



# NEWSLETTER

Vol.2, No.1

Simontorp, S-270 35 BLENTARP, Sweden

April, 1978

INTRODUCTION-The invitation is again extended to the general membership to submit letters to the editor, commentaries on specific topics, accounts of local programs of general interest, information queries, and the like. Our objective is e-x-p-a-n-d-e-d communication and the Newsletters success largely depends on your participation. Help us to help you!

John C. Mason  
President/Newsletter editor, I.A.A.  
Pacific Biological Station  
Nanaimo, B.C. Canada V9R 5K6

POST-MEETING TOURS AT THONON- This is to expand on the information given in the pre-registration material mailed out with Newsletter 1:2. The bus tour to La Canourgue in the Cevennes Region starts on Aug. 30 with arrival on Aug. 31 after an overnight stop. The crayfish facilities at La Canourgue are administrated by the French Fisheries Board (C.S.P.) responsible for freshwater ecological studies, including the re-stocking of rivers, lakes and ponds with fishes and crayfishes. Crayfish studies are conducted at two stations: La Canourgue where Atlantoastacus pallipes, the native crayfish, is cultured and researched; and Gournay, near Paris, where both Astacus leptodactylus and Pacifastacus leniusculus are cultured and researched. Gournay is still under construction but an informal visit can be arranged for Sept. 2. Please contact Jacques Arrignon, Conseil Superieur de la Peche, 3, Rue Sainte Marie, F 60200, COMPIEGNE, France, for more information and for registration for the latter visit.

After Canourgue, the bus will proceed to Nimes on the afternoon of Aug. 31 for dispersal by railway and airport. For those persons wishing to visit the Comparative Pathology Research Station at Saint-Christol, the bus will stop there while enroute to Nimes. Visitors to the Pathology Lab. will stay overnight in St.-Christol and visit the laboratories on the following day (Sept. 1) before proceeding on that afternoon to Nimes.

I.N.R.A.'s Research Station at St.-Christol carries out basic and applied research, especially on invertebrate pathology: insects, arachnids, crustaceans and molluscs. Crayfish research is in cooperation with the C.S.P., the Federation of Fishfarm Associations, crayfish farmers, and the Veterinary Services. Both freshwater and marine facilities are available, but the visit is aimed primarily at the laboratories concerned mainly with crayfish research. Specific problems on astacid pathology will be open for discussion.

FROM CALIFORNIA- Outdoor California (Sept.-Oct. issue, -77) contains an article on P. leniusculus in the Sacramento Delta. The developing commercial fishery has grown from 19 fishermen landing 40 metric tons in 1970 to 65 fishermen landing 205 metric tons in 1976.

Therefore, in six years, three times as many fishermen are landing five times the initial catch, average catch per fisherman increasing by 50% in the process. The management plan for this rapidly developing fishery was mentioned in Newsletter 1:2. Regulations have established a minimum legal size of 92 mm (3 5/8 inches) in total length, and a new sorting device has been developed to release undersized animals overboard in rapid fashion. Storage and processing are also subject to regulation. Ca. Fish & Game Dept. has an intensive field research program in the Delta region, coupled with regulation and fishery analysis. These developments should do much to reduce potential overexploitation which typically leads to dramatic reduction in harvest and resulting economic losses.

FROM LOUISIANA- Intercraysymp II held at Baton Rouge, La. elicited some discussion on the merits of preparing a short essay on the effective preparation and presentation of scientific papers and allied information. Mrs. Myrtle Anderson, a skilled communicator of long experience in her university work has produced a collection of do's and don't's on the basics of effective communication. The majority of us would benefit significantly from her advice. Copies may be obtained from James W. Avault, 249 Ag Center, LSU, Baton Rouge, La. 70803, USA.

Jay Huner has compiled a seven paper compendium of articles describing his work on crayfish culture, particularly in ponds. Requests may be made (while they last) to Dr. Huner directly at Box 10809, Southern University, Baton Rouge, La. 70813, USA. He has recently been awarded a NSF grant to study dietary protein requirements of P. clarki and also a Sea Grant to study production biology in commercial crayfish ponds.

The University of Southeastern Louisiana has obtained a Sea Grant to study uses of crayfish peeling plant wastes for enriching agricultural soils.

Michael Miltner, one of Jim Nolfi's students at Goddard College in Vermont has just commenced his M.S. program at LSU under the guidance of Jim Avault. Native crayfish feature in the aquaculture program directed by Nolfi at Goddard College as a possible source of food and cash income for economically-depressed Northeastern Vermont. Miltner has been studying crayfish populations in Vermont lakes and stocking local ponds. He recently joined a University of Vermont team on Lake Champlain looking at fish stocks, especially eels, and the feasibility of establishing a fishery for crayfish. Michael Miltner takes with him to Louisiana his field experience as a "Vermont lobster fisherman"-----how else but through the I.A.A. exchanges could one expect to hear a New England accent twanging across the Atchafalaya backcountry??

Last but certainly not least from the pelican state---CONGRATULATIONS to Jim Avault who was recently awarded a life honorary membership in the World Mariculture Society in recognition of his service and leadership in the WMS.

NEW MULTI-VOLUME WORK ON CRUSTACEA ON THE HORIZON- According to Dorothy Bliss (Amer. Museum of Nat. History), Academic Press has announced their intentions to publish a multi-volume work on the crustacea. Dr. Bliss will serve as Editor-in-Chief. The pending series will contain up to five volumes starting with systematics and morphology, neurobiology and behaviour, environmental physiology and ecology, regulatory physiology and development, and applied aspects (fisheries, pathology etc.). This new work will comprise a self-contained reference system synthesizing both old and new information on crustacea for both specialist and layman alike. It will not be a review of recent advances in crustacean biology or an attempt to bring up to date Waterman's two-volume series, Physiology of Crustacea (1960-1961) published also by Academic Press.

The new series will stress discussion of recent research topics for which the data base is either inadequate, controversial, or in a state of change. Hopefully, some of the old problems will also be examined, e.g. the biological basis of cannibalism in the crustacea.

FROM FINLAND- Ossi Lindqvist assured me in a recent letter that the Kuopio Proceedings will be available soon after many financial difficulties. Hopefully the new Publications Committee will have the opportunity to circumvent many of the difficulties facing the Proceedings Editor in future years by devising a publications structure and function service that will relieve the Proceedings Editor of the unnecessarily burdensome task of producing the book without organized and integrated assistance. Ossi has also been hospitalized recently-and we wish him a speedy recovery!

FROM SWEDEN- A new research report is available from Drottningholm (No. 1, 1978) authored by Magnus Furst and Ulla Boström entitled: Frequency of visible symptoms of crayfish plague in populations of Pacifastacus leniusculus Dana. Apply to: Institute of Freshwater Research, S-170 11 DROTTNINGHOLM, Sweden.

The English abstracts of the papers given at the Lake Erken workshop last September are being prepared presently and will be included in the next Newsletter.

STATUS OF THE MEMBERSHIP- Our Sec'y-Treasurer, Stellan Karlsson informs me that the membership drive is going very well. April 15 we had 153 paying members, representing 24 countries. (However, many are still in arrears. Mailing costs are very high, so immediately after the mailing of this Newsletter we will have to remove all non-paying members from our mailing list.)

JOB SEARCH- One of our members in Australia, Ian Smith (115 NBHC Cottages, Broken Hill, 2880, NSW, Australia) would like to work with crayfish for a few months, preferably in Europe. If anyone has or knows of any vacant positions, contact Mr. Smith directly, please.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF A BURSARY IN MEMORY OF STURE ABRAHAMSSON- The foundation dedicated to the memory of Sture Abrahamsson is administrated by a three-member permanent board in Sweden and is financed by the income derived from the sales of the book Freshwater Crayfish I, in accordance with the donor's wishes. The board would like to announce the availability of a bursary covering travel and accomodation expenses for one participant at the symposium this summer at Thonon. Applications are restricted to astacologists from Eastern Europe. Applications should be sent to the Sec'y-Treasurer before July 1, 1978.

UPDATING THE DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS, I.A.A.- We would like to bring this very useful directory up to date, including some appropriate minor changes in personal data in support of the ongoing organizational changes relating to committees and working groups. Please fill in the new directory form (enclosed with this Newsletter) and return it as soon as possible to Stellan Karlsson who is aiming to produce the Directory 1978 for distribution at Thonon and, thereafter, through the post.

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE AND RELATED WORKING GROUPS- As all appointments have been made to the Publications Committee, the committee members can now be identified-as noted in the last Newsletter-associated with the subject area for which they will have editorial responsibility and responsibility as coordinators for the related Working Groups:

- |                                                  |                                                           |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| 1: General Ecology and Behaviour-                | Per Brinck (Sweden) and Charles Goldman (USA).            |
| 2: Aquaculture-                                  | James W. Avault, Jr. (USA) and Stellan Karlsson (Sweden). |
| 3: Diseases and Parasites-                       | Robert Amborski (USA) and Alain Vey (France).             |
| 4: Physiology-                                   | Ross Stevenson (USA) and Axel Willig (Germany)            |
| 5: Fishery Exploitation and Population Dynamics- | Ossi Lindqvist (Finland) and Walter Momot (Canada).       |
| 6: Systematics and Zoogeography-                 | Horton Hobbs, Jr. (USA) and Lipke Holthuis (Netherlands). |
| 7: Toxicology and Food Science-                  | Anthony Novak (USA) and Eeva-Liisa Valkama (Finland).     |
| 8: General Biology-                              | Peter Greenaway (Australia) and James Payne (USA).        |

Other Working Groups can be formed when necessary. The general membership is invited to associate with Working Groups of their interest by contacting the most convenient co-chairman in their areas of interest. More detailed objectives for the Working Groups will be forthcoming following consultation with the coordinators. The first priority for them as an Editorial Committee will be to establish an editorial policy acceptable to the Executive and to put such a policy into effect.

**MORE NEWS FROM THONON**- Dr. P. Laurent, President of the organizing committee for the fourth International Symposium (C.O.C.A.) recently informed me that the description and price list for accommodations in Thonon has just been published and will be in the mail along with application forms for accommodation (reservation) and form for summaries and full texts of intended scientific communications.

The pre-registration response was very strong and we can look forward to a vigorous and substantial meeting thanks to our French colleagues.


Accommodation costs look quite reasonable, the meeting facilities excellent and including translation services, and the immediate location in a relatively small and traditional resort city offseason close to ideal. The scientific sessions and table discussions by content are equally impressive and I am very confident that we will have an outstanding meeting. Hope to see you all in Thonon!

Lastly, on the subject of scientific papers and display materials for the Thonon meeting, everyone intent on making a formal contribution should be beyond the planning stage by now. Time flies fast-avoid last minute preparations-take time to produce high quality visual aids and formal display materials-and come prepared to give a first-rate presentation. See "FROM LOUISIANA" for further assistance in this regard.

**DON'T FORGET TO FILL IN AND RETURN THE DIRECTORY FORM, PLEASE!!**

**STATION D'HYDROBIOLOGIE  
LACUSTRE DE THONON**

75, Avenue de Corzent - Tél. 71.49.55  
74203 THONON LES BAINS

notez bien   
notre adresse postale  
complète  
MERC!

REPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE  
MINISTÈRE DE L'AGRICULTURE



INSTITUT NATIONAL DE LA RECHERCHE AGRONOMIQUE

Références à rappeler :

N/Réf. : PL/FB/ 8.9 /78

THONON Hydrobio - 59 042

V/Réf. :

Objet :

Professor James W. AVAULT, Jr.  
School of Forestry and Wildlife  
Management

249 Ag Center

BATON ROUGE

Louis.

U.S.A. 70803

Thonon, le 15 Mars 1978

Dear Professor Avault,

You will find enclosed the new price-list of accomodation in the city of Thonon, unfortunately everythings are written in French but I think you could easily understand.

For students interested to find the cheapest conditions, I can mention "Maison des Jeunes et de la Culture" (La Grangette 74200 THONON) where the price of a full board is about 50 F. It is necessary to write to this place immediately in order to reserve the rooms in advance.

I received 146 pre inscription sheets and I hope we will have an interesting congress.

I am waiting you and your coworkers.

Very sincerely.

P. LAURENT  
Directeur de la Station

FOURTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
ASTACOLOGY

Details of the visit to the Comparative Pathology Research Station  
(Station de Recherches de Pathologie Comparée, Saint-  
Christol, 30300 France)

The program published in Newsletter Vol 1, N°2 of the I.A.A., of the tour to the Cevennes Region, allows time for an overnight stop at St.Christol on 31st august and for the possibility of a visit to the Research Station the following day (september 1 st).

The reason for including this visit in the Congress' program is the fact that research performed in this Institute is closely related to crayfish pathology. This Research Station belongs to the National Institute of Agronomical Research, is an associate of the National Center for Scientific Research and of the University of Science and Technology at Montpellier. Situated in the south of the Cevenne region this Station carries out fundamental and applied researches in the field of comparative pathology, particularly on cells. An important part of the work concerns invertebrate pathology : insects, crustacea, arachnids, molluscs. This research on crayfish has developed with the collaboration of the Superior Fishing Council, the different Federations of Fish Farm Associations, crayfish farmers, as well as the Veterinary Services. The fact that this very Station has laboratories specialized in marine invertebrates offering the possibility of studying diseases and pathogenic agents of both salt and fresh water crustacea at the same time, is worth mentioning.

For September 1 st a visit to the laboratories particularly concerned with crayfish research has been organized with the possibility of also looking round other Departments dealing with different aspects of Invertebrate Pathology. Discussions will be held on specific problems of topical interest in astacian pathology.

p.p. The Organizing Committee

