

Editorial

The first part of the present issue of the Bonn zoological Bulletin is an obituary to Dr. Jürgen Haffer, member of the journal's Advisory Board. Jürgen Haffer was well-known for his contributions to the fields of biogeography and ornithology, visited the ZFMK regularly, and joined the BzB Board in 2002. From the journal's perspective, we will miss especially his valuable input as an Advisory Board member.

In times of increasing demands on scientists for publishing quantities of research papers, comparatively few journals remain available publishing sound extensive or even monographic work in the fields of taxonomy, systematics and evolution, or biodiversity and biogeography. The "Bonner zoologische Monographien" ("Bonn zoological Monographs") was such a series, publishing monographic work since 1971. Efforts for maintaining two scientific journals in parallel are however substantial, and the step of including the "Monographs" into BzB is consequent. From 2012, a regular "Supplement Series" will publish comprehensive single papers, monographs and theme issues, in addition to the two annual volumes of BzB. I am delighted to announce that Thomas Wesener, curator for millipedes (Myriapoda) at ZFMK, will be in charge as "Managing Editor BzB Supplement Series" from 2012. I am convinced that the Supplement Series will contribute to further developing the journal's profile and enhancing its visibility. A warm "welcome on board" to Thomas!

Besides the upcoming "Supplement Series", readers might realize other changes indicating that BzB is "evolving". The present issue is the first one coming in a slightly revised text layout, aimed at a more efficient use of the print space and a clearer presentation of its contents. I thank the members of the Editorial Board for their valuable input, Eva-Maria Levermann for her professional layout work, and Michelle Clemens and Serkan Güse for formatting support.

"An inordinate fondness for beetles" is said to have been J.B.S. Haldane's (1892 – 1964) response when theologians asked what one could conclude on the nature of the creator from the study of his creation (Hutchinson 1959, *Am Nat* 93 (870), p. 146). This classic statement of the famous geneticist and evolutionary biologist Haldane refers to the sheer species diversity of beetles, constituting more than 40 % of all insect species in the world. The present issue of BzB contains four papers dealing with beetle taxonomy, including the descriptions of altogether 25 species (Ahrens; Ahrens & Fabrizi; Yoshitomi & Putra) and one genus (Wagner) new to science. In line, the cover illustration of this issue shows the holotype of *Serica pelelaensis*, a small beetle from Bhutan described herein.

A careful study of literature mostly from the late 18th to the early 19th century shows that taxonomic surprises are not restricted to the discovery of numerous or spectacular species new to science. In this issue, Schmidtler & Böhme demonstrate that the Common or Viviparous Lizard has been formally described for the first time by Lichtenstein (1823), not by von Jacquin (1787) as has been presumed for more than 200 years; nevertheless, the scientific name of this extraordinarily widely distributed, viviparous lizard was preserved. Further contributions focus on the description and illustration of preimaginal stages of the African monkey-moth species *Striphnopteryx edulis* (Pugaev et al.), first records of odonatans from the caldera of an active Galapagos volcano (Lambertz et al.) and Bonn (Lambertz & Schmied), and discuss the distribution area and possible range extension of the Northwestern Alligator Lizard *Elgaria coerulea principis* in Canada (Lambertz & Graba).

With best wishes to all readers, authors and "BzB-team" members,



Fabian Herder (Editor-in-Chief, Fish Curator at ZFMK)
Bonn, December 2011