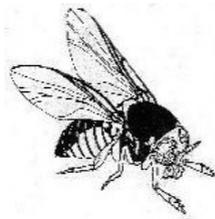
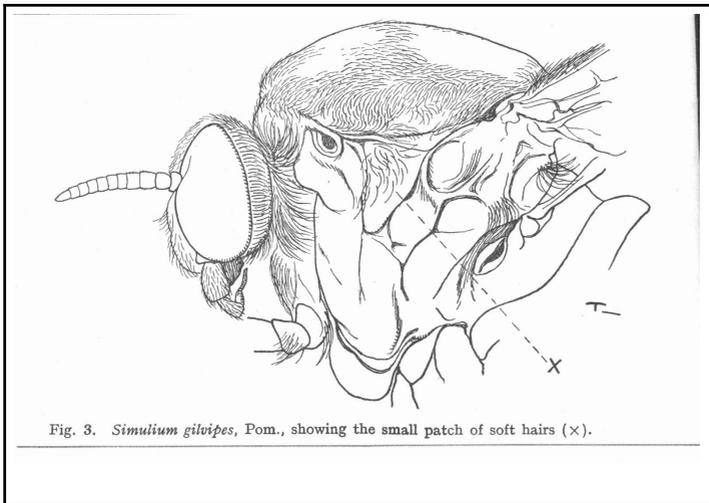


The *Simuliid Bulletin*

(previously: The British Simuliid Group Bulletin)

Number 45

January 2016



THE SIMULIID BULLETIN

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Cover Image: *Thorax of Simulium gilvipes (currently synonym of S. dentulosum) showing hairy pleural membrane (anepisternum) depicted in De Meillon's first paper on Simuliids (1930, Bull. Ent. Res. 21: 193) as "small patch of soft hairs (X)". The original drawing was by the eminent biomedical illustrator associated with the British Museum (Natural History) A.J.E. Terzi, as confirmed by his usual 'T—' monogram on the right of the picture. [For more on Terzi see P.F. Mattingly in Mosquito Systematics 8: 114-120 (1976)].*

From the Editor

Welcome to the first issue of the renamed *Simuliid Bulletin*. As explained in the previous issue it was decided to drop the "British" part of the original title because the British input to the *Bulletin* and the study of the simuliidae was declining, whilst activity and interest in Europe and the rest of the world was increasing. It was decided to continue with the original numbering sequence of issues to avoid confusion, thus the first issue of the *Simuliid Bulletin* is number 45. Apart from the slightly redesigned cover you will note that as Editor I have been joined by three Associate Editors (listed on the back of the cover). Many thanks to them for offering their time and expertise. This has already had results, shown by greater exposure to other European organizations, and the introduction of a new topic "Have you Seen?" in which we hope to highlight any interesting publications, press reports, or stories that readers may come across and which others may have missed.

The name change has had several consequences. First, a change in ISSN number, one for the printed version and another for the on-line version. Second, the creation of a dedicated web site for the *Simuliid Bulletin*. This is now at URL: <http://www.simuliid-bulletin.blogspot.com> (note the hyphen), and the actual files are housed on Google Drive (details on page 11). The most important aspect of this site is that it contains the complete collection of the *British Simuliid Group Bulletins* and *Newsletters*. These were previously held on www.blackfly.org.uk, a private site that would disappear should anything happen to its owner. The new site has been set up so that ownership can be easily transferred at no cost. It is also hoped to use this site to host a bulletin board and as a repository for notices about meetings.

Please note the notices about three upcoming meetings.

A further topic which will certainly arise in the future concerns the location of our database of simuliid workers. Currently this is managed by JISCMail, and is free provided the list owner is a member of a U.K. University and has a .ac.uk email address. This could change, so I am considering other hosts for our mailing list. There seem to be four easy free possibilities - Google Groups, Yahoo Groups, Free Lists and Topica. Does anyone have experience in using these lists? How secure are they and is there a problem with unwanted advertising and spam? Please contact me if you have any comments or suggestions as to alternatives.

John Davies, Editor

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

VII International Simuliidae Symposium 2016

Zaragoza, Spain, 5 to 10 September 2016

hosted by the University of Zaragoza.

For more information on the city of Zaragoza go to:

<http://www.zaragoza.es/ciudad/turismo?idioma=en&seleccionar=OK>

Provisional arrangements have been made for the Symposium to be held in the The Hotel Silken Zentro, El Coso 80, in the center of Zaragoza. Accomodation will also be available between September 5^h to September 11th, at special rates: (Double room per night: 75€; Double room in single use per night: 68€. Buffet breakfast and VAT is included.). Participants are advised to book rooms as early as possible. www.hoteles-silken.com/hoteles/zentro-zaragoza/hotel/ **

Provisional deadlines and fees have been set as:

Registration: before June 15th 2016, 175 €; after June 15, 225€

Deadline for abstracts submission: July 15th 2016.

All information and registration forms will be available soon at

URL: www.blackflyzaragoza.com

completed registration forms should be sent to info@blackflyzaragoza.com

Further notification and details will be made through the
SIMULIIDAE@JISCMAIL.AC.UK forum, the blackfly.org.uk website and
future *Bulletins*

Ignacio Ruiz

** At the time of going to press this URL was not operative.

Note: The nearby Hotel Silken Reina de Aragón is **NOT** the same hotel as Zentrum.

Ed.

SAVE THE DATE!!
“BLACK FLIES IN THE DESERT”
February 25-26, 2016
14th Annual North American Black Fly Association
(NABFA) Meeting

Laughlin, Nevada / Bullhead City, Arizona

Greetings NABFA Members, Friends and Colleagues,

Please Save the Date for the 14th Annual North American Black Fly Association (NABFA) meeting February 25-26, 2016 in Laughlin, Nevada / Bullhead City, Arizona USA. We invite black fly enthusiasts, researchers, control specialists and students to join us to exchange ideas, information and camaraderie.

Our local host is Chris Bramley, Clark County Vector Control.

For all meeting information please visit:

<http://nabfa-blackfly.org/meeting/>

E-SOVE and SOVE
E-SOVE Lisbon, 3rd to the 7th of October 2016

The European Society for Vector Ecology (E-SOVE) is a European branch of the American Society SOVE www.sove.org a non-profit organization founded in California in 1968.

The aim of the SOVE and E-SOVE is to share knowledge and create a large network among scientists on thematic concerning the ecology and control of arthropods of medical and veterinary importance through publication and presentation at our annual and bi-annual conferences. The Society is also committed to solving complex problems encountered in the field of vector biology and control. Among these are the suppression of nuisance organisms and disease vectors through integration of control elements such as environmental management,

biological control, public education, and appropriate chemical control technology.

European (E-SOVE) conferences normally count between 250 and 350 participants from all over Europe and the world (most frequently Americans). We always promote also the participation of students creating very good connections with European Universities.

The 20th E-SOVE conference will be held this year (2016) in Lisbon (Portugal) from the 3rd to the 7th of October. Registration and details will be circulated shortly.

Training Course

The week-end prior to the commencement of the conference (1-2nd October) E-SOVE, in collaboration with EMCA (European Mosquito Control Association), will run a 2-day training course on vector ecology and control. The course will be divided into 5 different themes: 1) mosquitoes 2) ticks 3) biting midges 4) black flies and 5) sand flies. Participants can take part in one theme only.

After the large participation we had at our previous conference (Thessaloniki, 2014) with more than 60 participants, we are expecting many registrants this year too!

The course will be open not only to scientist entomologists, academics and students but also to private companies and municipalities that are involved on vector control activities in the field.

More details on the organization and registration will be given soon.

E-SOVE Website:

<http://www.sove.org/European%20SOVE%20folder/homeesove.html>

Dr Eva Veronesi
President of E-SOVE



MEETING REPORT

:

The 7th European Mosquito Control Association (EMCA) Workshop, Valencia, Spain, 23-26 February 2015

Dr Aleksandra Ignjatovic Cupina, Leader of the EMCA Blackfly Working Group and moderator of the BF session and Dr Ruben Bueno, President of the Organizing Committee of the 7th EMCA Workshop

Within the European Mosquito Control Association (EMCA), primarily focused to mosquito control and related subjects, the Blackfly Working Group was established back in 2004 in order to enable and promote the exchange of information and experiences in blackfly studies, especially in control topics. Since then, the organization of a session dealing with blackfly topics during the EMCA workshops became traditional.

The last, 7th European Mosquito Control Association (EMCA, 2015) workshop was held under the mild Mediterranean winter sun, in the beautiful and fascinating, historical and touristic city of Valencia, Spain from 23rd to 26th of February, 2015. The workshop brought together 162 participants from 26 countries. During four very active days of the event, in total 6 keynote lectures were given, 7 Sessions with 55 presentations were held, as well as 2 Symposiums with 10 presentations and one Poster session with 27 presentations.

In accordance with the permanently existing interests, the Organizing Committee of the, 7th EMCA Workshop decided to include one keynote lecture and one hour lasting session on blackflies into the programme of the event, scheduled on 25th of February, 2015. The 30 min lasting keynote lecture entitled "Outbreaks of blackflies (Diptera, Simuliidae) and related problems in Europe with special focus to Serbia" was prepared by international team of authors from Serbia, Slovakia and Germany (Aleksandra Ignjatovic Cupina, Matus Kudela, Tatiana Bruderova, Doreen Werner, Marija Zgomba and Dusan Petric) and presented by the first author. After introductory general information about the morphology, biology, medical and veterinary importance of black flies in Europe, the presentation showed the historical overview of outbreaks of the most important blackfly pest species in different European countries. Special focus was given to the acquired knowledge on pest species of Serbia, as one of the most affected European countries to blackfly outbreaks.

Within the session No. 7. entitled "Biology and control of blackflies" , chaired by Dr Doreen Werner and Dr Aleksandra Ignjatovic Cupina, five interesting presentations were given dealing with actual problems and experiences in blackfly control programs in Spain, Italy and Lithuania, as follows:

1. "Blackfly Control in the Ter River. First Control Program established in Spain", by *Patricia Valle-Trujillo and Marques E.*;
2. "River Mincio project (Northern Italy): control of blackfly with *Bacillus thuringiensis* subsp. *israelensis*", by *Paolo Radeghieri, Santi F. and Maini S.*;
3. "Blackfly control program in the lower Ebro River: 8 years of experience", by *Patricia Valle-Trujillo*
4. "The situation after the end of successful blackfly control in Lithuania", by *Rasa Bernotiene*;
5. "Expansion of simuliids (Diptera: Simuliidae) in Spain", by *Ignacio Ruiz-Arrondo, Kotter H., Rueda J., Ortiz A., Gómez P., Marqués E., Escosa R., Masia M., Soriano O., Delacour S., Alarcón P.M., Muñaz A., Pinal R., Martinez A., Melero R., Figueras L. and Lucientes J.*

Each presentation was followed by interesting questions and discussion, confirming the actuality of the presented topics. Furthermore, one poster presentation entitled:

"The Esperanza Window trap reduces the human biting rate of *Simulium ochraceum* s.l. in formerly onchocerciasis endemic foci in southern Mexico" by *Mario Alberto Rodríguez-Pérez, Garza-Hernández, J.A., Unnasch T.R., Cupp E.W., Fernández-Salas I. and Reyes-Villanueva F.* was given during the Poster session.

The excursion to the Lake of Albufera , with the guided tour to the bird observatory and boat trip, as well as the demonstration of the aerial mosquito treatment sponsored by LOKÍMICA Laboratorios company were conducted during the last day of the workshop.

More information about EMCA and the 7th European Mosquito Control Association Workshop is available at the following web pages:

<http://emca-online.eu>

<http://www.emca2015.com>

**The 7th European Mosquito Control Association (EMCA)
Workshop, Valencia, Spain, 23-26 February 2015**



IN MEMORIAM

Prof. Jan Knoz 1931 - 2014

We have received the following letter from *L. Jedlička*

Dear colleagues,

It seems to me that in recent time I have been the carrier of bad news. Excuse me for that please.

Only recently, with one year delay, we have been informed that Prof. Jan Knoz, of Brno (Czech Republic) passed away after losing his battle against a hard illness on October 28, 2014, at the age of 83.

Jan Knoz (1931–2014) was a known authority in black fly studies in Central Europe. However, the period he has been engaged in black fly research was relatively short – he published his main simuliological papers in the sixties of the past century, more particularly between the years 1960–1965, when he published his most eminent papers including description of seven species (three considered as valid at present). After his most comprehensive work was published in 1965*, as he expressed himself, all was done in black fly studies in Czechoslovakia and he switched to studies of Ceratopogonidae. Later he returned to black flies occasionally only, mainly with his students in papers on the distribution and local faunas of different parts of Czech Republic, a few papers on karyotaxonomy (two with Chubareva), serotaxonomy and neural structure of larvae. His chapter on black flies in a book on bloodsucking Diptera published in the series Fauna of Czechoslovakia (1980, edited by Chvála) was adapted Czech translation of his 1965 work with some additions. His next return to black flies was the checklist of Czechoslovakia – first (1986) as single author, in later versions (1996, 2006, 2009) as author responsible for the Czech Republic.

The distance between Brno and Bratislava is negligible, only 135 km and one (Schengen) border. Despite this, this unfortunate news took one year to overcome it. Join us in paying him a silent tribute. Sincerely,

L. Jedlička

Heidi Zwick remembers him as a gentle and modest person whose papers were a great help in her studies in nearby Hesse, Germany. She says that she has a spare copy of his book which she would be pleased to give to anyone interested.

(pleco-p.zwick@t-online.de)

The species described by Knoz were: ***Simulium crenobium***, ***S. oligotuberculatum***, ***S. maximum***, *S. novaki* (now *ibariense* Zivkovich & Grenier 1959), *S. carpathicum* (now *beltukovae* Rubtsov 1956), *S. rheophilum* (now *argyreatum* Meigen 1838) and *Prosimulium subrufipes* (now *fulvipes* Edwards 1921)

* Knoz, J. 1965. To identification of Czechoslovakian black-flies (Diptera: Simuliidae) *Folia Facultatis Scientiarum Naturalium Universitatis Purkynianae Brunensis*. 6(5): 1-52 plus 425 figures.

TRAVELLERS' TALES REVISITED

A Walk in the Woods

Film buffs who have seen the recent film "A Walk in the Woods" and have not read the book of the same name by Bill Bryson on which it is based, may not realise that the film omits an interesting encounter with blackflies. The story follows the author and a companion in their attempt to hike the Appalachian Trail in the Eastern United States. The trail follows the ridge of the mountains and is over 3200 km in length and a good hiker may achieve it in about five months, camping in a tent at night or in occasional special shelters.

Needless to say, they only manage about 1400 km - an impressive distance, but encounter bears, many interesting people and sometimes humorous situations in that time. One of them is an encounter with blackflies, (probably *Simulium venustum*) described in the following passage from page 224 which was reproduced in *BSG Bulletin* No 11 (June 1998).

"I spent the night in a motel and the next day hiked on to Cheshire. It was only nine miles over easy terrain, but the black-fly made it a torment. I have never seen a scientific name for these tiny, vile, winged specks, so I don't know what they are other than a hovering mass that goes with you wherever you go and are forever in your ears and mouth and nostrils. Human sweat transports them into a realm of orgasmic ecstasy, and insect repellent only seems to excite them further. They are particularly relentless when you stop to rest or take a drink - so relentless that eventually you drink while moving and then spit out a tongueful of them. It's a kind of living hell. So it was with some relief that I stepped from their woodland domain in early afternoon and strolled into the sunny, dozing straggle that was the little community of Cheshire."

Bill Bryson 1997. "A Walk in the Woods" (Doubleday, 320pp.).

HAVE YOU SEEN?

We are starting a new topic to give readers an opportunity to bring to the notice of others any scientific publications, newspaper articles, or items of general blackfly interest that they think might have been missed by their colleagues.

Please send your suggestion to any of the Editors, accompanied by a note describing why you think it is of interest. The success of this topic will depend on the cooperation of readers.

The following papers which could interest anyone involved in larval control programmes, have been brought to the Editors' attention.

Seeking shelter from the storm: responses of benthic stream invertebrates to natural and experimental floods.

Jonathan T. Fingerut, Dina M. Fonseca, James R. Thomson and David D. Hart. *Freshwater Science* Vol. 34, No. 3 (September 2015), pp. 897-908

They found that as water velocities increased, larvae moved swiftly to more sheltered microhabitats and returned in a matter of minutes when velocities decreased again.

Scale-dependent relationships between suspension-feeding stream insects and water velocity in spatially heterogeneous flow environments

J.R Thomson, D.M.Fonseca, C.M. Finelli, B. Farouk, D.DE. Hart
Freshwater Biology Volume 61, Issue 1, January 2016, pp 133-145

They conclude that their observations support the hypothesis that dispersal limitations may constrain the ability of larvae to reach preferred feeding sites at intermediate (among substrate) spatial scales.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The North American Black Fly Data Base

John W McCreddie, University of South Alabama
Peter Adler, Clemson University

The North American Black Fly Data Base (NABFDB), within the next few months, will contain larval and pupal data from all states in the USA

(except Hawaii) and all provinces and territories in Canada. The purpose of this data base is to compile all unpublished collection records of immature black flies from North America, and all published records with verified identifications, into a single database. Each collection record also is georeferenced (latitude, longitude) and contains a standard set of associated data including species identification, date, collector, ecoregion, elevation, and associated mermithiid and fungal pathogens. Nearly all specimens have been identified by Peter Adler, with collections from Newfoundland identified by John McCreadie.

The data base currently contains collections from 3600 sites. We are continuing to add data as information becomes available. Given the time and effort it has taken to develop and to continue the data base, we ask a small favor of colleagues who forward larvae to us for identification to please include accurate locality data (GPS preferred, but road intersections are useful) and, if possible, stream width. Any additional data associated with each collection also would be most appreciated. In the near future, all interested parties will have access to this data in an Excel Platform.

The New Bulletin Archives

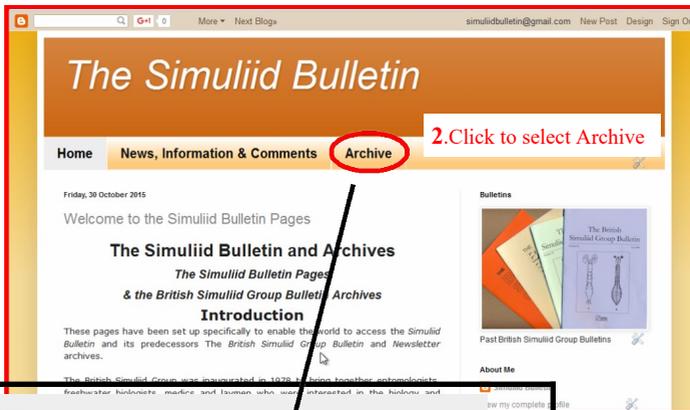
A new web location has been set up to house the complete archives of the *British Simuliid Group Bulletin* and *Newsletters*. This replaces the old location within the blackfly.org.uk website, a privately owned domain which could have been closed down at any time with loss of the complete archive set. The new site is located on a free blog domain operated by Google, and Google Drive and has been set up so that ownership can be transferred to anyone with little hassle and no cost.

To access the Bulletins (including the new *Simuliid Bulletin*), go to URL: <http://www.simuliid-bulletin.blogspot.com> and follow the instructions on page 11 below.

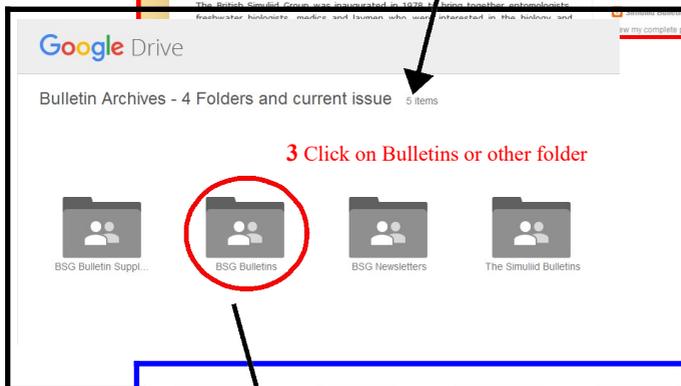
Please report any problems by email to your editor, John Davies at jaybeedee@gmail.com

To access the Archives

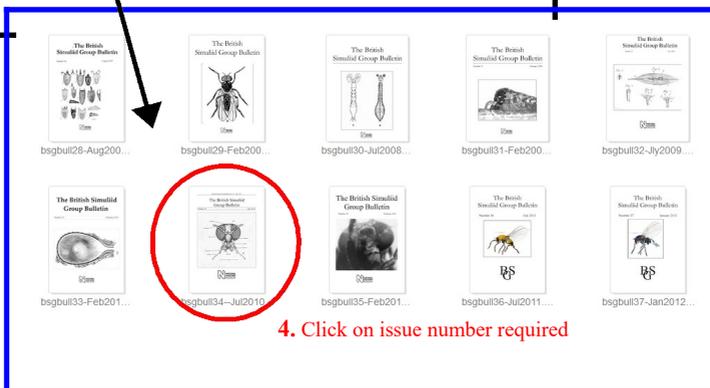
1. Navigate to <http://www.simuliid-bulletin.blogspot.com>



2. Click to select Archive



3 Click on Bulletins or other folder



4. Click on issue number required

5. Bulletin should open in your default pdf reader

Please report any problems to jaybecdee@gmail.com

Notes for Contributors

To avoid copy-typing, the editor (address above) would prefer to receive contributions on disc or by e-mail, or typewritten. Details as follows:-

1. Via conventional mail on CDROM or IBM PC formatted 1.4Mb 3.5 inch diskettes, as unmodified word processor files (most common DOS or Windows word processor formats are acceptable) or as RTF, PDF, ASCII or DOS text files (We usually have to change pagination and heading format, anyway). Mark the disc with the format, word processor name and file name(s). Complicated tables and figures can be accepted as separate graphics files (not OLE embedded, please!) but we may ask for a hard copy as a check that all detail has been retained. Remember that figures should have legends and small detail drawn large enough to be visible when reduced to 100mm by 70mm. Diskettes will be returned on request.

2. By electronic mail via the Internet. Send your file in MSWord .DOC or .DOCX or in .RTF format or as an ASCII file (also known as DOS or txt File). (PDF can be accepted, but can present formatting problems), and e-mail it either as part of the message or preferably as an attachment to: jaybeedee@gmail.com

If none of the above methods are available, then post to me printed copy on A4 paper (210x297 mm), single spaced, ready for scanning. Heading styles as in the Bulletin. Format for References is flexible. Please refer to the Bulletin for the form appropriate to your article. Scientific Communications should quote the full title with year and journal name and page numbers, but Notes and Abstracts may optionally omit titles and show only the year and abbreviated journal name and page numbers.

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The Simuliid Bulletin is an informal publication intended to disseminate information about the Simuliidae (Diptera). It is published twice each year on the internet as a downloadable file at URL <http://www.simuliid-bulletin.blogspot.com> (note the hyphen) or <http://www.blackfly.org.uk>. A few printed copies are sent to specialist libraries.

Content covers scientific papers, short research notes, notices and accounts of meetings, and articles of anecdotal or general interest that would not normally be found in international journals. Geographical cover is world-wide. Reports of research carried out by graduates, young scientists and newcomers to the subject are particularly encouraged. It is an ideal medium for offering new ideas and stimulating discussion because of the very short interval between acceptance and publication. Contributions may be accepted up to two weeks before the publication dates at the end of January or July..

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The Simuliid Bulletin conforms to the requirements of the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature.