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Fifth State Seminar on Dipterology

Between 16 and 19 January 1978 the Fifth State Seminar on Dipterology was held at Liblice. This was the latest of the regular meetings of Czechoslovak dipterologists organized since 1970 on alternate years (every second year). The Institutes of Parasitology, and Entomology, Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, and the Department of systematic zoology, Natural Sciences Faculty, Charles University in Prague were charged with the organization of the Seminar. Dipterological seminars serve as a platform for the exchange of new information, indicate the present state of knowledge on Diptera and deal with the specific steps in the development of this scientific discipline in Czechoslovakia. As in previous seminars, great attention was paid again to the economically and parasitologically important groups of dipterous insects.

The Seminar was attended by 45 scientists from research institutes, universities and museums. A total of 36 papers were read, half of which was concerned with medical and veterinary dipterology (five papers on mosquitoes, three on horseflies, two on blackflies, two on synbovine flies and one on Hypodermatidae, Nycteribiidae and Streblidae, respectively). The papers covered research of mosquitoes in some

Czechoslovak regions, repellents and their application for the protection of man and animals against mosquitoes and horseflies, population ecology of warble flies, ecology and distribution of blackflies in Czechoslovakia and the Mongolian People's Republic, ecology of synbovine flies; also investigation of flight activity and gonotrophic cycles of horseflies and some problems of systematics of mentioned families of parasitic Diptera were discussed from different viewpoints.

Many other papers dealt with the methods used in the research of Diptera. Particular attention was paid to the problems of zoogeography of dipterous insects. The introductory papers on the history of dipterological research in Czechoslovakia and on the present international cooperation in this field also carried weight. Some problems of further advancement of Czechoslovak dipterology, mainly the evaluation of the completed Key to the Fauna of ČSSR, V. Diptera and the preparation of a list of Diptera in Czechoslovakia were discussed in detail.

The Seminar revealed the present state and development in the research of Diptera in Czechoslovakia which reflects the great medical and economic significance of this group.

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