

BOOK REVIEW

REMAUDIÈRE G. & REMAUDIÈRE M.: CATALOGUE OF THE WORLD'S APHIDIDAE (HOMOPTERA, APHIDOIDEA). INRA (Route de St. Cyr, F-78026 Versailles) 1997, 478 pp. ISBN 2-7380-0714-7. Price FRF 450.00 (+30).

This book provides an updated review of aphids except for the fossil species and the families Adelgidae and Phylloxeridae. It reflects the developments in aphid taxonomy that have occurred over the past two decades, since the publication of *Survey of World's Aphids* by V.F. Eastop and D. Hille Ris Lambers (1976). Since then more than 700 new species of aphids have been described and many new synonyms recognized. The concept of some genera has changed or has been specified in more detail and, as a result, new combinations have been proposed. The sources of the new data are carefully documented (references or personal communications) and reasons for the nomenclatorial changes of 94 genera and species proposed by the senior author are given in a separate chapter. It is worth noting that the authors follow the recent proposals concerning the suprageneric classification of aphids and, probably for the first time in a publication of this sort, divide the family Aphididae into 25 subfamilies.

The catalogue is clearly organized. The taxa are arranged in alphabetical order by subfamilies, tribes (and subtribes where reasonable), genera, subgenera and species. The names of genera and species, valid and invalid names, synonyms and names of changed status are distinguished by

different typefaces, position and additional marks. The same typefaces are used in the Index, which contains more than 8,000 names given to taxa of the family Aphididae since 1758, of which names of about 600 genera and more than 4,700 species are classified as valid. A list of unclassified taxa is given separately.

A valuable part of the book is the Bibliography (1,275 titles), which lists papers on taxonomy, biology, host-plants, distribution and evolution of aphids published after 1972 and the most important earlier papers omitted in the Bibliography of the Aphididae of the World by C.F. Smith (1972). Some readers will be surprised by the number of previously unknown or neglected papers published in hardly accessible local periodicals and proceedings of the former USSR and other countries.

There is one more pleasant feature of the Catalogue. The Introduction and the explanatory parts of other chapters are presented in both French and English. The erudition of the authors and their careful work leaves little opportunity for criticism. I have found only one name which is of questionable validity: Homoptera in the title of the book.

The Catalogue summarizes our present knowledge of aphids as reflected in their nomenclature and provides a solid basis for future investigations. I recommend it as an indispensable reference book and source of information for taxonomists and for workers in plant protection, biodiversity, zoogeography and general entomology.

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