

## BOOK REVIEW

Harvey, M. S. 1991. *Catalogue of the Pseudoscorpionida*. (edited by V. Mahnert). Manchester University Press, Manchester M13 9PL UK (distributed exclusively in the USA and Canada by St. Martin's Press Inc., 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, New York 10010 USA). vi + 726 pages. Price \$200.00.

It is a pleasure to write about a book which I use almost every day, an indispensable tool for the pseudoscorpion taxonomist. Both the author and the editor deserve many thanks for a job well done.

Harvey's *Catalogue* is the first comprehensive work on the pseudoscorpions of the world since the monographs of Beier (1932a, b) and the lists of Roewer (1937, 1940). Only its Bibliography has a modern counterpart in the bibliography of Schawaller (1980).

An Introduction in three languages (English, French, and German) explains the organization of the book, the systematic treatment of the included taxa, and the limited number of taxonomic changes that have been introduced. It is revealed that 22 families, 434 genera, 3064 species and 169 subspecies of pseudoscorpions are recognized.

The first working section of the book is the Bibliography of nearly 2700 entries. Most references deal with systematic matters, but other aspects of pseudoscorpion biology are included as well, such as behavior, biogeography, ecology, histology, morphology, reproduction, development and life history. The list of publications covers the years from 1758-1988, with a few references to papers published in 1989-90. As far as I have found, very few references to specific pseudoscorpions have been omitted, none of great importance. A valuable feature of the entries is the citation of the names of journals in full - none of the tricky abbreviations which often prove difficult to track down.

The catalogue itself is in the form of a list of all valid species (including fossils) through 1988 (plus a few later ones). The taxonomic arrangement follows a recommendation by me (1982) to forego subordinal groupings and treat only superfamilies. The arrangement of the superfam-

ilies is essentially that of Chamberlin (1931) and Beier (1932a, b), except that the Feaelloidea are placed near the Chthonioidea because of perceived relationships. Within each superfamily the families are listed alphabetically, as are the genera in each family and the species and subspecies in each genus.

Each taxon is documented by a complete synonymy, including reference to papers cited in the Bibliography, with relevant pages and (for species) figures. As the bibliography is essentially complete, so the synonymies are essentially complete. These synonymies can serve to change the shape of papers on pseudoscorpion taxonomy from this time on. No longer will long synonymies be needed for each known species treated when a simple "for synonymy see Harvey 1991" will do.

For each genus, the type species is noted; and for each species, the type locality and reported distribution are given. In a future edition, valuable additions would be the mention, where possible, of the depository of the type specimen(s) of each species and the sex(es) known for each. Some of this information will be difficult or impossible to obtain, but it would be good to begin accumulating such data.

Following the list of those he considered valid species, Harvey presents a list of *nomina dubia* and *nomina nuda*. Included here are two genus-group names and 45 species-group names. In addition, two forms and one variety are mentioned. Then follows a summary of taxonomic changes introduced in the body of the catalogue, including five replacement names, six new type species, five new synonymies, and 101 new combinations.

The Index includes all names appearing in the text. Family-group names and junior synonyms, junior homonyms, *nomina dubia*, and *nomina nuda* are distinguished by differences in type-face. The genus in which a species was originally described is clearly indicated.

Altogether, this is a very valuable book, comprehensive in content and easy to use. It is absolutely required for the pseudoscorpion taxonomist and should be consulted by anyone dealing with any aspect of the biology of these animals. The price of \$200 is a bit steep, but for one (o-

a group) who is seriously interested in pseudoscorpions, this catalogue will be worth every penny.

Unfortunately, the *Catalogue* will not remain current for long. Already, Harvey (1992, 1993) has introduced changes in the systematics of the Pseudoscorpionida which will necessitate major rearrangement of some families and genera. Other workers will, undoubtedly, be stimulated into action by Harvey's ideas, and amendment of this edition will soon be required.

#### LITERATURE CITED

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**William B. Muchmore:** Department of Biology, University of Rochester, Rochester, New York 14627 USA.

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