

## BOOK REVIEW

ZUNINO M., BELLÉS X. & BLAS M. (eds): *ADVANCES IN COLEOPTEROLOGY*. European Association of Coleopterology, Barcelona, 1991, 324 pp., 248 Figs (drawings, photographs and micrographs), 22 tables. ISBN 84-604-0525-7. Available from: Asociación Española de Coleopterología, Departamento de Biología Animal, Facultad de Biología, Universidad de Barcelona, Diagonal 645, 08028 Barcelona, Spain. Price 7,000 pesetas.

*Advances in Coleopterology* is a collective book containing 20 contributions to Coleoptera studies by 36 authors. The papers deal with different aspects of taxonomy, phylogeny, evolution, cytogenetics, ecology, biogeography and ethology. Some of them attempt a synthesis or a "state of the art" review of their field. Others report on more specialized research, although these have wider interest. In short, this collection of papers represents a valuable work of reference in contemporary coleopterology.

The book like this must, of course, include contributions of various scientific approaches. To begin with the most interesting ones, one cannot overlook Crowson's paper on the relations of Coleoptera to Cycadales, the contribution by Slipiński & Pakaluk to problems in classifying the cerylonid series of Cucujoidea, Peck's study on the beetle fauna of tropical oceanic islands, and, last but not least, Halfiter's contribution on bisexual cooperation and subsocial behaviour of some

groups of Coleoptera, or Zunino's study of food relocation behaviour in eight families of beetles. I consider all of these contributions very interesting and inspiring. Strictly experimental work by Juberthie-Jupeau & Cazals on allopatry keeping in two closely related species has interest from the viewpoint of both zoogeography and taxonomy.

Some contributions, while likewise interesting, are also highly specialized. There are, for example, articles by Yadov et al. on the karyotype of *Pterostichini*, Juan & Petitpierre on chromosome numbers in *Tenebrionidae*, and Chown on *Ectemnorhinini* of the Marion Islands. Other contributions seem to be a little too speculative, for instance Kirejtshuk's study on the evolution of mode of life as the basis for the division of beetles into high taxa; Ribera & Isart's morphometric study of the *Dytiscidae*; Cantarino & Roman's work on morphological indices in a guild of *Tenebrionidae*; or Alderweireldt, Desender & Pollet's study of Coleoptera in different agro-ecosystems.

As a whole, *Advances in Coleopterology* is an inspiring book of many merits, to say nothing of its high technical quality, excellent reproductions of photographs, drawings and tables, and design. I recommend this book not only to specialists, but also to students in coleopterology who are looking for inspiration for their future activities.

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