

## *Acta Protozoologica* 1963-2006

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**Summary.** Note on the history of the international journal *Acta Protozoologica*, its establishment, colleagues involved in its management, and the main scientific events that were recorded and published.

**Key words:** *Acta Protozoologica*, congresses on protozoology, Jagiellonian University, journals on protistology, Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology, Protozoa, Warsaw University.

The first journal on Protozoa was *Archiv für Protistenkunde* (recently: *Protist*) edited by Fritz Schaudin and published by Gustav Fischer in 1902. The second one was *The Journal of Protozoology* (recently: *Journal of Eukaryotic Microbiology*) established by the Society of Protozoologists in 1954.

The journal *Acta Protozoologica* was founded in 1963 on the initiative of Zdzisław Raabe from Warsaw University and Stanisław Dryl from the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology in Warsaw, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland. The international Board of Editors was established and the Editorial Office was located at the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology. PWN (State Polish Scientific Publishers) acted as the journal's publisher till 1989. In 1990, the Nencki Institute became the independent publisher of *Acta Protozoologica*, and the Polish Society for Cell Biology became its co-publisher in 1997.

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As announced in the previous issue of the *Acta Protozoologica*, the Nencki Institute of Experimental Biology of the Polish Academy of Sciences, the publisher of the journal *Acta Protozoologica* since 1963, informed all readers and authors that it would cease publishing the journal as of January 1, 2007. The Nencki Institute declared that all benefits and rights to the journal after January 1, 2007 shall be owned by the Department of Hydrobiology, Institute of Environmental Sciences, Jagiellonian University, Kraków, Poland. We hope that the new publisher and Editorial team receive a warm reception from authors and readers.

For the last 45 years the journal *Acta Protozoologica* was managed by four chief-editors: Zdzisław Raabe (1963-1971), Stanisław Dryl (1972-1977), Stanisław Dryl and Stanisław Kazubski (1978-1989), Stanisław Kazubski (1990-1992) and Jerzy Sikora (1993-2006).

Taking into account our involvement in running the journal for the past 16 years, we wish to present some remarks concerning its past and present.

*Acta Protozoologica* was fully peer-reviewed from the very beginning. Primarily, each volume consisted of

30-40 papers (fasciculi). From Volume 14 (1975) it became quarterly issued. Special issues published contributions of participants like: Volume 7 (1970) Symposium on "Physiology of Motor Response in Protozoa, Warsaw, 1968; Volume 11 (1972) International Symposium "Motile Systems of Cells" held in Cracow, Poland (1971); Volume 18 (1979) International Symposium on Cell Motility (1978); Special Congress Volume of *Acta Protozoologica*, Progress in Protozoology, Proceedings of VI International Congress of Protozoology, Warszawa, Poland, 1981 Part I (1982) and Part II (1984). For Post-Congress Volume II, as a special contribution for the celebration of the twentieth anniversary of protozoological congresses, L. Kuźnicki and B. Honigberg wrote an article "International collaboration among protozoologists during the years 1961-1981." Also, special supplements comprised: Cumulative Indexes of *Acta Protozoologica* volumes 1-40, Part I (*Acta Protozool. Suppl.* 40: 1-46, 2001), Subject Index of *Acta Protozoologica* volumes 1-40, Part II (*Acta Protozool. Suppl.* 41: 1-46, 2002).

*Acta Protozoologica* publishes comprehensive and updated basic, experimental, and theoretical contributions on the broad aspects of protistology and cell biology of lower Eukaryote, including: behaviour, biochemistry and molecular biology, development, ecology, genetics, parasitology, physiology, photobiology, systematics and phylogeny, and ultrastructure. It also covers topics, such as: various roles of protists as animal food resources and their control. The journal publishes original research reports, critical reviews of current important subjects written by invited experts in the field, rapid short communications, book reviews, and letters to the editor. The original research reports have standard contents: title, summary, key words, abbreviations used, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, acknowledgements, and references; the dates of manuscript submission and acceptance are specified. In every last issue of the year, the contents of the whole volume, the subject index, and the list of reviewers is provided. From Volume 30 (1991), a new, bigger and more convenient format was introduced, allowing us to publish high quality photographs.

*Acta Protozoologica* published obituary notices on famous scientists: Kazubski S., Kuźnicki L., Sikora J. (1992) Bronisław M. Honigberg - obituary notice. 31: 127-128; Wasik A. (1993) George I. Poljansky -

obituary notice. 32: 199-200; Kuźnicki L. (1996) Stanisław Dryl - obituary notice. 35: 1-2; Kazubski S. L. (1997) Witold Kasprzak - obituary notice. 36: 1-2; Grębecki A., Korohoda W. (1998) Karl-Ernst Wohlfarth-Bottermann - obituary notice. 37: 1-3; Beyer T. V., Skarlato S. O. (1999) Igor Borissovich Raikov - obituary notice. 38: 1-3.

We suppose that some data concerning authors and articles published in the last 16 years in *Acta Protozoologica* might be of interest. The journal has published the papers of above 1400 authors coming from all over the world. The nationalities of the authors who published their papers in *Acta Protozoologica* during last 16 years are presented in Table 1. Also the subjects of papers varied, however, the majority of papers concerned morphology and taxonomy, morphogenesis and physiology (especially motile events in ciliates, amoebae and flagellate). Varieties of taxa were studied however ciliates and apicomplexa were the predominant subjects.

Recent subscriptions by libraries and individual subjects from over 20 countries (as well as some orders for the complete collection of the journal since its very beginning in 1963) prove that the distribution of *Acta Protozoologica* is worldwide and multi-professional: beside specialists in cell biology of lower organisms, the audience comprises many researchers, educators, and students in biomedical, veterinarian, and environmental sciences.

We wish to express our sincere thanks to all Members of the Editorial Board, Editors: Hanna Fabczak, Anna Wasik and Małgorzata Woronowicz-Rymaszewska; and collaborating scientists all around the world who, over the years, have dedicated their valuable time and expertise to reviewing papers submitted for publication in *Acta Protozoologica*. The editors acknowledged in every forth number of the volume all colleagues who had served as voluntary reviewers for one or more manuscripts submitted to be published in that year. The position of the *Acta Protozoologica* as a one of the five leading journals in protistology we owe to our many friends and colleagues from institutions around the world, that have helped in reading papers submitted to be published in this journal.

We are sure *Acta Protozoologica*, from 2007 under a new Editorial team, will remain, as before, one of our leading journals, publishing original papers and reviews on lower Eukaryote cells.

**Table 1.** Nationality of authors who published their papers in *Acta Protozoologica* during last 16 years (1991-2006).

Countries	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	Total
Argentina				1								3	1	2			7
Australia	2			2		1	3				1	4	10	1	1		25
Austria			1		2	3	2	4			2		4	4	6	8	36
Belgium							2			4	1			1	7	8	23
Brazil				1		2		1					9	1	14	13	41
Bulgaria	3	2	3					2	2	2		3		2		2	21
Canada			1							4		2	1		1		9
Cuba																4	4
Czech Republic	1			1	2	1	2	1	1	7		4	2	9	10	9	50
Denmark		2	6				4					2	1		2		7
Egypt								1								3	4
Estonia										2							2
Finland	1								1	1			1				4
France	1	3	2	1			1	2		2		1	5	8	2	1	29
Germany	7	14	8	17	5	13	12	11	5	13	20	15	11	9	10	9	179
Hungary	3	2	2	2	3	2	1	3		6	4	11	5		6	5	55
India	6	6	9	2	18		4	7	10	3	9		2	10	8	6	100
Israel												2					2
Italy		9		1	2	14	3	4	6	2		7			4		52
Japan	1	2	3	3								3	6	4		3	25
Mexico				6	9												15
Netherlands	1												1	3	4	5	14
Nigeria												2					2
P. R. China			4		1	1	1			8	6	11	15	11	17	20	95
Poland	23	10	11	8	9	16	17	10	12	16	25	8	8	17	8	17	215
Portugal								2						1	3		6
Russia	5	6	6	2	6		7	5	4	5	3	1	5	3			58
Senegal				2	2				8		4						16
Slovakia	1													4			5
South Africa			10		6	2		6	6	2	3		4				39
Saudi Arabia								2	2		1	1				2	8
South Korea														5	1		6
Spain		4		9		9			2	4	11	4	6				49
Sweden					1		4	1	1		2			3	1		13
Switzerland													3	7	1		11
Trinidad and Tobago													1				1
Turkey										1		3	2				6
Ukraine															1		1
United Kingdom		1	1		3	5	3	3		4	1	5	2	3	10	9	50
USA	3	1	5	12	20	6	15	4	3	12	9	5	14	19	4	6	138
Venezuela											3						3
Yugoslavia-Serbia											2						2
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>1438</b>