

A CATALOGUE OF THE ODONATA

As has been indicated several times in SELYSIA, and in certain of my papers, I have been working for several years on a Catalogue of the Odonata of the New World. During the past year I have devoted almost all of the time which I have been able to give to the Odonata to this project. It has now reached the stage of a preliminary typescript of 200 pages (although some pages contain only titles for families or subfamilies). The original plan of a synonymic and distributional catalogue of the New World has been expanded to include all genera and type species. The format for non-American genera includes: genus name, complete citation (author, date, publication, volume and page) and distribution by faunal realms, with a listing of the type species (with author and date only); for New World species the complete citation (as listed above for genera) and distribution by areas (limiting states and provinces for the U. S. and Canada) and countries. As far as known to me, all synonyms, homonyms, nomina nuda, invalid emendations, and lapsi calami are listed.

I shall appreciate any assistance which can be furnished to make the Catalogue as accurate and complete as possible. A copy of the manuscript for any particular genus, subfamily, or family which anyone is willing to review and furnish corrections, omissions and other suggestions will be sent if the copy can be returned promptly. As September has been designated as the date for completion, the requirement of a prompt return of any manuscript sent out is readily evident. Write me at once if you wish to give me such help.

TAXONOMIC STUDIES IN PROGRESS

The following more or less extensive systematic studies are known to be in progress. In general, the investigators have much material and are not interested in receiving collections for identification from areas in which the

fauna is fairly well-known. However, if you have material which seems especially interesting or differs from published descriptions you should send details to the investigator to determine if he wishes to see it. If you have a collection from a locality in which Odonata have not been collected previously it would probably be of enough value for it to be determined for the opportunity to study new material. In any case write to find out if you have anything of interest to the student making the study.

1. The Genus *Argia* - Mrs. Leonora K. Gloyd
Museum of Zoology, Museums Building, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.
2. Gomphidae of Central Africa - R. J. F. Cammaerts, 31, rue des Beguimettes, Bruxelles, Belgium.
3. Neotropical Gomphidae - J. Belle, Onder de Beumkes 35, Velp (Gld), Netherlands.
4. Odonata of northern South America - D. C. Geijskes, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Raamsteeg 2, Leiden, Netherlands.
5. Odonata of southeast Asia, including the Malaysian, Philippine, and Oceanian faunae, but not that of China - M. A. Lieftinck, "Kalliste", Nwe. Veenendaalseweg 224, Rhenen, Netherlands.
6. Odonata of Nigeria - R. Moylan Gambles, West Warren, Warren Road, near Reading, Berks., England.
7. Cytogenetics of the Odonata - Bostjan Kiauta, Institute of Genetics, University of Utrecht, Opaalweg 20, Utrecht, Netherlands. This is included because Dr. Kiauta uses the chromosome complement of dragonflies for systematic and phylogenetic investigations. As the studies require cytological preparations from living insects he would be very glad, indeed, to have someone help him obtain material from outside of western Europe. He has a set of directions, "Methods for study of dragonfly chromosomes" which he will send on request to anyone who will co-operate by furnishing properly prepared slides.

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S E L Y S I A

A Newsletter of Odonatology

Established at
Department of Entomology
Purdue University
March, 1963

This issue compiled at
U. S. National Museum
Washington, D. C.
by B. Elwood Montgomery

Issued at intervals as available
news and information warrant

Although the statement of periodicity indicated above was designed to allow considerable elasticity in issuing this letter, it was not intended that an interval of more than three years would occur between issues! During the period since the last issue appeared (v.4, #1, June 30, 1966) my activities have changed very much, although I continued to engage in odonatological projects and meetings.

I was retired from Purdue University on June 30, 1968, but I have been given laboratory space to continue research and writing there. However, I have been away a considerable portion of the time and may be away more in the future.

My collection, library, bibliography and index to the literature of the Odonata have been deposited at the United States National Museum for an indefinite period. These are available to all qualified students of the order who may wish to study or consult them there. During the present academic year (Sept., 1969 to June, 1970) I am at Frostburg, Maryland, where I am teaching one course in the History and Literature of Biology, but am giving most of my time to the completion of the Catalogue of the Odonata. I have shuttled specimens and papers back and forth from the Museum to be used here in the intervals between my visits to Washington.

My former graduate students of the Odonata have scattered and most of them are engaged in other pursuits, although a

few of them are still quite interested in dragonflies. Two of them are fairly close to me and the three of us are continuing some studies begun when they were working with me at Purdue.

My plans for the future are somewhat indefinite, although I have plans for a continuation of my work on the Odonata for many years. I shall continue to visit the U. S. National Museum and work to build up the collections and library of separates there.

Since my retirement the issuance of SELYSIA has been impossible to continue, but Professors Westfall and Johnson of the University of Florida have offered to carry it on. Thus, this will be the last issue that I shall prepare, although I expect to make contributions to it in the future. I hope to keep in close touch with odonatological workers throughout the world. Mail to arrive before June, 1970 may be sent to me at 324 Braddock Street, Apt.4, Frostburg, Maryland 21532. After that, address me at 906 North Chauncey Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana 47906. Specimens (and I shall be glad to receive many) should be sent to me in care of the Division of Neuropteroids, Department of Entomology, U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C. 20560. After the completion of the two projects mentioned in this issue I hope to work on the compilation of a Bibliography of the Odonata. For this reason I would be glad to receive all possible papers on the Odonata. These will be added to the reprint library in the National Museum. I shall be glad to send copies of all of my papers as are still available to anyone who requests them.

Taxonomic studies (continued from page 1)

8. New World Calopterygoidea - B. Elwood Montgomery, 906 North Chauncey Avenue, West Lafayette, Indiana 47906. Most types have been studied and extensive series of many species are available. However, variability is such in many genera of this superfamily that lots of even some common species from new localities may be desirable for study. If you have such collections which you would be willing for me to study, write me describing what is available.