

Third International Congress of Acarology, Prague, 1971

From August 31 to September 6, 1971 206 specialists from 32 countries (Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Cuba, Denmark, F.R.G., France, German Democratic Republic, Ghana, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Poland, Portugal, Roumania, Sweden, Switzerland, The Netherlands, Turkey, United Arab Republic, U.S.A., U.S.S.R., West Berlin, and Czechoslovakia) assembled to participate in the Third International Congress of Acarology held in Prague. Two representatives of WHO (G. Anastos and V. Neronov) were also present. The President of the Congress was Academician Bohumír Rosický (Czechoslovakia), Vice-Presidents N. G. Brogetova (U.S.S.R.) and G. W. Wharton (U.S.A.).

The work of the Congress was divided into 12 sections and a symposium and included all aspects of modern acarology with a special emphasis on practical needs of national economy, as well as veterinary and human medicine. From a total of 153 papers read and discussed, 25 contributions were presented by Czechoslovak authors. The problems of parasitology and related subjects were dealt with in 6 sections headed by outstanding acarologists of the world. N. G. Brogetova presided the section devoted to faunistics and taxonomy of parasitic mites (except ticks); Yu. S. Balashov was the chairman of the section on faunistics and taxonomy of ticks. H. Hoogstraal headed the section "Mites and Ticks of Medical and Veterinary Importance", V. V. Kucheruk the section "Mites and Ticks in Natural Foci of Diseases", G. W. Wharton "Ecology of Mites and Ticks" and C. A. Hall "Biological, Chemical and Physical Control".

Most of the Czechoslovak papers (22) dealt with the parasitology and related subjects, which gives evidence that Czechoslovak acarology aims mostly at the problems of parasitology and that the best results have been achieved in this field. The relationship between the ticks and arboviruses, particularly virus CTE, was discussed in 5 papers (Ašmera, Blaškovič, Ernek, Heinz, Kolman, Kožuch, Nosek and Labuda). Two papers (Brezina, Kováčová, Řeháček, Župančičová) were devoted to the relationship of the ticks and rickettsiae under conditions of Central Europe (rickettsiae of the RMSF group) and further three papers to different questions of bionomy of ticks. The co-authors Černý, Daniel, Dusbábek and Honzák reported on hibernation of *Ixodes ricinus*; the association of *I. ricinus* with the biotopes of inundated regions was discussed

in the paper by Černý, Hejný and Rosický. The paper by Nosek dealt with some features of the ecology of *Haemaphysalis inermis*, *H. concinna* and *H. punctata*, 3 papers (Měrka, Minář, Novák, Přivora, Rupeš, Vobrázková) with the control of mites and ticks. Further 6 contributions were devoted to the mites Gamasoidea, Analgoidea and Trombiculidae. Mrciak reported on the zoogeography of Gamasoidea and together with Kramářová on the occurrence of mites in the nests of small mammals. Interspecific relationships of mites in the nests of small mammals was analyzed by M. Daniel. Dusbábek read a paper on the acarinium zone of bats under conditions of Central Europe, Černý on the parasite-host relationships in feather mites and Daniel on the fauna of chiggers in the high altitude region of the Hindu-Kush. In the two further contributions (Měrka, Palička, Přivora, Ševcová) the questions concerning the human scabies were discussed. Šlais reported on the histological picture of the human skin damaged by mites.

The informal meetings at which some of the subjects were discussed showed to be very useful and completed the agenda of individual sections. A meeting entitled "Parasites of small mammals and their nests" covered some aspects of parasitology. At the general meeting, which attracted the attention of all participants, the submitted proposals of the status and the rules of the work of the International Committee of Acarological Congresses as well as the questions concerning the international cooperation of acarologists were discussed. A firm order and outlined perspective of the international coordination were thus given. The elections of the new International Committee were held according to the newly accepted rules. F. J. Radovsky (U.S.A.) was elected Secretary; other members of the Committee are C. Athias-Henriot (France), Yu. S. Balashov (U.S.S.R.), J. Boczek (Poland), M. Costa (Israel), M. Daniel (Czechoslovakia), A. Filippini (Italy), D. A. Griffith (Great Britain), H. Hoogstraal (United Arab Republic), E. Piff (Austria) and M. van de Vrie (The Netherlands).

The papers presented at the Congress will be published in full length in the Proceedings of the 3rd International Congress of Acarology which will appear by the end of 1972. The publisher will be Academia, Publishing House of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, distributor abroad Dr. W. Junk, Publishers, N. V., 13, van Stolkweg, The Hague, The Netherlands,

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