Editorial

"Cicadina" – our journal "Beiträge zur Zikadenkunde" renamed

From volume 10 onwards the journal "Beiträge zur Zikadenkunde" will be published under the new title "Cicadina", with a new ISSN. There are several reasons for this. The journal has acquired a more international profile in recent years. This tendency shall be continued in future, without setting aside German manuscripts, which are still desired by a number of colleagues. The new name facilitates comprehension in international literature, for the simple reason that the German Umlaut "ä" has been a serious bibliographic handicap. Further, the name "Cicadina" is a well-known term to entomologists and hopper specialists worldwide. The "Arbeitskreis Zikaden Mitteleuropas e.V.", the Central European Auchenorrhyncha study group, which is the driving force behind the journal, has discussed this issue at length.

Apart from the change of the name, our journal will also change its organisation and contents. It will be a fundamental constituent of our newly founded association "AK Zi-kaden Mitteleuropas e.V.". Membership will include subscription of the journal free of charge, although subscription without membership is also welcome. As before, the library of the Martin Luther University Halle-Wittenberg will send the journal to some 50 renowned libraries and other institutions in numerous countries around the globe.

Future volumes of "Cicadina" will comprise papers in German and English language alike. All captions to figures and tables will be bilingual. Papers in German will also include an extensive abstract in English and vice versa. Lastly the geographic focus will be extended from Central Europe to include the whole western Palearctic. The editorial board will be joined by colleagues from non-German speaking countries, who will also participate in editorial tasks and attract further manuscripts.

The primary objective of the journal of publishing original scientific contributions to the study of Auchenorrhyncha and psyllids will remain untouched. We will also retain the practice of publishing obituaries as well as short papers about the lifetime achievement of colleagues after their 65th birthday (or later). We will also accept short communications and book reviews.

We hope these changes will raise the scientific level and quality to make the journal more attractive not only to specialists of Auchenorrhyncha and Psyllina, but also to a broader audience of basic and applied entomologists, ecologists and conservationists worldwide.

Werner Witsack, Roland Achtziger, Herbert Nickel Halle, Freiberg and Göttingen, March 2009