



A peer-reviewed open-access journal

ZooKeys

Launched to accelerate biodiversity research

Dear Authors, Reviewers, Editors, and Readers of ZooKeys,

We are pleased to announce the publication of the third issue of ZooKeys (www.pensoftonline.net/zookeys). We would like also to share with you several bits of good news, however at first we would like to THANK YOU for your support, encouragement and trust during the initiation of ZooKeys!

During the first four months of existence (our Opening Editorial Paper was published on the 4th of July), ZooKeys published three issues, composed of:

- Total of 564 pages
- Twenty-four research papers and 2 Editorials
- Descriptions of two new genera and 20 new species – all registered in ZooBank
- Papers on Coleoptera (16), Homoptera (4), Hymenoptera (1), Aranea (1), Myriapoda (1), Digenea (1), and Nematoda (1)
- Authors from: USA, Canada, UK, Germany, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Costa Rica, Russia and several other countries

Currently we do have in review more than 20 manuscripts on Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Mollusca, Digenea, Cestoda etc. as well as descriptions of new fish and snake species. We plan to publish two or perhaps three more issues by the end of 2008.

The rejection rate is currently 22 %. The average turnaround from the date of submission to the date of acceptance was 43 days, with the minimum record of 19 days and maximum of 91 day. The average time needed for publication (from the date of acceptance to the day of publication) was 11 days (minimum 1 day, maximum 27 days, one exception of 43 days). In 50 % of the cases, papers have been published for less than 5 days, and in another 40 % of the cases – for less than 14 days.

To ensure a better digital preservation of its contents and to respond to the planned new amendments to the ICZN, published recently, ZooKeys already reached an agreement with LOCKSS repository archive, maintained by a large consortium of the World's leading academic libraries.

Applications for indexing have been sent to ISI of Thompson Reuters and MEDLINE of the US National Library of Medicine.

ZooKeys reached an agreement with the Encyclopedia of Life to submit descriptions of all new taxa on the day of publication. A similar agreement is currently negotiated with GBIF, as well. ZooKeys takes the obligation to continue registering all new taxa in ZooBank, on behalf of its authors.

ZooKeys reached also an agreement to peer-review and publish in a series of special issues all contributions in the field of taxonomy, systematics and faunistics held at the Middle East Biodiversity Symposium in Agaba, Jordan on 20-23rd of October this year.

We hope that you will continuously support ZooKeys and help us in promoting the journal amongst your colleagues. Our Press Release can be downloaded from www.pensoftonline.net/ZooKeys-PressRelease.pdf, and our MS Powerpoint presentation can be downloaded from www.pensoftonline.net/ZooKeys-Presentation.ppt

The Library Recommendation Form may be downloaded from www.pensoftonline.net/ZooKeys-LibraryRecommendation.pdf

Please do not hesitate to send us your comments, ideas or proposals, as well as to ask us questions related to ZooKeys.

Very best regards,

Terry Erwin & Lyubomir Penev
Editor-in-Chief Managing Editor
erwint@si.edu info@pensoft.net