participants of ICO2012 could freely enjoy this special event in the same building. Thousands of specimens of dragonflies and damselflies from every part of the world as well as traditional Japanese art carrying dragonfly designs were displayed. Participants also enjoyed wearing jocular-style facsimile Japanese warriors' armor.

The Tea Ceremony took place in the style of ‘Sencha-do’ (Oubakuhigashihonryu School), hosted by Bido Aoyama, and most of the participants from overseas as well as the Japanese members enjoyed this ceremony, a truly traditional culture in East Asia. I was personally astonished at this ceremony since it was the first time I had tried cold Matcha (powdered green tea especially prepared for the traditional Japanese-style tea ceremony). Usually hot tea is served with boiled water at the ceremony, but cold tea can also be served during the hot summer season and this new trend is gradually becoming more accepted in recent years.

On 31st July the Mid Congress Field Trip, guided by Haruki Karube and his team, was favoured by magnificent weather which provided the participants with good opportunities for observing, photographing and collecting eastern Asiatic dragonflies. Symbolic Mt. Fuji welcomed all the participants of ICO2012, and I may say that the day's weather condition were exceptionally special. The works of René Lalique were viewed at a small museum where lunch was taken followed in the evening with a barbecue and cool beer at a ‘Bio-garden’ after a really hot summer day.

At the Congress Dinner at Yumoto Fujiya Hotel the participants had fun during the auction of dragonfly books/goods donated by several generous participants in addition to enjoying delicious Japanese cuisine and friendly conversations between participants. This kind of auction is one of the annual ordinary program of the Japanese Society for Odonatology, and Haruki Karube is surely becoming a famous auction master with his rich experience over many years in that Society. All auction proceeds are donated for the conservation activities.

A message from Florian Weihrauch (Germany) inviting all present to the 2013 International Congress of Odonatology to be held in Freising, Germany, was given by Misa Piper (Hamburg, Germany) at the Congress Dinner as well as at the end of the last presentation before the closing ceremony.

The winners of photo contest, judged by H. Tanaka, N. Moriue and Akira Ozono (all professional photographers), were, in first place: Tabita Termiati Makitan (Indonesia Dragonfly Society, Indonesia), and second place: Jonathan Jose Vivas (University of Zulia, Venezuela).

S. Nomakuchi (Saga University, Japan), Richard J. Rowe (James Cook University, Australia), Gilles Jacquemin (Université de Lorraine, France), Jurgen R. Ott (Helmholtz Center for Environmental Research, Germany) and Göran Sahlén judged the quality of the presentations for ICO Award. The winners of ICO Award were: first place: Sebastian Büsse (the Georg-August-University in Göttingen, Germany), second place: Hisashi Okuyama (Kyoto University, Japan), and third place: Koichi Tone (Hokkaido University, Japan).

A supplementary prize for the first place winners of the Photo Contest and ICO Presentation Award was a recently published book, titled ‘Dragonflies of Japan’, authored by Akira Ozono (Kanagawa, Japan), Itsuro Kawashima (Kanagawa, Japan), who designed the ICO2012 logo, and Ryo Futahashi (National Institute of



Top left: Bio-garden venue for Barbecue Dinner; top right: H. Karube conducts auction at Congress Dinner held at Yumoto Fujiya Hotel, 1st August; 2nd row, left: 8th Century Suwa Taisha Shrine visited during Congress Field Tour; 2nd row, right: Sawara-ike pond in Nirasaki city, Yamanashi prefecture where *Anotogaster sieboldii*, *Epophthalmia elegans* and *Aeshna crenata* were observed; 3rd row, left: Asahatanuma Marsh in Shizuoka city, 4th August, where crepuscular flight of *Aeschnophlebia anisoptera*. *Anaciaeschna martini* and *Polycanthagyna melanictera* could be observed; 3rd row, right: Okegayanuma Marsh in Iwata City. where tandem pairs of *Anax parthenope* were observed egg-laying; bottom left: Tenryu in north Hamamatsu where four larvae of *Epiophlebia superstes* were found during Post Congress Tour visit, 5th August; bottom right: Enshu-hama, Hamamatsu City on the Pacific coast, which is famous for vagrant dragonflies such as *Tramea virginia*. Lots of *Ryothemis fuliginosa* were observed during the Post Congress Tour on August 5th.

Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, Tsukuba, Japan). This is a revolutionary illustrated dragonfly book as the families of Japanese Odonata are strictly arranged according to the recent DNA analysis, and several species have been placed into different genera and families. Lots of arguments should be raised by this controversial book, and it has given Japanese dragonfly lovers a wide range of topics to discuss for the busy year-end party season.

Besides this book I was very lucky to receive a copy of the recently published book titled, 'The Dragonflies of Hong Kong' brought into the venue by the main author of this beautiful field guide, Tze-wai Tam (Hong Kong, China). I remember the days when in Hong Kong in the 1990's I enjoyed dragonfly research during my stay over there.

The Closing ceremony on August 2nd was chaired by Kiyoshi Inoue, in which Yoshitaka Tsubaki and Y. Saito expressed acknowledgement on behalf of the Organizing Committee and the Museum, respectively. Göran Sahlén and Misa Piper gave praise and thanks to the hosting organizations and groups, and finally the members of the organizers and volunteers were invited onto the stage and were applauded. However, some organizers like me were not there unfortunately due to a busy week for many private companies in Japan settling down their business before the Bon Festival season. Throughout the congress, Taku Kadoya (National Institute for Environmental Studies, Tsukuba, Japan) and Ryo Futahashi played an important interpreting role to facilitate communication between overseas participants and Japanese people.

The Congress Field Tour started on the morning of 3rd August at Odawara, Kanagawa, and then proceeded through Nagano, Yamanashi and Shizuoka Prefectures. During the four-day tour all participants visited various dragonfly habitats, such as Suwa Lake and streams in Nagano, Sawara-ike pond in Yamanashi, and bogs/marshes in Shizuoka. They also enjoyed observing crepuscular flights of several kinds of aeshnids at Asahata-numa marsh near Shizuoka City. When the tour visited the habitat of *Epiophlebia superstes* in Tenryu, north Hamamatsu four larvae of this 'living fossil' Anisozygopteran species were found; now considered as the most ancient, extant Anisopteran and endemic to Japan. Adult flight season of *Epiophlebia* in central Japan is April to May.

The participants had a chance to visit Okegaya-numa Marsh on August 5th, the site of the conservation project for *Libellula angelina*, a critically endangered species. They also visited Suwa-taisha Shrine where they experienced traditional Japanese culture. Throughout the itinerary, nearly 50 different species of Odonata were observed by tour members. The Congress Field Tour was conducted by Sadayuki Ugai (Saitama, Japan), Haruki Karube, Motoharu Fukui (Okegayanuma Visitor Center, Shizuoka, Japan), several volunteers from Shizuoka prefecture and by myself as Chief.

I am more than happy that overseas participants could enjoy the far eastern fauna as well as different kind of popular cuisines in Japan (Italian, Chinese and Japanese including revolving Sushi). Simon C. Davidson, W. Peter Brown, William H. Wain (all from U.K.) and other European members witnessed *Aeshna crenata*, a Siberian species extending into northern Russia and southern Finland, that is widely distributed in Japan. I caught this species at Sawara-ike Pond and showed it to participants who took many photos. Actually this species is common throughout the main islands of Japan to the warmer southern island, Kyushu. In contrast we have the so called Snow Monkey, the only primate in the world lives in snowy areas up north in Aomori Prefecture, at the northern end of mainland of Japan (Honshu). Chen Szu-Lung and Tang Hsin-Chieh (both from Taiwan) may have enjoyed checking common species between Taiwan and Japan, some of them treated as the same taxon, others considered subspecies. Jan Taylor (Australia) was so kind to present his own photographic guide "Dragonflies and Damselflies of Southwest Australia" to us, Japanese tour conductors.

On August 6th we visited a small village surrounded by hills in north Hamamatsu to check the habitat of one of the world smallest dragonflies, *Nannophya pygmaea*. Luckily this tiny dragonfly welcomed us although *Mortonagrion hirosei* seemed to have finished its flight season perhaps because of unusual long period of hot weather. For many participants of this trip *Nannophya pygmaea* was much smaller than they had expected. Even for me, the last time I saw it was more than twenty years ago, it looked like a small horsefly just by the first look. After we enjoyed lunch at a revolving sushi restaurant we went to Hamamatsu Railway Station and made our way back to Odawara.

Members of the Organizing Committee cordially thanked all participants and volunteer staffs for their scientific input and help in organising and running all the sessions and events, and their devoted support to ICO2012. I hope that many participants as well as organizers of ICO2012 will grab the opportunity to meet again in Germany.

Arigato and Sayonara!

Hide Natsume

2013 International Congress of Odonatology Freising, Bavaria, 17-21 June 2013

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D-85283 Wolnzach, Germany
Florian Weihrauch [registration@ico2013.eu]
Website: http://www.ico2013.eu/crbst_4.html

Together with the Bavarian Academy for Nature Conservation and Landscape Management (ANL), and in consensus with the International Odonatological Foundation, Societas Internationalis Odonatologica (S.I.O.), the Society of German-speaking Odonatologists (GdO) will organize and conduct the 2013 International Congress of Odonatology (ICO 2013) for the Worldwide Dragonfly Association (WDA) from 17 to 21 June 2013 in Freising, Bavaria, Germany. The ancient diocesan city of Freising is located close to the Bavarian capital Munich in one of Germany's most attractive regions. We are confident that we will offer a highly interesting programme that covers a wide range of odonatological subjects, and look forward to welcome participants from all parts of the world.

The venue of ICO 2013 is the 'Kardinal-Döpfner-Haus' in Freising, situated on the prominent clerical hill next to the cathedral. The congress halls for lectures and posters and the registration office are under the same roof as the accommodation and the dining-hall for attendees. Full board service for attendees is obligatory in the 'Kardinal-Döpfner-Haus'. As ICO 2013 will get only one invoice for the entire event, we are unfortunately only able to offer three 'congress packages' for attending. However, please be aware that the solutions we are offering are probably the most reasonably priced options for a stay in this highly attractive region of Munich, which is very popular with tourists.

The post-symposium tour will take place from 22 to 26 June 2013 in the countryside of south-eastern Bavaria, with four overnight stays in the charming small town of Laufen, situated on the river Salzach, directly on the border with Austria. It will comprise a variety of excursions that will give a good overview of the 76 Bavarian species of Odonata and their habitats, including alpine biotopes and a visit to Austria. Please note that this tour will be restricted to 50 participants only, i.e. the number of persons that fit into one bus.

ICO 2013 is offering grants to a maximum number of five attendants of the symposium that will offer the option of free participation in the entire congress, including the post-congress tour. These grants will be awarded by the scientific committee, in order to promote preferably young researchers from developing countries without own funding possibilities, who should attend ICO 2013 from a scientific point of view. Travel costs to Bavaria are NOT covered by the ICO 2013 grants. To apply for one of these grants, please follow the procedure outlined on the ICO 2013 homepage.

Please check the congress homepage (www.ICO2013.eu) for more detailed information on prices, fees, deadlines and registration, etc.; the homepage is regularly updated and filled with additional information in short intervals.

Overview on the preliminary congress agenda:

- 16 June 2013: Arrival, registration, informal welcome, public lecture (film by D Hilfert-Rüppell and G Rüppell)
- 17 June 2013: Registration, opening, oral sessions, plenary talk
- 18 June 2013: Oral sessions, plenary talk, IUCN Dragonfly Specialist Group meeting
- 19 June 2013: Mid-congress field trip
- 20 June 2013: Oral sessions, poster session, 8th WDA Biennial General Meeting, congress dinner in a countryside inn
- 21 June 2013: Oral sessions, plenary talk, closing
- 22 June 2013: Departure or start of post-congress tour
- 26 June 2013: End of post-congress tour

Looking forward to see you in Bavaria!
Florian Weihrauch



New Publications

A Manual for the Identification of the Dragonflies and Damselflies of New Guinea, Maluku, & the Solomon Islands

By John Michalski [huonia@aol.com]

First comprehensive guide to all 620 species of dragonflies of New Guinea and the neighbouring islands, which is home to ten percent of the world's dragonfly fauna. Nearly half of the species are found nowhere else on Earth. Includes 1,275 illustrations and eight pages of color plates showing representative species and habitats. Includes introductory sections on structure, habitat, history, collection and photography, as well as appendices discussing taxonomic questions and a full bibliography. Illustrated keys to all taxa, and illustrations of larval forms where known.

Over the past ten years there has been a growing interest in the dragonflies of this remarkable part of the world. This manual brings together all of the published research on this fauna from its origins in the 1800s to the present.

561 pages, 8 pages of color photos,
1275 line illustrations

Kanduanum Books

Hardback July 2012 ISBN: 978-0-615-63726-6

PRICE: USA, \$75.00 postpaid
(shipping weight 5 lbs / 2.3 kg)

Outside the USA: USD 55.00 plus
postage (estimated postage to Europe
= USD 55.00)

Contact author: John Michalski
[huonia@aol.com]

A Manual for the Identification of The Dragonflies and Damselflies of New Guinea, Maluku and the Solomon Islands



John Michalski

Huizhou Dragonflies

By Wu Hongdao

The present book by Wu Hongdao is among the first of its kind from the mainland of China. The bilingual text is limited, but the superb colour photos provide an excellent introduction to the diverse and colourful world of south Chinese dragonflies. Although, the area of Huizhou City covers only 6% of the land area of Guangdong Province and a tiny 0.11% of the whole of China, this area is home to at least 174 species of dragonflies – about 70% of species known from Guangdong and one quarter of the total Chinese dragonfly fauna. This is mainly because the area of Huizhou City includes several well preserved protected areas. The most famous is Nankunshan Provincial Reserve, which is especially rich in dragonfly species and has been particularly well studied. Within Huizhou City there are also suitable wetland habitats outside protected areas, in both lowlands and mountain.

The first book illustrating Chinese dragonflies was Edward Donovan's famous classic 'An Epitome of the Natural History of the Insects of China', published in London in 1798. Two of its 50 fine hand-coloured copper-engraved plates illustrate six dragonfly species. All of these, including the beautiful *Neurobasis chinensis*, the first dragonfly from China and the whole of Asia to be scientifically named, are also to be found in Wu's book. Since the time of Donovan the world has changed in many ways. However, the beauty and diversity of insects continues to fascinate us, and books showcasing their splendor are still being published.



Published August 2012

Wu Hongdao (Author)

191 pages, 50 colour plates

China Oriental Boyuan Co. Ltd

Available from: China Oriental BoYuan Bookstore [www.coboyu.com/List.asp?n=727]

New International Dragonfly Fund Journal titled: *Faunistic Studies in South-East Asian and Pacific Island Odonata*

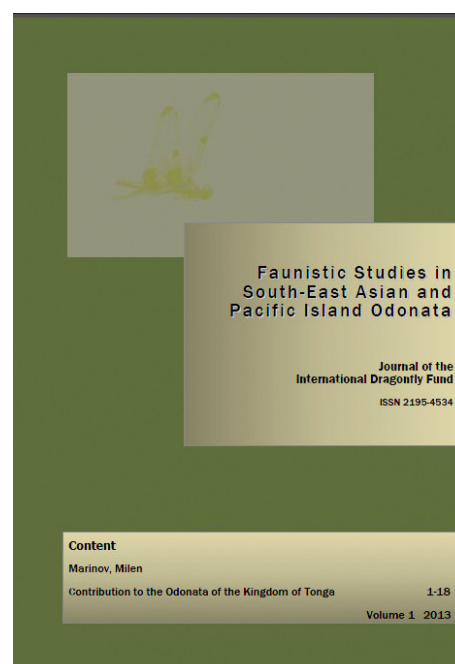
Faunistic studies of South-East Asian and Pacific islands Odonata is a journal of the International Dragonfly Fund (IDF). The new journal intends to contribute to the knowledge of the regional Odonata fauna of the Southeastern Asian and Pacific regions to facilitate cost-efficient and rapid dissemination of faunistic data. Southeast Asia or Southeastern Asia is a subregion of Asia, consisting of the countries that are geographically south of China, east of India, west of New Guinea and north of Australia. Southeast Asia consists of two geographic regions: Mainland Southeast Asia (Indochina) and Maritime Southeast Asia. Pacific Islands comprise of Micronesian, Melanesian and Polynesian Islands.

The journal publishes original papers only. By original it is meant papers that: a) have not been published elsewhere before, and b) the scientific results of the paper have not been published in their entirety under a different title and/or with different wording elsewhere.

Editorial work: Rory Dow, Milen Marinov and Martin Schorr

Responsible Editor: Martin Schorr

Publisher: International Dragonfly Fund e.V., Schulstr. 7B, 54314 Zerf, Germany. E-mail: [oestlap@online.de]



IDF website: <http://www.dragonflyfund.org/index.html>

Festschrift honoring the 80th birthday of Professor Dr. Günther Peters

In July 2012, Prof. Dr. Günther Peters celebrated his 80th Birthday. Peters is one of the most renowned odonatologists. He mainly made great services to Herpetology and Odonatology (among others phylogenetic systematics of aeshnids).

In honour of him the GdO (Society of German-language Odonatologists) has issued a Festschrift as Supplement 12 of the journal "Libellula". This includes 18 papers to the biography of the Honoured as well as conservation, ecology, systematics, and new or first descriptions of dragonflies.

All articles begin with an English abstract; some are written entirely in English.

Series: *LIBELLULA* – Supplement 12, 246 pages, full color, richly illustrated with plates, tabs, graphs. Softcover. Published September 2012, ISSN 0723-6514. Price € 20 (excluding shipping). Available from GdO, Traute Fliedner, Louis Seegelkenstr. 106, D-28717 Bremen, GERMANY Email: gdo@libellula.org.

Libellula Supplement 12

2012

Festschrift in honorem Prof. Dr. Günther Peters

LIBELLULA



Zeitschrift der Gesellschaft deutschsprachiger Odonatologen (GdO) e.V.
ISSN 0723 - 6514 2012
Festschrift in honorem Prof. Dr. GÜNTHER PETERS



Supplement 12

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Günther Peters as a teacher and friend of a late student [in German].

Recollections of Günther Peters visit to Finland in 1986 [in English].

Classification of the *Austroaeschna* group of genera including the introduction of four new subgenera (*Glaciaeschna* subgen. nov., *Montiaeschna* subgen. nov., *Occidaeschna* subgen. nov. and *Petersaeschna* subgen. nov.) (Odonata: Telephlebiidae) [in English].

Upper altitudinal limit and habitat preference of *Aeshna juncea* in the Kyrgyz Tian Shan (Odonata: Aeshnidae) [in German].

Aeshna caerulea in the Swiss Alps (Odonata: Aeshnidae) [in German].

Aeshna subarctica in the Saxon and the Bohemian Ore Mountains [in German].

Diversity in mate-guarding types within the genus *Anax* (Odonata: Aeshnidae) [in English].

Determination of the exuviae of the genus *Aeshna* in Central Europe using a matrix of real numbers (Odonata: Aeshnidae) [in German].

Description of the final instar larva of *Rhionaeschna elsia* (Calvert, 1952) (Odonata: Aeshnidae) [in English].

Rediscovery of *Somatochlora arctica* in Brandenburg, Germany (Odonata, Corduliidae) [in German].

Niche model for *Sympetrum striolatum* (Odonata: Libellulidae) [in German].

The ecological niche of *Sympetrum depressiusculum* in northwestern Germany (Odonata: Libellulidae) [in German].

The rediscovery of *Cordulegaster bidentata* in the eastern part of the Harz Mountains (Odonata: Cordulegasteridae) [in German].

Contribution to the knowledge of the genus *Ophiogomphus* in Mongolia, based on the collection of Günther Peters from the year 1964, plus the first Mongolian record of *Ophiogomphus obscurus* Bartenev, 1909 (Odonata: Gomphidae) [in German].

New colonizations of *Nehalennia speciosa* in Brandenburg and Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Germany (Odonata: Coenagrionidae) [in German].

Western Palearctic distribution patterns of dragonflies - evidence of glacial faunal relicts? The examples of *Sympetma paedisca* and *Somatochlora metallica* (Odonata: Lestidae, Corduliidae) [in German].

Three new species, *Diplacina guentherpetersi* sp. nov., *D. holgerhungeri* sp. nov. and *D. paragua* sp. nov., from the Philippines (Odonata: Libellulidae) [in English].

A new fossil dragonfly: *Paralogobora guentherpetersi* gen. nov., sp. nov. from the Early Permian of Obora, Czech Republic, and a new genus: *Oligomazon* gen. nov. for *Oligotypus makowskii* (Meganisoptera: Paralogidae) [in German].

New WDA Members 2012

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Worldwide Dragonfly Association Membership Application Form 2013

Since the beginning of 2011 Taylor and Francis Group has managed the Association's membership as well as publishing and distributing the WDA's International Journal of Odonatology. Membership benefits include free access to the odontological abstracts service posted twice a year on the WDA website [<http://ecoevo.uvigo.es/WDA>]. Those members who choose a membership option that includes a subscription to the journal will receive both online access and a print subscription.

Existing members were contacted by Victoria Gardner, Managing Editor, Taylor & Francis and by WDA Secretary in November 2011 with details of renewal procedures. New members please fill in the form below and email it to the WDA Secretary [wda.secretary@gmail.com] and Victoria Gardner, Taylor & Francis [victoria.gardner@tandf.co.uk]. You will receive information on payment procedures.

| Membership category | Currency | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|
| Membership with Journal | £ GB | \$ US | € Euro | ¥ JP |
| Sustaining (with Journal including voluntary donation) | £80 | \$124 | €100 | ¥9,700 |
| Single (with Journal) | £55 | \$85 | €69 | ¥6,700 |
| Family (with Journal) | £68 | \$105 | €85 | ¥8,200 |
| Student (with Journal) | £35 | \$54 | €44 | ¥4,200 |
| Affiliated Society (with Journal) | £70 | \$109 | €88 | ¥8,500 |
| Memberships without Journal | | | | |
| Single (without Journal) | £25 | \$39 | €31 | ¥3,000 |
| Family (without Journal) | £36 | \$56 | €45 | ¥4,400 |
| Student (without Journal) | £8 | \$12 | €10 | ¥970 |

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

I/We wish to take out membership of the Worldwide Dragonfly Association:

Membership category (from list above): _____

Subscription fee & currency: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____