

BOOK REVIEW

K.A. SPENCER: FLYCATCHER. MEMOIRS OF AN AMATEUR ENTOMOLOGIST. SPB Academic Publishing bv, The Hague, 1992, xvi + 414 pages with 27 illustrations. Dutch Guilders 190.00 / US \$ 105.00.

In this very interesting book, the author, a world-renowned specialist in mining Diptera of the family Agromyzidae, has summarised his extensive investigations and publishing activity in this group of insects.

The book is divided into five parts which are devoted to his entomological activity in years 1951–1991. The most extensive fourth part deals with impressions and results from travelling, collecting trips and studies of Agromyzidae in many countries of Europe including the Mediterranean area, Japan, North America, the Caribbean, Central and South America, the Oriental region, Australia and Oceania. For each area records on newly-described or interesting and economically important species are given. Altogether 466 species from 25 genera of Agromyzidae and their host plants from 353 genera, from more than 60 countries of the World are recorded. In all these he collected new

material and/or studied collections of Diptera. Also, he pointed out 17 putative new and as yet undescribed species known from larval stages only or identified according to a specific form of mine. New illustrations of the male genitalia of *Liriomyza persica* Griffiths and *Liriomyza melitensis* Spencer from Malta are also included. In a separate section, methods for the preparation and study of male genitalia are detailed. The book is completed by a full bibliography of his papers and books relating to Agromyzidae and Chloropidae from the period 1951–1991, amounting to 132 titles. The references include 129 citations quoted in the text. Approximately 1000 items from the field of natural history and more than 1600 records of geographical localities and miscellaneous topics are registered in the Index. The register also contains 549 names of naturalists and entomologists from all the World.

This attractive book may be recommended as an extensive resource of information on the scientific activity as well as the personal life of K.A. Spencer. Cordial congratulations are due to a reputable teacher and distinguished colleague.

M. Černý