

METALEPTEA

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE



ORTHOPTERISTS' SOCIETY

President's Message

By **MARIA MARTA CIGLIANO**
President

Dear Society members, Another year has gone by that can be considered a year of big transitions for the Society. We went through major transitions in two of the most transcendental offices. First, we had the change of the Treasure office from Ted Cohn (adding the sad news that he recently passed away, see his obituary in this issue) to David Eades, and then the transition of the Editor office of JOR from Glenn Morris to Sam Heads. Both positions require much knowledge, time and attention to detail, which David and Sam have been accomplishing with a huge responsibility and dedication for this past year and a half (in the case of David) and a couple of months (in the case of Sam). In addition, our past president Michel Lecoq was designated the Chairman of the OS Research Grant Committee constituted by David Hunter and Karim Vahed.

Below, I have some announcements regarding JOR and our next International Congress of Orthopterology.

Journal of Orthoptera Research: Online ahead of print

We have good news regarding JOR. Now, online ahead-of-print has been implemented in JOR. Thus, authors do not need to wait for publication of the complete issue of JOR to see their papers published online. As soon as accepted manuscripts go through the final proof, the papers will be pub-



lished online and available as ahead-of-print articles through BioOne.

11th International Congress of Orthopterology

I have the pleasure to announce that the 11th International Congress of Orthopterology that will be held in Kunming, China, August 11-15, 2013, thanks to the work of Prof. Long Zhang and the local organizing committee. Registration and abstract submission are now available through the web site of the congress at: <http://ico.greatlocust.com>. For more information on this event, please read the 2nd announcement of the Congress included in this issue.

As usual, feel free to contact me (cigliano@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar) and send me your comments, ideas and suggestions for improving the Society, and how we may better serve our members.

Wishing you the best for 2013!

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The Orthopterists' Society welcomes new members

By **MARIA MARTA CIGLIANO**

President



As you know, membership is the cornerstone of keeping the Society fluid and vibrant. Thus, I am glad to welcome our new members from Germany, USA, Australia, United Kingdom, Mexico, Japan, Brazil, Singapore, Israel, Argentina, Republic of Korea, Bulgaria, and Croatia who joined the Society during 2012. I hope we fulfill your expectations as a scientific organization devoted to facilitating communication among those interested in Orthoptera and related organisms. Please consider submitting an article to *Metaleptea*, the Society newsletter, or the *Journal of Orthoptera Research* for a scientific paper. We look forward to hearing about your research in the near future.

I would also like to thank our Regional Representatives, who are doing a great job in advertising our Society.

Alina Avanesyan (alina.avanesyan@gmail.com), USA
Amber D. Bartelt (bartelt@shsu.edu), USA
Gordon N. Berg (gordon.berg@dpi.vic.gov.au), Australia
Murray Lee Eiland (murrayeiland@netscape.net), UK
Susanne Greenlee (esgreenlee@gmail.com), USA
Zhuqing He (sirius19850407@gmail.com), Japan
Georgi Hristov (georghristovhristov@gmail.com), Bulgaria
Yikweon Jang (jangy@ewha.ac.kr), Republic of Korea
Gabriel Lobregat de Oliveira (gabriellobregat@gmail.com), Brazil
Michael Maxwell (mmaxwell@nu.edu), USA
Nigel E. R. McCollum Chevalier (nermccollum@gmail.com), UK
Gideon Ney (gdhwb3@mail.missouri.edu), USA
Marcelo R. Pereira (marcelo.ribeiropereira@gmail.com), Brazil
Jesus Pimentel (urizen54@prodigy.net.mx), Mexico
Fran Rebrina (rebrinafran@gmail.com), Croatia
Darlan R. Redü (darlanredu@gmail.com), Brazil
Ronny Reimer (ronny-reimer@gmx.de), Germany
Aurora Yazmín S. Rocha-Sánchez (auro_3110@hotmail.com), Mexico
Reynaldo Rojas Villena (reagro2007@yahoo.com.ar), Argentina
Nethanel Shor (renoche@bezeqint.net), Israel
Josip Skejo (skejo.josip@gmail.com), Croatia
Rachel A. Slatyer (rslatyer@student.unimelb.edu.au), Australia
Carl Strang (wildlifer@aol.com), USA
Libby C. Swanger (swang009@umn.edu), USA
Ming Kai Tan (tmk1990@hotmail.com), Singapore
Brittany R. Tawes (btawes@gmail.com), USA
Derek A. Woller (asilid@gmail.com), USA
Amy M. Worthington (aworthin@iastate.edu), USA



Developmental Anomaly?

By **HOJUN SONG**

Editor, *Metaleptea*

The one on the left is a normal adult of *Schistocerca serialis cubense*. The one on the right is a normal last instar nymph. One in the middle is a nymph that went through partial molting and developed wings. I am not sure how often this type of developmental mistake happens, but I thought it would be interesting to share with other orthopterists.



11th International Congress of Orthopterology

11-15 Aug, 2013 Kunming Yunnan China

Orthoptera in Scientific Progress and Human Culture

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ear Orthopterists:

It is our pleasure to send you the Second Announcement of the **XIth International Congress of the Orthopterists' Society** that will be held in Kunming, Yunnan, China, 11-15 August, 2013.

The meeting will be held in the Hotel of Yunnan University, situated at the campus of the University. The theme of this congress is "*Orthoptera in Scientific Progress and Human Culture*". We are planning an exciting scientific program to share ideas and the latest findings in the various fields of Orthopterology, and to explore fundamental scientific research regarding all aspects of the biology of these insects, from ecology and taxonomy to physiology, phylogeny, genomics, biogeography, phylogeography, behavior, and management of locusts and grasshoppers.

Kunming, the capital city of Yunnan Province in the South of China, is in the centre of the Yunnan-Guizhou Plateau, located at an elevation of 1,900 m above sea level. Yunnan has some of the most magical and diverse scenery in all of China, and is home to a third of China's ethnic minorities. The province is also home to the nation's greatest number of species of flora and fauna. It is known for its mild climate year-round. Do plan to stay a few extra days to explore other sites in Yunnan during the post-conference tour that will be organized to Dali, Lijiang, and Shangri-La. We look forward to seeing you in Kunming, and offering you an informative conference and a warm Chinese experience.

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Sincerely yours,
LONG ZHANG
MARIA MARTA CIGLIANO

The 11th International Congress of Orthopterology

Organized by:

The International Orthopterists' Society

Co-organized by:

China Agricultural University (CAU)

Yunnan Academy of Agricultural Sciences (YAAS)

Yunnan University (YU)

Yunnan Provincial Society of Microbiology (YSM)

Yunnan Provincial Society of Entomology (YSE)

Congress website:

<http://ico.greatlocust.com>

* The official language of the congress is English.

Registration Information

	Online Registration		On-site Registration
	Before July 1, 2013	July 2 - August 10, 2013	August 11-14, 2013 (cash only)
Delegate	USD300(RMB1800)	USD320(RMB2000)	USD320(RMB2000)
Companion	USD220(RMB1200)	USD260(RMB1500)	USD260(RMB1500)
Student	USD220(RMB1200)	USD260(RMB1500)	USD260(RMB1500)

* Registration fee includes:

1. Three lunch meals, five dinner meals, including the gala dinner, tea and coffee breaks.
2. Transfer from and to the airport.

There are **three** alternative ways for registration:

1. *Online registration*: Please visit the congress website: <http://ico.greatlocust.com> and follow the instruction for online registration. Only USD will be accepted to be paid with your credit card (VISA, MasterCard or JCB). Other types of currency can not be used in this system.
2. *On-site registration*: Fees on-site must be paid in USD or RMB, and on-site only currency to be accepted. No personal checks are acceptable for the payments.
3. *Bank transfer*: Please visit the congress website for more information.

The congress will be held at **Hotel of Yunnan University** located at center of Kunming city, near to Green Lake (Cuihu) Park. It will take 40min Taxi from Changshui International Airport to the Hotel. You may check air-flight information on the website: <http://www.ynairport.com/>. Our on-site information desk will be at the Science Hall Building, and meeting rooms will be at the second floor of Science Hall Building at the campus of Yunnan University.

Symposia & Organizers

1. Orthoptera Conservation

Michael Samways (samways@sun.ac.za), University of Stellenbosch, South Africa

Shuguang Hao (haosg@ioz.ac.cn), Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, China

2. Orthoptera Systematics

Hojun Song (song@ucf.edu), University of Central Florida, USA

Yuan Huang (yuanh@snnu.edu.cn), Shanxi Normal University, Xian, China

3. Taxonomy of Orthoptera: How to Consider Species Concepts

Battal Ciplak (ciplak@akdeniz.edu.tr), Faculty of Art & Science, Antalya, Turkey

Daochuan Zhang (daochuanzhang@yahoo.com.cn), Hebei University, China

4. Orthoptera Sexual Behavior and Sexual Selection

Douglas Whitman (dwhitm@ilstu.edu), Illinois State University, USA

Enbo Ma (maenbo2003@sxu.edu.cn), Shanxi University, Taiyuan, China

5. Orthoptera Communication: From Model Organisms to Comparative Studies

Klaus Riede (k.riede.zfmk@uni-bonn.de), Museum Alexander Koenig, Germany

Wangpeng Shi (wpshi@cau.edu.cn), China Agricultural University, Beijing, China

6. Grasshopper and Locust Control: Progress or Constant Renewal?

Alexandre Latchinsky (Latchini@uwyo.edu), University of Wyoming, USA

Puyun Yang (yangpy@agri.gov.cn), Chinese National Agricultural Technology Extension Center, Beijing China

7. Orthopteran Functional Genomics: Big Genomes and Big Challenges

Greg Sword (gasword@tamu.edu), Texas A&M University, USA

Darron Cullen (dac56@cam.ac.uk), University of Cambridge, UK

8. Orthoptera in Culture & Education

Charles Bomar (BomarC@uwstout.edu), University of Wisconsin-Stout, USA

Qimiao Shao (shaoqimiao@hotmail.com), Bayer Company, Shanghai, China

Conference Workshops

Orthoptera Species File online (<http://orthoptera.speciesfile.org/>)

Maria Marta Cigliano (cigliano@fcnym.unlp.edu.ar), Universidad Nacional de La Plata, Argentina

David Eades (dceades@illinois.edu), University of Illinois, USA

Important Dates

- July 1, 2013: Earlybird deadline for discounted registration
- July 10, 2013: Deadline for abstract submission
- August 10, 2013: Deadline for online registration
- August 11-15, 2013: Kunming International Congress of Orthopterology

Local Organizing Committee

- **Honorary Chairman**
Xiangchu YIN, University of Hebei, Baoding, China
- **Chairman**
Long ZHANG, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China
- **Vice Chairmen**
Le KANG, Chinese Academy of Science, Beijing, China
Aidong CHEN, Institute of Plant Protection, Yunnan Agricultural Academy, Kunming, China
- **Committee members**
Enbo MA, College of Life Science, Shanxi University, Taiyuan, China
Shuguang HAO, Institute of Zoology, Academy of Science, Beijing, China
Wangpeng SHI, Department of Entomology, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China
Shengdou CHEN, National Center for Agricultural Technology Extension, Beijing, China
Enlin ZHU, Department of Plant Protection, Ministry of Agriculture of China, Beijing, China
Puyun YANG, National Center for Agricultural Technology Extension, Beijing, China
Yuan HUANG, Shanxi Normal University, Xian, China
Daochuan ZHANG, University of Hebei, Hebei province, China
- **Secretary General**
Zongqi CHEN, Institute of Plant Protection, Yunnan Agricultural Academy, Kunming, China
Binyan ZHANG, Yunnan University, Kunming, China
- **Vice-secretary General**
Qian GAO, China Agricultural University, Beijing, China



Best Poster and Oral Presentation Awards

The award will be presented during the Closing Ceremony of the Congress presented during the Closing Ceremony of the Congress.

Purpose

The purpose of the Best Poster and Presentation Award is to encourage students and young scientists to display outstanding presentations and posters during the ICO2013. These awards are intended to reward the presenters for the extra effort it takes to prepare a hallmark presentation.

Eligibility

The candidates for the prize-winner

should be students and young scientists who received their Ph.D. within the last four years.

Criteria

The award panel will consist of three Orthopterists' Society members with international expertise on different aspects of Orthopterology.

The criteria for the Best Oral Presentation and Poster Award:

- Clarity of submitted abstract
- Significant contribution to the study of Orthoptera fauna
- Importance of the work
- Novelty of the work

- Design of the poster and of the oral presentation

* Poster and oral presentation must have been exhibited and given during the ICO2013.

The award consists of:

- An amount of 500USD for first prize (for one person), 200USD for the second prize (each of two persons)
- A certificate
- An inscribed plaque



Correspondent regarding ICO2013

Miss Qian Gao
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No.2 Yuanmingyuan West Road Haidian District, Beijing 100193, China
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13521781090 (Dr. Long Zhang)
15825288855 (Dr. Aidong Chen)
Email: gaoqian5436@yeah.net; locust@cau.edu.cn

For more information, please visit <http://ico.greatlocust.com>.

Winter 2012 Orthopterists' Society Research Grant Funded

By **MICHEL LECOQ**
Chair, Research Committee
lecoq@cirad.fr

Dear Orthopterists,
As all of you probably know I was deeply saddened to learn at the end of last year, about the disappearance of Professor T. Cohn, our former President for two terms, our past Treasurer, and Chairman of the Research Grants Committee. Ted was so dedicated to the Society's life and has always provided unwavering support to its research grants. Our President asked me to continue his task as chair of the Research Grant Committee. I hope to fulfill this task with as much skill and dedication that Ted has done it for so

many years.

This winter, the Research Grants Committee received eight grant applications from six countries (Australia, Bulgaria, China, Great Britain, Japan, United States). The Committee, constituted by David Hunter (Australia), Karim Vahed (UK) and myself, has approved and funded 4 proposals. The following grants were made in amounts from US\$800 to \$1,000:

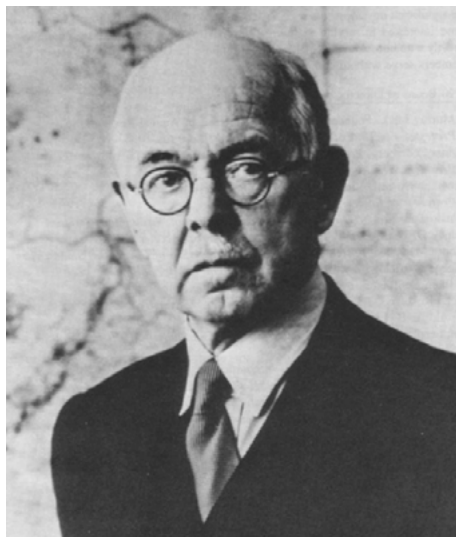
- Rachel Slatyer** (Australia) - Getting cold in a warmer world: snow cover and egg hatching success in an Australian alpine grasshopper.
Erica Kistner (USA) - How climate

change may impact disease dynamics ?

- Peter Moran** (UK) - Genetic architecture of male calling song and female preference in *Teleogryllus* Crickets.
Yinwei You (China) - Exploration of report genes for detecting the response of odorant receptors to specific odorants in Orthopteran insects.

Once again, income earmarked for research grants is limited, and we encourage all our orthopterists' colleagues to contribute to this program. The call for 2013 will be announce in the next issue of *MetalepTEA*.

Sir Boris Uvarov's Award in Applied Acridology 2013



General status

The award bears the name of the Father of Modern Acridology, the famous Russian-English orthopterist Boris Petrovich Uvarov (1888 – 1970). This award, sponsored by the Association for Applied Acridology International (AAAI), and administered by the Orthopterists' Society, recognizes outstanding contributions which have a direct impact on both, the theory and practice of locust and/or grasshopper management.

The award consists of:

- An amount that varies depending upon the interest earned from the endowment
- An inscribed plaque
- A certificate

The award will be presented at the 11th International Congress of Orthopterology, the next Orthopterists' Society International Meeting; however, the award will not provide any financial support for the recipient to attend the meeting. A short bio of the award recipient will be published in the newsletter of the Society, *Metalepthea*.

Nomination Requirements

Nominations may be submitted by

any person and/or organization. Membership in the Orthopterists' Society is not required. Self-nominations are accepted. Previous recipients of this award are not eligible for future nominations. Any candidate nominated, but not selected, is eligible for re-nomination(s).

Nomination packages must include a CV of the nominee (10 size font, 5 pages maximum, including publications) and a letter of recommendation specifically stating the nominee's:

- Significant contributions to the theory of locust and/or grasshopper management in the form of publications, research grants, student advising, and presentations at national and international scientific forums;
- Evidence of major impact into the practice of locust and/or grasshopper management at national or international level.

Electronic Submission Requirements
All nomination packages must be submitted electronically (paper nominations will not be accepted). Acceptable file formats include: DOC, RTF, and PDF.

Deadline

Application/nomination packages must be received by the Executive Director of the Association for Applied Acridology International, Dr. Alexandre Latchinsky (Latchini@uwyo.edu), before May 1st, 2013, who will confirm receipt of nomination packages, and also notify nominators of any problems with nomination package files within a week after the deadline.

Evaluation procedures

Nominees/candidates will be judged by an award panel consisting of three Orthopterists' Society members with international expertise in both theoretical and practical locust and/or grasshopper management plus 2 previous recipients of the award. The panel will be selected by the Executive Board of the Orthopterists' Society.

Notification

The President of the Orthopterists' Society will notify all candidates and their nominators, where applicable, with the results of their application approximately one month after the application/nomination submission deadline.



Nymphal band of Schistocerca piceifrons, Isla Socorro, Mexico (photo credit: Hojun Song)

In Memoriam: Peter T. Haskell

(February 21, 1923 - September 26, 2012)

By **MEIR PAUL PENER**

Department of Cell
and Developmental Biology
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
Jerusalem, Israel

P

eter Thomas Haskell was born on 21st of February 1923 and died on 26th of September 2012. He bequeathed his body to medical research.

Peter was the Deputy Director of the Anti-Locust Research Centre in London, from 1959 to 1962, then Director from 1962 to June 1971, when the Anti-Locust Research Centre merged with other units of the UK Overseas Development Administration, namely, the Termite Research Unit, the Tropical Pesticides Research Unit and the Tropical Pesticides Headquarters and Information Unit. The newly formed institute was named "Centre for Overseas Pest Research" (COPR) and Peter was its Director till 1983 when he retired from civil service.

Peter's contributions to entomology in general and to acridology in particular ran along two, often parallel, lines: direct achievements in scientific research and achievements in science administration.

He studied at the Imperial College, University of London, and received B. Sc. degree, then Ph. D. degree in 1955 from this University. Sound production and sound reception related to behavior and ecology of four grasshopper species in Britain, *Stenobothrus lineatus* (Panzer), *Omocestes viridulus* (L.), *Chorthippus parallelus* (Zetterstedt) and *Chorthippus brunneus* (Thunberg), constituted the subject of his Ph. D. thesis. The findings of the thesis and follow up studies resulted in publication of research articles in first class journals, like *Nature*, *Journal of Experimental Biology* and *Animal Behaviour*. Peter did not limit himself to sound production and sound reception in

acridids; he also studied acoustics of lepidopteran and heteropteran insects. His work culminated in his book, "Insect Sounds", published in 1961, when he was already the Deputy Director of the Anti-Locust Research Centre. This publication was the first comprehensive text book on insect acoustics. In spite of his administrative duties as Director of the Anti-Locust Research Centre, then of the COPR, he remained an internationally well-recognized leading expert on insect acoustics and wrote a chapter on sound production in a six volume series, second edition of "The Physiology of Insecta" (ed. by M. Rockstein), published in 1974. In its time, this book series constituted the most comprehensive up to date publication in insect physiology.

Peter did not neglect direct scientific research even after becoming Director. His research was focused on locusts, their movement and flight behavior, feeding behavior and sensory biology of the desert locust, *Schistocerca gregaria* (Forskål) and the migratory locust, *Locusta migratoria* (L.). The articles published from these studies, often with coauthors, should be regarded as important contributions to neurobiological basis of insect, especially of locust, behavior. At its time this topic

was connoted as electrophysiology. Peter Haskell edited in 1966 a volume on "Insect Behaviour" that was the Proceedings of the 3rd Symposium of the Royal Entomological Society of London.; the volume included an article on "Flight Behaviour" by Peter. Before that, in 1962, he served as a coeditor of a booklet on "Biological Acoustics", Proceedings of the 7th Symposium of the Zoological Society of London, held at the Regent's Park in London on the 3rd of May 1961.

The transformation of the Anti-Locust Research Centre to COPR, extended research on many non-acridid subjects, like termites, armyworms, even vertebrate pests, vector control, pest control and pesticide application methods, as well as effects of pesticides on the environment. However, COPR under the Directorship of Peter Haskell remained faithful to acridology.

Research was carried out on control of locusts and grasshoppers, acridid taxonomy, feeding behavior and food



Peter T. Haskell; 39-years-old, when he became Director of the Anti-Locust Research Centre (photo provided by M.P. Pener)

selection of acridids, reproductive behavior, neurophysiology of locust movements including flight behavior and study of various species including *Chortoicetes terminifera* (Walker) the Australian plague locust, *Zonocerus variegatus* (L.) in Nigeria and the spur-throated locust, *Austracris guttulosa* (Walker). COPR surveyed locust and grasshoppers in Sudan, locusts and grasshoppers of economic importance in Thailand. Grasshopper survey and bush cricket control in Ethiopia constituted another project. Meteorology was studied in attempt to understand movements of locust swarms. COPR published in 1972 the volume of the "Proceedings of the International Study Conference on the Current and Future Problems of Acridology", held in July 1970 in London, marking the silver jubilee of the Anti-Locust Research Centre.

Perhaps the most important action of COPR in relation to acridology was the publication of volume 2 of Uvarov's book on "Grasshoppers and Locusts". Uvarov died in 1970, but the COPR, under the Directorship of Peter Haskell, reconstructed the volume from Uvarov's handwritten manuscripts and notes.

The Anti-Locust Research Centre, then COPR, conducted training courses for personnel from developing countries often with special reference to desert locust control. The Library of COPR possessed the most comprehensive collection of articles on all aspects of acridology. The Desert Locust Information Service, a monthly assessment of desert locust situation, was operated up to June 1973 by COPR under an agreement with the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the UN.

COPR maintained research and/or administrative collaborations with many UK based and international organizations. In relation to locusts, the international contacts included the Desert Locust Control Committee of the FAO, the Desert Locust Control Organization for Eastern Africa, the

International Red Locust Control Organization for Central and Southern Africa and the Organisation Internationale Contre le Criquet Migrateur Africain.

As the role of COPR was extended to research and control of many pests other than locusts and grasshoppers, Peter Haskell acted as a consultant to FAO, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) and to the World Health Organization (WHO). He served the Ministry of Overseas Development and the Overseas Development Administration of the UK as the Chief Adviser on Pest Control from 1971 to his retirement from civil service. He also served many international, UK government and academic committees. Peter Haskell was a member of the Board of Governors of the International Centre for Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE), Nairobi, Kenya. Despite these activities, he did not forget locusts and grasshoppers but his acridological publications were focused on overviews on locust research and locust control, sometimes at semi-popular level.

For his services for overseas pest research and pest control, Peter Thomas Haskell was appointed a Companion of the Order of St Michael and St George (CMG) of the UK in 1975. This order is used to honor persons who have rendered important services to Commonwealth or foreign countries. The order has a chapel in the St Paul Cathedral in London where a memorial service to Peter Haskell will take place in February 2013. Peter was presented with the prestigious Joseph van den Brande International Scientific Prize at the 34th International Symposium on Crop Protection in Ghent, Belgium in 1982.

Peter Haskell's relations with the Cardiff University (then the University of Wales, Cardiff) started in the 1960s as a regular visitor participating in teaching insect behavior. In 1973 he was awarded of an Honorary

Professorship by this University. After retirement from the COPR, in 1983, he moved to Cardiff and joined the School of Pure and Applied Biology as Director of the Cleppa Park Field Research Station. He developed, participated and led several large scale research projects. His interest in Cardiff was focused on pest management and he edited several books on the subject: "Pesticide Application: Principles and Practice" in 1985, "Research Collaboration in European IPM Systems" in 1992 and "Community-Based and Environmentally Safe Pest Management" in 1993.

Peter T. Haskell retired from Cardiff University in 1993. However, he did not stop scientific activity. In 1998 he edited (with P. McEwen as coeditor) a 428-page-volume on "Ecotoxicology – Pesticides and Beneficial Organisms", published by Kluwer Academic Publishers.

I met Peter in 1964 when I spent a year of post-doctoral research at the Anti-Locust Research Centre, London. He treated me at equal level as a scientist. I learned later that I was not an exception. He paid attention to science, not to scientific hierarchy, taking wide interest in research and in scientific problems. In 1966 the FAO of the UN delegated him to visit The Hebrew University of Jerusalem as an expert on insect acoustics and I visited COPR many times, including a ten-month sabbatical. Over the years a friendship with Peter and his family evolved.

Peter Haskell possessed a great advantage that constituted the basis of his scientific career and achievements. He was exceptionally rapid in grasping the essence of a scientific information, project or problem. This outstanding ability allowed him to be involved in research, as well as in many different scientific administrative and advisory activities at the same time.

Peter Thomas Haskell is survived by his wife, Aileen, and his son Jonathan from a former marriage.

In Memoriam: Theodore J. Cohn

(March 10, 1930 - November 25, 2012)

By **MARIA MARTA CIGLIANO**

President

The Orthopterists' Society lost one of its prominent officers recently. Dr. Theodore J. ("Ted") Cohn passed away on November 25, 2012 at age 82, after a prolonged illness in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Ted was an expert on katydids and grasshoppers and a long-term adjunct curator of insects in the University of Michigan, Museum of Zoology in Ann Arbor where he worked alongside Theodore Hubbell and Irving Cantrall. Ted received his Ph.D. at the University of Michigan in 1961 and served on the faculty of the San Diego State University from 1964-1993, retiring as Professor Emeritus of Biology.

Upon retirement, Ted and his wife Jean, another UMMZ doctoral graduate, split their time between Ann Arbor (May-December) and San Diego (rest of the year) until ill health in recent years forced them to relocate permanently in Ann Arbor. Despite



Ted in Turkey during ICO 2012 (photo credit: Maria Marta Cigliano)

severe sight impairment and the loss of Jean in December 2011, Ted still went to work almost every day. He was determined to complete a large collaborative study on *Dichopetala* (Tettigoniidae: Phaneropterinae). He successfully achieved this goal and the manuscript is currently being prepared for publication.

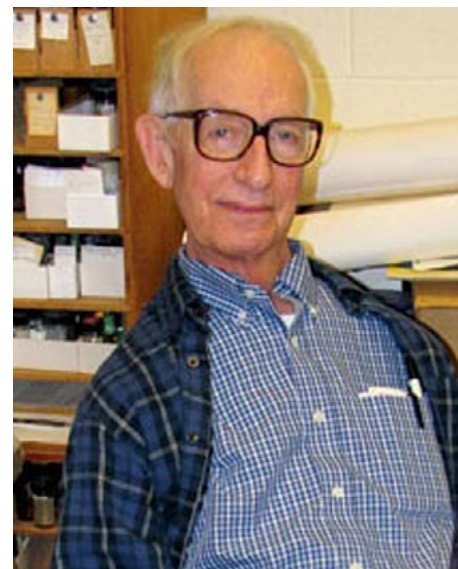
Ted was the President of our Society during two terms (1997-2005) and our active Treasurer since 1999 until 2011, but he continued working as the Chairman of the Orthopterists' Society Research Grants program as well as serving as a member of the Orthoptera Species File committee until his death.

Ted was a tireless supporter and an outstanding leader of the Orthopterists' Society. He selflessly dedicated his time, enthusiasm, and financial assistance to the Society. When we had doubts about our financial capacity to realize something related to the Society, he always answered "Don't worry about our financial position, be imaginative, and I'll find the money". And he was always able to find an 'anonymous donor' who was willing to solve the situation. He never mentioned who the anonymous donor was, but of course it was him.

Many young orthopterists received his support, encouragement and unconditional help in their first steps of their careers in many ways, and I can be counted among them.

I was very fortunate to know him since I was a Postdoc student and then as a Regional Representative, the President-elect and later as the President of the Orthopterists' Society. As such, I have witnessed his generosity, his kindness, his standards of excellence and his desire to take the Society to the highest levels.

Ted was very opinionated and deeply enjoyed when fruitful dis-



Ted Cohn at UMMZ (photo credit: Janet Bell)

cussions were generated in the OS meetings. He commented about every presentation and got excited when new research lines were undertaken by young scientists in orthopterology. Our meetings just won't be the same without having Ted commenting on just about every paper presented.

I will never forget the long and pleasurable conversations on grasshopper speciation and evolution we had in his office after lunch, drinking some 'real coffee' as he said about his own freshly prepared one, when I once went to visit him at Ann Arbor. Ted could become infuriated by running back and forth in dichotomous identification keys and not finding analogous characters mentioned in verbose species descriptions. He was a strong advocate of tabulated descriptions. As a matter of fact, he kept sheets with elaborated tables in his drawer in the collection in Ann Arbor, with neat illustrations for the different character states of the different species.

I will keep forever in my mind when he used to sing some opera arias with Albina, Carlos Carbonell's wife, during the post-conference tours of

the OS International Congresses.

Our Society is indebted to him for so many things, beyond what we can imagine. The Orthopterists' Society has lost one of his major leaders and supporters.

Personally, I will miss his wonderful human qualities, his kindness and his great enthusiasm for everything he did.

***Editor's Note:** There are two other obituaries of Ted Cohn available online: http://www.lsa.umich.edu/ummz/news_events/newsDetails.asp?ID=103 and <http://swheads.org/2012/11/28/in-memorial-theodore-j-ted-cohn/>. A memorial for Ted was held at the UMMZ on November 30, 2012.



Ted at the Orthoptera Range (room 2080) at the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology. From left to right, Abby Alvarez, Holger Braun, Ted Cohn, Dan Swanson and Sam Heads (photo credit: Sam Heads)

Buried Treasure: A Tale of My Visit with Cohn and Hubbell

By **DEREK A. WOLLER**
University of Central Florida

When I was asked to contribute something to this issue I was unsure for a while on what I wanted to write about. However, the decision was made for me when I found out, as I am sure many of you are aware, that we recently lost a long-standing member of the Orthoptera community: Ted Cohn (Fig. 1). I had the pleasure of finally meeting Ted this past May after hearing much about the man from my advisor, Hojun Song. I had also previously read some of his papers and it's always a neat experience to meet someone whom you have only gotten to know through print. I made the journey from Florida all the way up to the Insect Division of the University of Michigan's Museum of Zoology (UMMZ) on a quest for, believe it or not, grasshoppers from Florida, which Theodore Hubbell (1897-1989) had collected in abundance during his

many sojourns through my state more than half a century ago. I also had high hopes that I would be able to poke through Hubbell's old notes and such to see what treasures I could uncover for my Ph.D. project (more on this later).

When I arrived, Ted warmly welcomed me into his entomological domain, gave me a seat at his table, and immediately began to regale me with stories and anecdotes of all sorts, which ranged from his strong opinions on how a taxonomic paper should be written (agreed!) to tales of his younger days in the field (remarkable!). Most importantly, Ted, one of



Figure 1. Ted Cohn (left) and Derek A. Woller (right) at the UMMZ in May, 2012. (photo credit: Derek A. Woller)

Hubbell's former students, provided me with a direct link with the past I came to find and answered any and all Hubbell questions I had for him and, believe me, after digging through Hub's (as he liked to be called) files, I had questions aplenty that only someone who was there could answer. Ted, you will be missed, and, so I dedicate this article to you because I am quite



Figure 2. *Melanoplus tequestae*. Photo by Derek A. Woller.

sure you would agree with me when I implore all of you to make a journey to an institution outside your own.

You should do this not only for a change of pace and a chance to make new friends (like Ted), but also to locate first-hand the wealth of data that is often locked away in old filing cabinets, wasting away on dusty bookshelves, and hidden within crumbling storage bins (no worries, UMMZ, I am engaging in much hyperbole). Many of these items have never been (and may never be) catalogued and fewer have been transformed into digital format. Naturally, I do not blame the institutions that are sitting atop such riches for failing to provide them to the rest of us because time is, of course, money and making even just a single field notebook available on-line could take hours that do not exist in a normal business day. Thus, to illuminate the past, you will probably have to use your own present to do it the old-fashioned way: in person. Using this tried and true method I will devote (almost) the rest of my writing to discussing all the nifty things I was able to uncover while visiting the UMMZ's insect collection.

Before I dive in to my findings, I should probably briefly explain my fascination with Hubbell. My dissertation is focused on examining the relationships of a complex of mostly-endemic (to southeastern U.S. scrub habitats, mainly in Florida) grasshoppers (Acrididae, Melanoplinae) with similar external morphology belonging to what Hubbell primarily described as the Puer Group (comprised

of 4 subgroups) (Hubbell 1932) (Fig. 2). Beyond lumping them together based on their morphology and going into some detail about the genitalia of the males, Hubbell was never able to find his way back to this particular project despite ample evidence I uncovered of his numerous attempts to do so, but, in 1989, Mark Deyrup, a research biologist at the Archbold Biological Station in Florida, attempted to jumpstart it again with an interesting paper describing the high numbers of endemic arthropods to be found in scrub habitats. Scrub is often associated with higher elevations as they are typically found atop ridges, which most likely acted as refugia during sea level rises, making scrub one of the oldest ecosystems in the southeast (Deyrup 1989). It was this paper that led me to my current project as well as to Hubbell who was, by all accounts, both verbal and written, an adventurer at heart and a consummate entomologist. Therefore,

I figured (rightly, it seems) that a trip to his academic home in Michigan would yield great insight into his thought processes and assist me in my own unraveling of the biological mysteries that surround the Puer Group (and there are many!).

When I first arrived at the UMMZ for a three-day stay, I took a look around, found almost all of the specimens I had come to borrow, and then thought: "now what?". Little did I know that I would actually end up wanting to stay longer once I started to pore through Hubbell's amazing things. For instance, through the assistance of their insect collection manager, Mark O'Brien, we tracked down some of Hubbell's original maps from his various Florida expeditions. In addition to many giant ones from the 1930's with numerous field notes on them (Fig. 3), we also came across some folding ones from various decades, the type people usually bought for their cars in the "old days" (author's note: I still use some of these, so do not feel too old). Many of these latter maps are in great shape and shows lots of unusual Florida attractions, many of which no longer exist. I liked one of the maps so much, purchased in 1954 from the now-defunct oil company, Gulf (remember the orange ball, anyone?), that I framed it and hung it in our lab to remind me of the trip and the importance of preserving the past.



Figure 3. 1938 Florida map from one of Hubbell's expeditions. Map scan by Kevin L. Woller.

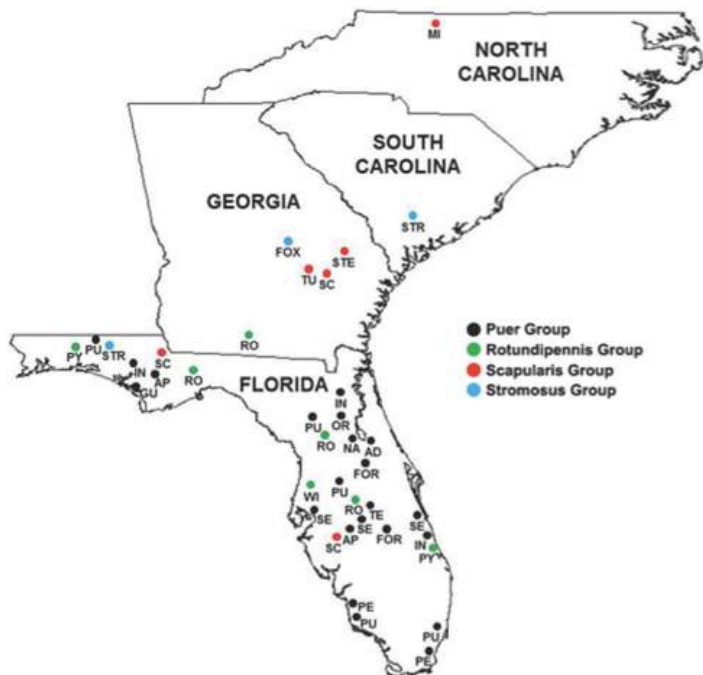


Figure 4. Centralized locality map for the 4 subgroups of the Puer Group (*Melanoplus*) (20 species). Each dot represents the middle point of a cluster of specimens of that species.

I had some inkling of what I might find in Hubbell's things, but I was not prepared for some of the confusing information I would find. A great example of this was found within the synoptic collection that Hubbell put together for the Puer Group. While this collection is a wonderful resource because it gives me unparalleled insight into his definition of each species (something that can often be extracted from a printed article, but the inclusion of a synoptic collection created by one of the definers makes the process of understanding species that much easier), I was taken a bit aback because it included two species of which there is no mention anywhere else, notes or otherwise: *Melanoplus gagei* and *M. friaufi*. At least in terms of "my" hoppers, Hubbell had a tendency to come up with new species (or potential ones) and not have the time to follow through with an official description, but I also found notes or multiple specimens to support these ideas. However, in this case, all I have are a single pair (male and female) for each species. Very curious...

Speaking of specimens, Hubbell managed to collect well over 3,000

photos for my notes. Near the type drawers I came across a small box containing a large number of slides and I decided to look through them on a whim. To my delight, I discovered quite a few pertained to Florida geological history (diagrams of Pleistocene sea level rise hypotheses) and others were directly linked to the Puer Group, so Mark kindly scanned them into digital format for me (Fig. 5).

My last stop on the Hubbell was spending many hours digging through the numerous file cabinets housing Hubbell's notes to see what relevant information I could unearth and I came away with a large stack of (photocopied)

specimens, which I borrowed and spent many hours doing my best to georeference in order to construct one of most complete Puer Group maps to date (Fig. 4). This collection is the largest one in existence of these minute grasshoppers, which reveals Hubbell's passion for them. The UMMZ collection also contains 5 Puer Group types, of which I took some time examining and taking

papers. Hubbell kept very good notes on most of the projects he worked on throughout his life, although I suspect there are more to be found because I still lack certain things, such as rough drafts of his many papers. I did find out recently that the Bentley Historical Library at the University of Michigan has an extensive archive of more of Hubbell's things, so I may need to head back for a visit (<http://tinyurl.com/beub2zt>). Among his assorted written odds and ends I found drafts of various talks he gave later in his life that contained overviews of the Puer Group and the things it could potentially tell us about evolution, speciation, and biogeography, to name a few. Additionally, I found several correspondence letters between Hubbell and some of the well-known entomologists of his day, like Wilbur Enns (the museum at the University of Missouri-Columbia, my B.S. alma mater, is named after him) and H.F. Strohecker, who contributed much to the Orthoptera field. Just as with meeting Ted in person, I felt connected to the past in a way that just does

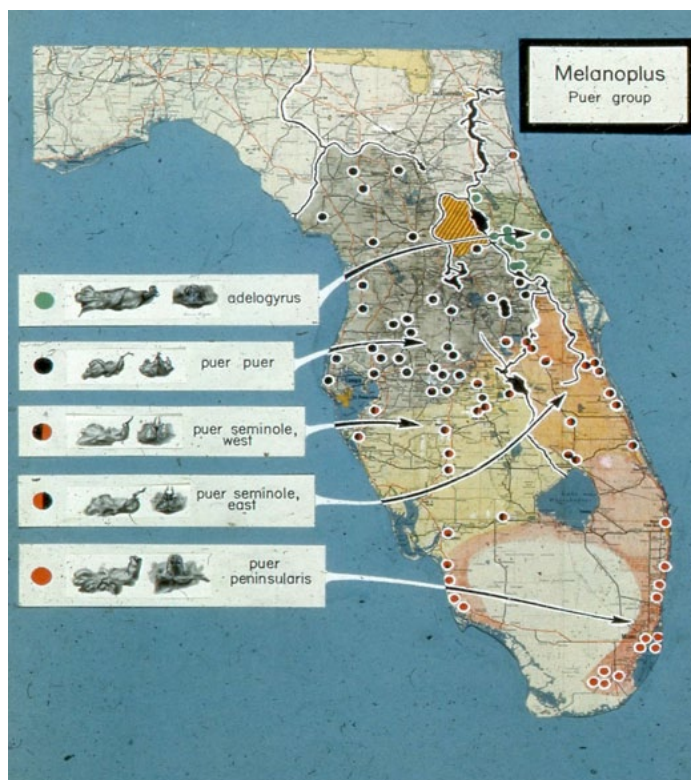


Figure 5. Hubbell-created map showing the locations of some members of the Puer Group, sensu stricto.

not come across in scientific papers because I was able to “see” what they might have been like as people and not just names attached to a species or a publication.

Ted may be gone, but the memories of him are not, nor is the scientific footprint he left behind. My hope is that all of Ted’s notes, drafts, field notebooks, maps, etc. can somehow be made available just as Hubbell’s were to me, so that when they are needed they can be accessed with

ease. I am truly glad I had the chance to meet him and I want to thank him again for being an accommodating host. I also wish to thank Dan Swanson, Ted’s assistant, for being very helpful, Mark O’Brien for the many tours, specimens, and collection access, Lacy Knowles for allowing me to visit, and Hojun Song for making the visit possible (ie. money). And last, but certainly not least, thanks must go to Dr. Hubbell for initiating my project so long ago; it is a hum-

bling feeling to have his long-burning torch passed to me and I hope to carry it in new directions until I can pass it to another.

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A knowledge base for Acridomorpha (Orthoptera) of North West Africa hosted at the “Museum des scientifiques” of the Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle, Paris

By ALAIN LOUVEAUX,
CHRISTIANE AMÉDÉGNATO, SIMON POULAIN
& LAURE DESUTTER-GRANDCOLAS

Muséum national d’Histoire naturelle
Département Systématique et évolution

The last systematic synthesis for caeliferan Orthoptera from North-West Africa was Chopard’s 1943 book “Les Orthoptéroïdes de l’Afrique du Nord”, which is now out of date. To facilitate studies of northern African Caelifera, including potentially invasive species (C.O.P.R., 1982), we have built an updated internet assessment of the diversity of the locusts and grasshoppers in North-West Africa, with identification facilities. It provides an easy access to relevant information about Acridomorpha from Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia and Western Sahara for anyone interested in this group of insects or by the region under investigation, such as professionals in species conservation and natural environments, anti-locust staffs eager to preserve the non-target fauna, students in entomology and ecologists who are looking for taxonomic, photographic, distributional and bibliographic information.

We have listed 241 species of Acridomorpha (Orthoptera) that belong to

five families: Charilaidae, Pamphigidae, Pyrgomorphidae, Acrididae and

Version 1.1.0 (08/X/2012)

Orthoptères Acridomorpha de l'Afrique du Nord-Ouest

MUSEUM NATIONAL D'HISTOIRE NATURELLE

Accueil

- Accueil
- Introduction
- Identification
- Index des taxons
- Références
- Abréviations
- Auteurs
- Remerciements

"Acrinwafrika" est une base de connaissance dont le but est de faire un bilan actualisé de la richesse et de la diversité de la faune acridienne au Maghreb.

Deux approches complémentaires sont proposées:
Un menu "Identification" permet à l'aide du logiciel Xper2 d'identifier les spécimens jusqu'à l'espèce ou au genre.

Un menu "Index des taxons" donne accès aux fiches descriptives, comprenant une liste de caractères clés de reconnaissance, des photos et des cartes de répartition.

Les spécimens photographiés proviennent de la collection du Muséum de Paris. Des photos de 3 à 4 M pixels en 92 ppp sont consultables dans [les bases de données des collections](#).

Lorsque vous faites référence à ce site, s'il vous plaît utilisez le format suivant:
Louveaux A., C. Amédégno, S.Poulain & L. Desutter-Grandcolas. Orthoptères Acridomorpha de l'Afrique du Nord-Ouest. Version [date de consultation].
<<http://acrinwafrika.mnhn.fr/>>.

Ce site web est en développement. Si vous constatez un quelconque problème, n'hésitez pas à contacter l'administrateur.

Mentions légales | Contacts

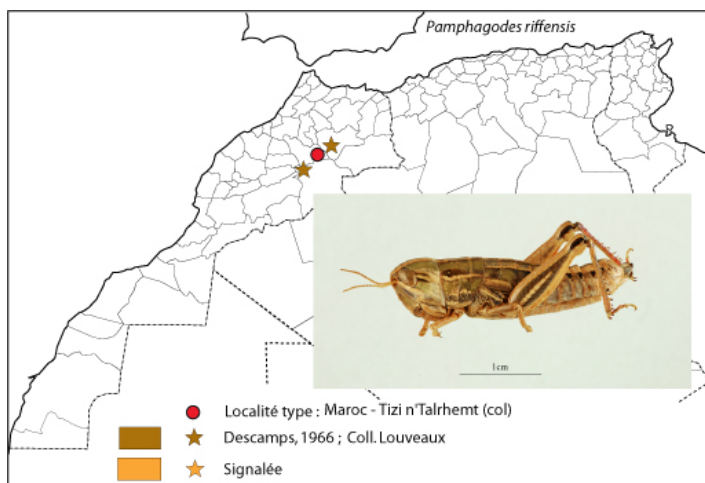


Figure 1. An example of distribution map included in the knowledge base for *Acridomorpha* (Orthoptera) of North West Africa

Dericorythidae (Eades et al. 2011). Diagnoses are given for families, genera, species and subspecies. They are based on the original descriptions of the taxa or taxonomic revisions, and include mostly identification criteria useful for field studies. These data were integrated into computer-assisted identification software. Identification process progresses as a list of questions / multiple-choice answers. Identification descriptors are not organized into a hierarchy, contrary to conventional dichotomous key, and responses can be modulated by the logical operators such as AND, OR, NOT. The ever-present help menu shows photos, drawings and definitions. In the final diagnosis, a link leads back to the full description sheet of the proposed species.

Species description sheets include a list of diagnostic key features, size array, a distribution map, main bibliography and photos 800 pixels wide, with a resolution of 92 ppi (Fig. 1). Male and female specimens, whenever possible types or paratypes, were photographed with a size scale. For a more detailed examination of the type or paratype specimens, these photos are available in a larger size (2500 pixels wide and 92 ppi resolution) in the MNHN Orthoptera collection (<http://coldb.mnhn.fr/Consultation?ajoutCritere=8>). Distribution maps are documented at the

department level (i.e., wilaya in local term) and separated by different color codes showing the type locality, localities associated with voucher specimens, and species records without voucher specimens.

Sheets can be called either through the identification process, or using the current name in use or from an index of synonyms and species names that are no longer valid.

The knowledge base is based mostly on the Orthoptera collections of the MNHN, which gathered the specimens collected / studied by P.M. Lucas, A. Finot, L. Chopard and M. Descamps, among other Orthopterists. It is hosted at the “Muséum des scientifiques” site and can be opened by clicking “Les Acridiens d’Afrique du Nord Ouest” link. Or it can be directly accessible at <http://acrinwafrica.mnhn.fr/SiteAcri/accueil.html>. The site is compatible with Windows and Mac OS X, and optimized for Mozilla Firefox. It requires the latest version of Java to run Xper2, a computer-aided identification tool, developed by the Laboratory of Informatics and Systematics (LIS, UMR 7207, University Pierre and Marie Curie, France: (see Vignes & Lebb 2012).

In a first step, identification keys and descriptions are in French only. The menus of the website are also available in English. Menus of Xper2 are available in French, English, Spanish, Chinese and Portuguese, as an option in the status bar of Xper2.

To overcome the limited number of institutional collections in the Maghreb and the difficulty to update the scattered information, this knowl-

edge base provides an easy access to part of relevant information. In this way we follow the initiatives, which have come into sight and develop quickly (Eades et al., 2011; Ingrisch et al., 2004; Mestre and Chiffaud 2006). In the future, the present knowledge base will provide PDFs or links to taxonomic papers, be incremented by additional distributional data based on voucher specimens, and be translated into additional languages.

Acknowledgements

We want to express our gratitude to Bruno Massa and Jacques Mestre for their valuable comments about the first version of AcriNWAfrica knowledge base, Régine Vigne and Florian Causse (LIS, Paris) for computer assistance, Alex Delianis (MNHN) and Eva Venancio (MNHN) for the use of MNHN internet.

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Cricket Fighting in Ningjin County, China

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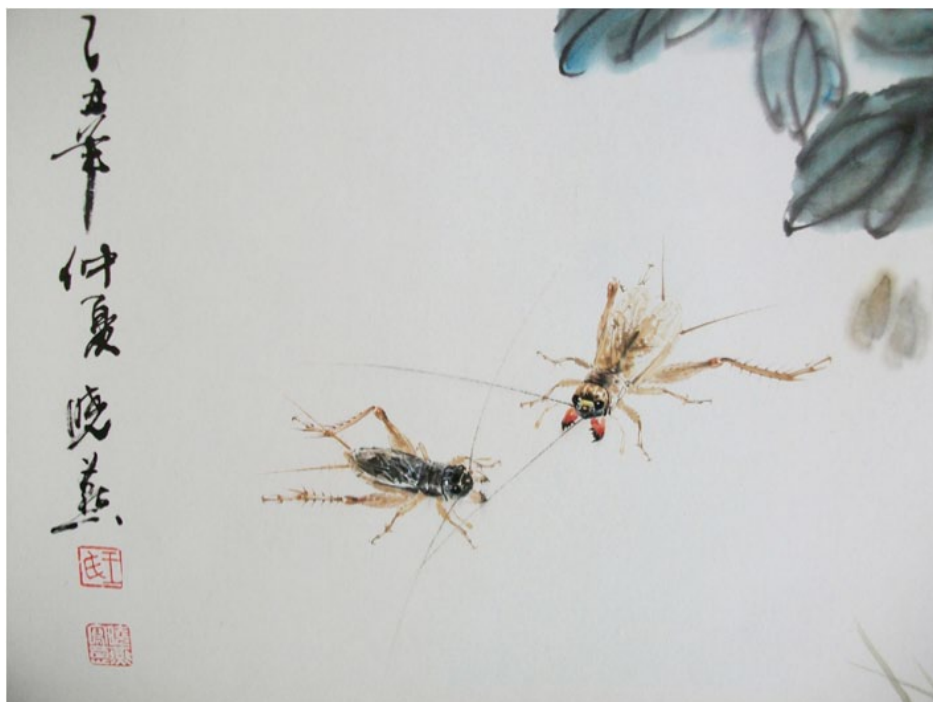
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For hundreds of years, Chinese people have enjoyed cricket fighting as a form of entertainment. It dates back to the Tang dynasty (618–907 AD), when people began keeping crickets as pets, mainly to enjoy their chirping songs. Later, during the Song dynasty (960 - 1279 A.D.), cricket fighting flourished as a popular sport. Such activity was still flourishing during the Qing Dynasty (1616-1911), when the Emperor's family, city residents or village men and scholars, all collected crickets every summer.

Cricket fighting is widespread in China, although mainly found in the large cities of Shanghai, Beijing, Tianjin, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong where there are cricket fighting clubs and societies with members of different levels of interest. The annual cricket fighting contest is usually held in Beijing at the end of October. There are about 400 cricket fans from Beijing who attend the contest and the one who wins the championship is honored as the "King of Crickets". It is reported that there are nearly



100,000 cricket fans in Beijing and more than 1,000 registered in the Cricket Committee.

The Great Plains in Shandong are well-known for the native haunt of crickets across China. In particular, Ningjin County in Shandong Province is reputed as the gem of the crown of the cricket kingdom. The crickets bred in Ningjin County have big

heads, strong necks and powerful legs, and beautiful body color. They are said to be born with an indomitable will to fight (stubborn fighting spirit) and a strong power of endurance. Ningjin County had provided crickets as a tribute to emperors dur-

ing the past dynasties in the ancient China.

It is said that during an enemy invasion, the Song dynasty emperor, Songweizong, scattered his cricket collections at the foot of the sacred Mount Tai. The descendants of these crickets are known to be the world's best fighters. It is estimated that nearly half a million people travel to the county of Ningjin for crickets each year. Local farmers earn their main income just from collecting crickets from their fields and selling them to buyers from Singapore, Japan, and Hong Kong.

During a recent trip to China, where I went to help Prof. Long Zhang with the organization of the upcoming 11th International Congress of Orthopterology at Kunming, we were invited to visit the town of Chaihudian in Ningjin County. This town is known as the birthplace of Ningjin cricket fighting and is the "first Chinese town dedicated to cricket culture". The "national cricket fighting games' victorious generals" (as the cricket



Arranging crickets for the fight (photo credit: Maria Marta Cigliano)



Giant outdoor screen for watching the cricket fights (Photo credit: Maria Marta Cigliano)

winner are called) come from here. The town was recently built following the classical style of Ming and Qing dynasties, combining the traditional architecture with elements from the unique national cricket culture.

As the President of the Orthopterists' Society and the Chairman of the 11th International Congress of Orthopterology, we were invited to open the "1st Chinese Cricket Culture City Cup" National Competition of Crickets held in Ningjin County during the first week of October, 2012. The organizers of this competition advertised and gave their support to the 11th International Congress of Orthopterology and reciprocally we invited them to participate in the Congress.

This tournament was held in a large building built for this purpose and matches were video-taped and shown live on a big screen so that the audience could get a good look at the action. Fights were held in small fighting arenas (plastic containers with walls high and thick enough to prevent desertion) while judges watch the fights and most spectators watch on closed circuit television outside the building. As has been the tradition for centuries, two crickets were weighed and then matched up according to size, weight, and color. The owners of the crickets poked the insects with a

hairbrush or little hairs attached to a chopstick-like device to incite them. During the fights, crickets butted heads, tossed each other out of the ring, with the winner chirping loudly as the loser slinked away.

Fights were usually face-to-face and eerily silent, except for the chirping and the

scuttling of feet and wings, and the insect warriors went at each other, antennae waving and jaws snapping. A bout usually did not last long and the loser often ran away or simply stopped fighting.

Gryllus bimaculatus is favored for its aggressive nature and thick body. Crickets are taken care of in a special manner to prepare for fights. It is not uncommon for a male cricket to be provided with females prior to a fight in order to arouse his aggressive spirit. The night before a tournament, many owners feed their cricket a special maggot, and treat it to an herbal

spray. The following day, there is a complex method for weighing crickets and judging matches.

Victorious fighters are treated with the respect of sumo champions. A winning cricket is referred to as a general. Owners of such warrior crickets will often travel great distances to meet one another and to ensure that their heroes are well matched for another bout. The best crickets will fight as many as six times before they are retired or defeated.

As a person who has devoted most of her life to the study of orthopteran insects, it was a great experience (for MMC) and a pleasure to watch the immense respect that Chinese people have for these insects and, how they admire their different behaviors. Coming from a country (Argentina) where most people treat Orthoptera as pests it was wonderful to see that they can be also treated as pets.

Enjoying the cricket fighting experience at Chaihudian was a marvelous introduction to taste the unbelievable flavors of Chinese culture, something that we hope you will also enjoy if you do attend the 11th International Congress of Orthopterology at Kunming, in August 2013, properly themed "Orthoptera in Scientific Progress and Human Culture".



Maria Marta Cigliano (left) and Long Zhang (right) at the opening ceremony of the "Chinese Cricket Culture City Cup" National Competition of Crickets

Xyronotus aztecus Saussure, 1884 (Orthoptera: Trigonopteroidea: Xyronotidae), a relict species recorded in a peri-urban, tropical green area in Xalapa, Ver., México: An important finding

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X*yronotus aztecus* Saussure, 1884 is characterized by its particular male genitalia structures, stridulation by transverse ridges on the 3th abdominal tergite and pegs on the inner side of hind femora (for more detailed diagnosis, see Dirsh (1961, 1975) and Deschamps (1975). It is currently classified as belonging to the superfamily Trigonopteroidea Walker, 1870 and the family Xyronotidae Bolivar, 1909. This family contains two genera and four Mexican endemic species (Song 2010, Eades et al. 2011).

During the summer of 2011 (August–November), we surveyed three green areas in Xalapa, Veracruz “Sanuario del Bosque de Niebla” (SBN), “Macuiltepetl” Hill and Natural Park. As a preliminary result, 213 individuals were collected and 24 orthopteran species were identified. These taxa were considered common (data not published) in a tropical urban - peri-urban gradient sensu MacGregor (2010, 2011). In the SBN conservation area (Fig. 1), the presence of a small population of *Xyronotus aztecus* stands out, a relict species (living fossil sensu Dirsh 1975).

The importance of this finding is supported by the following facts:

1. There is no published information about *X. aztecus* biology, life history, feeding habits, behavior, descriptive ecology and interactions (vertical or horizontal). At the suprageneric level, some papers were published on cytology and taxonomy (Helwig 1958), morphology and systematics (Randell 1962, Dirsh, 1955, 1961,

1975, Kevan et al 1964, Kevan 1977, Eades 2000) phylogeny and systematics (Rowell & Flook 1998, Flook et al. 1999, 2000, Matt et al. 2008). Only Brunner (1900-1909), Hebard (1932),

Deschamps (1975) and Matt et al. (2008; material cited in Flook et al. 1999), gave their collection records elsewhere in Veracruz (last record from 1996). All *X. aztecus* records and observations were located in cloud forest (Bosque Mesófilo de Montaña, sensu Rzedowski 2006), between 700 and 1500 m altitude (as well as other three species in the family Xyronotidae). This forest is considered a threatened environment, serving as a refuge to biodiversity in Mexico (comprising only 1% of its territory), as a result of its transformation to cultivars and urban colonization around Xalapa, Veracruz.

2. New biological information about this species has been gathered, such as habitat description. *X. aztecus* was observed in areas with tree cover levels where plant debris and litter on the ground are found, particularly where temperature and humidity is higher under the shade. This grasshopper can also be found associated with coffee plantations covered by well



Xyronotus aztecus male (photo credit: Paolo Fontana)

- shaded forest with native tree species cover (personal observation).
3. The first species record is Orizaba, Ver. Ignacio Bolivar y Urutia, an Spanish naturalist and entomologist classified it by the first time within Pyrgomorphidae, Phymatidae (Bolivar, 1884), in the Pirgomorfines and subtribe Sphenarinae (on the basis of material provided by Saussure). Some orthopterologists have recognized H. L. F. Saussure as the species author (Song 2010, Eades & Otte 2011), while others recognize I. Bolivar instead (Dirsh 1955, 1961, 1975, Uvarov 1966, Matt et al. 2008), but it is unclear who is the actual author.
4. Because of its relictual status and the close association to cloud forest, this peri-urban record highlights a great potential for *X. aztecus* to be considered as an indicator species of conservation of the vegetation cover and / or leaf litter, where it lives and develops. These rural environments are located in the coffee band (sensu Manson et al. 2008) in Veracruz (Xalapa, Coatepec, Xico, Teocelo,

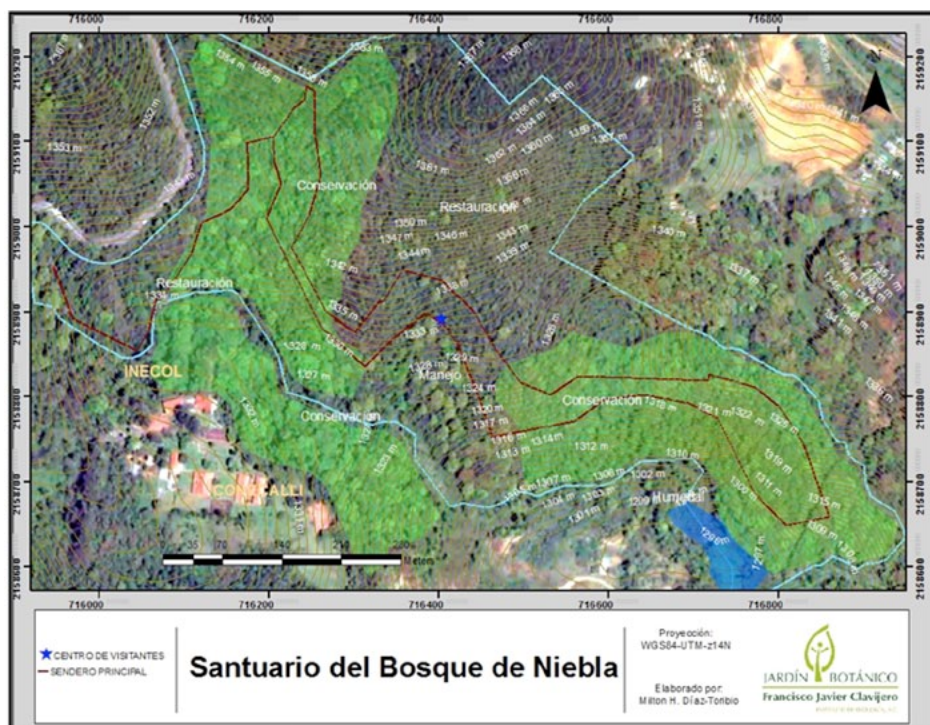


Figure 1. The “Santuario del Bosque de Niebla” are located in the southwest of Xalapa city, at kilometer 2.5 of the highway to Coatepec via Briones. There are 30 hectares with significant tracts of clouded forest in good condition, with high biodiversity. This Protected Natural Area, created in 1975 by the state government, was assigned to INECOL in 1996 for their Management.

- Totutla, Ixhuatlán, Coscomatepec, Huatusco and Orizaba), where published records are located, as well as those sites visited by me.
- Because Trigonopterygoidean grasshoppers have a monophyletic origin (Flook et al. 2000), and their two families are separated by the Pacific Ocean, this finding offers an excellent opportunity to obtain complementary information about *X. aztecus* biology, life history, feeding habits, behavior and ecology to contrast it with that of its overseas parental species.

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Treasurer's Report

By **DAVID C. EADES**
Treasurer

The Balance sheet as of December 31, 2012 and the Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenditures for the Year 2012 are shown below. Since records are kept on a cash basis, receipts and expenditures are not always placed in the correct year. In

terms of dollars, our largest activity was in support of the Orthoptera Species File. The cost is covered by an allocation of endowment income from the University of Illinois Foundation. The next largest activity was publishing the *Journal of Orthoptera Research*. That activity was almost exactly breakeven during 2012. Our

cash on hand declined by \$6,629 during the year, but remained about even over the past two years. Although the cash balance is low, some of the endowment can be used if necessary. Thus we are stable, but without surplus funds.

Orthopterists' Society Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenditures (1/1/12 through 12/31/12)

Cash Receipts

Royalty and revenue sharing	\$15,788.16
Revenue sharing from 2009	3,709.38
Transfer of endowment income	4,000.00
University of Illinois allocation	72,000.00
Dues	4,950.00
Publications	6,200.96
Donations	2,355.00
Page charges	6,835.00
Other	97.69
Total Cash Receipts	\$115,936.19

Cash Expenditures

Research grants	\$15,069.00
Publisher	7,178.18
Unit packaging	0.00
JOR editor	0.00
JOR assistance	21,000.00
Webmaster remuneration	300.00
Metaleptea edito remuneration	500.00
Executive director	1,500.00
Maintenance of Orthoptera Species File	72,000.00
Travel-Int'l Congress Orthopterology	2,795.00
Professional fees (income tax preparation)	950.00
Supplies	275.13
Other	997.39
Total Cash Expenditures	\$122,564.70

Excess of Cash Expenditures over Cash Receipts	\$(6,628.51)
Beginning Cash Balance	12,562.05
Ending Cash Balance	\$5,933.54

Orthopterists' Society Statement of Assets (As of December 31, 2012)

Cash

Paypal cash balance	\$3,597.91
Midland States Bank	2,335.63
Subtotal	\$5,933.54

Investments at market value

Vanguard:

Grants ¹	\$19,290.61
Operating ²	42,640.72
Subtotal	\$61,931.33

Wells Fargo:

AAAI ³	\$11,451.66
Endowment ⁴	19,137.17
Operating ²	9,237.40
Subtotal	\$39,826.23

Total assets **\$107,691.10**

¹This fund is restricted and can only be used for research grants.

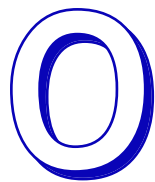
²This fund is nonrestricted.

³This fund can only be used for the Uvarov Award made at each int'l meeting.

⁴The income in this account is available for Society expenses; can extract capital but must have a plan for repaying it within 3 years.

Editorial

By **HOJUN SONG**
Editor, *Metaleptea*



On November 27, 2012, Lacey Knowles from the University of Michigan emailed me about the passing of Ted Cohn. Although

several obituaries have been written, I would like to share my own experience with Ted.

I met Ted for the first time at Ann Arbor when I was doing a Master's degree at OSU. I wanted to study grasshopper systematics, specifically *Schistocerca*, but didn't know anybody who could provide guidance. I learned that T.H. Hubbell, Ted's advisor worked on *Schistocerca*, and the Michigan collection had a very good collection of grasshoppers. So, I contacted Ted and he warmly welcomed me to his office. We had a wonderful time talking about grasshopper systematics. He told me not to work on *Schistocerca* because it was a very difficult group, but I pursued my interest anyway. He took me to dinner with Jean and I still remember his deep and loud laughs. He was a reviewer of my first manuscript, which was the revision of *Schistocerca alutacea* group. I knew he reviewed it because he emailed me that he did. His review still stands out as the longest: 4 page single space commentaries about grasshopper taxonomy! I debated with him on the use of tabulated descriptions of characters, value of male genitalia, and taxonomic concepts, etc. Ted was certainly opinionated, but in an incredibly warm way, and for me that was his way of mentoring me. Throughout my graduate career, I could always rely on Ted for advice and mentorship, which probably shaped my own attitudes toward my own students. Every time I visited him, he was always excited and delighted to talk to me about all the things he knew, an incredible amount of knowledge on everything. One of

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my current students, Derek A. Woller, was able to visit Ted recently and spent some time talking about various ideas. Derek was impressed with him, as I was. His own account is included in this issue. And, as I read memories of Ted from other orthopterists, I see that Ted was a great mentor and friend to us all across many generations. I wish he knew how much I appreciated all the things he's done for me. I will miss him dearly, but the fond memories with him will live on.

Now on to *Metaleptea*. Thanks to all those members who contributed the first issue of 2013 is full of good contents. Although this issue is another excellent volume, it unfortunately does not contain any report from the OS Grant recipients or from

the regional representatives. Hopefully in the next issue, we will see more submissions from the grant recipients and regional representatives.

To be published in *Metaleptea*, please send me any articles, photographs, or anything related to Orthoptera at song@ucf.edu with a subject line starting with [Metaleptea]. A MS Word document is preferred and images should be in JPEG or TIFF format with a resolution of at least 144 DPI. The next issue of *Metaleptea* will be in April 2013, so please send me the articles promptly. Also, please do not hesitate to send me feedback regarding *Metaleptea*. I look forward to hearing from you soon.