

Our journal Cicadina towards a digital future

Editorial

Twenty years have passed since the first Auchenorrhyncha meeting took place in Halle (Saale) and when researchers founded a study group. Results of the first two meetings were published as short reports. Later we had the opportunity to publish the journal *Beiträge zur Zikadenkunde* through the University of Halle-Wittenberg. This new journal gained more quality and popularity volume after volume. Through exchange service of the University and Federal Library of Saxony Anhalt (Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Sachsen-Anhalt) it was distributed to more than 50 institutions and libraries in numerous countries which caused a further increase of interest abroad. With volume 10 the editors decided to change the name into *Cicadina* and promoted manuscripts in English in order to gain more international reputation. As a matter of fact volumes 10, 11 and 12 clearly demonstrate that the proportion of international authors publishing in *Cicadina* has strongly increased.

In recent years authors and readers have expressed their wish to get online access to the journal. Recently the University and Federal Library of the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg offered us to host *Cicadina* as an open access journal from volume 13 onwards, thus opening new chances of becoming a worldwide platform. As a consequence all articles will be provided electronically as full text starting from now. The editorial board therefore expects a wider recognition and more citations. *Cicadina* will be published as an open access journal. All downloads will be free of charge and may be used as long as copyrights remain untouched. Apart from publishing new articles we also intend to post all earlier volumes since 1997 as a full text archive, meaning that both *Cicadina* and *Beiträge zur Zikadenkunde* will be completely available online. In addition at the end of each year we shall print a small number of copies for members of the Arbeitskreis Zikaden Mitteleuropas e.V. which can also be subscribed or purchased by libraries and non-members.

Publishing scientific articles online in *Cicadina* is in many ways advantageous for authors. The time span between submission and publication will be much shorter (rapid publishing) since articles can be posted immediately after the reviewing process. Printing will take place when a number of articles have accumulated, usually at the end of the year. Therefore we fulfil the requirements of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature for original descriptions. The availability through the web will enable a worldwide recognition. Furthermore search engines and data bases enable targeted access and linking with other arti-

cles. Authors can get the information about the annual number of hits and downloads. There are no publication fees.

Scientific level and quality will be maintained through the editorial board consisting of members of the Arbeitskreis Zikaden Mitteleuropas e. V supported by external referees. Guidelines for contributors have been changed only marginally. Articles will be accepted in English or German.

Cicadina online will be hosted by the University and Federal Library of Saxony Anhalt ("ULB") using the Open Journal System (OJS) of the Canadian Public Knowledge Project. This Open Source software is being used worldwide for the administration of electronic journals. At present the Martin Luther University of Halle-Wittenberg is offering Cicadina together with six further online journals through a newly designed web portal.

The web link for Cicadina is: <http://public.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/index.php/Cicadina>. Access is also possible through www.cicadina.de.

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