

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION  
OF ASTACOLOGY  
I. A. A.



Volume 6, Number 3

August, 1983

# NEWSLETTER

## COMMUNICATIONS FROM MEMBERS

Dr. Charles GOLDMAN writes: "I am happy to be able to inform I.A.A. members that the long-awaited Vol. 5 of Freshwater Crayfish, Proceedings of the 1981 Conference at Davis, California is being published by AVI Publishers and is expected to become available by November, 1983."

Darlene McGRIFF requests information on introductions of Australian crayfish, Cherax tenuimanus (marron) and/or C. destructor (yabbie).

She writes that the California Department of Fish and Game has received quite a few requests from individuals wishing to introduce marron and/or yabbies into California for aquaculture purposes. The Department has opposed these requests as an unnecessary risk to California's fish and wildlife. The Department is especially concerned with the possible introduction of new diseases or parasites and with possible predation upon, or competition with desirable species or their food sources. I have heard rumors of recent marron introductions in parts of the southern United States. I am very anxious to learn more about introductions of Australian crayfish, both in the United States and Europe. I am especially interested in the justification for the introductions, any restrictions placed on the introductions, and the success or failure of the introductions.

Please send any information to Darlene McGriff, California Department of Fish and Game, 1701 Nimbus Road, Suite C, Rancho Cordova, California 95670, USA.

Darlene also writes that the 1982 commercial catch of Pacifastacus leniusculus from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region was down 53% from 1981. The Delta region produced 556,000 lbs. (252,000 kg) of crayfish in 1981. Only 261,000 lbs. (118,000 kg) were landed in 1982, with a similar harvest expected for the 1983 season.

The poor 1982 crayfish harvest was due to greatly increased flows of cold water through the Delta; the result of the wettest season this century. This past winter has been the wettest in 130 years. The flows through the Delta are again much higher and colder than normal, and another low harvest is expected.

Ken RICHARDS of Riversdale Farm, Dorset writes: "Crayfish (*Pacifastacus*) are doing very well in the UK." The British Crayfish Marketing Association Ltd. which was started in May 1982 now has 40 members and we are expecting good numbers to market, mainly in London, this season. We introduced the Minister of Agriculture, Peter Walker, to the delights and art of eating Signal crayfish as part of the Food From Britain campaign recently.

We are looking forward to the next TAA Conference and hopefully meeting a lot of the people we met in California.

### RECENT PUBLICATIONS

The National Agricultural Library of the United States Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with the Department of Fisheries and Allied Aquaculture at Auburn University, have issued (June, 1983) a publication entitled: Major Aquaculture Associations, Education and Research Resources in the United States. This directory identifies major educational and technical assistance organizations as well as associations working with aquaculture in the United States. In the context of listings, aquaculture is defined as the controlled cultivation of animals and plants, including finfish, crustaceans, mollusks, and seaweed. The directory serves as a source of primary contact at the national and state levels for technical assistance and information on programs. One objective of this publication is to provide impetus for improved communication among those in the public and private sectors involved in aquaculture. This is true for companion volumes recently issued or in preparation:

Directory of Aquaculture Information Resources.

USDA, National Agricultural Library through a contract with Aspen Systems Corporation (Dec. 1982). 53 pages. (USDA Bibliographies and Literature of Agriculture series No. 25). \$10.00

Aquaculture Research: A Directory of USDA and State Projects in CRIS.

USDA, National Agricultural Library and Cooperative State Research Service (Jan. 1983). 357 pages. USDA Miscellaneous Publication No. 1432.

Aquaculture Bibliography for 1970-82.  
(in preparation)

These three Volumes are available from Field and Special Programs Division, Room 300, National Agricultural Library, Beltsville, MD. 20705 USA.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN) has published The IUCN Invertebrate Red Data Book, a compilation of threatened and vulnerable species. Following a twelve page introduction to the class Crustacea are descriptions of individual species. The following entries of crayfish species are found: Austropotamobius pallipes (White-Clawed or Atlantic-Stream Crayfish) is described as rare; Astacus astacus (Noble Crayfish) is described as vulnerable; Astacopsis gouldi (Giant Freshwater Crayfish) is classed as vulnerable; and Orconectes shoupi (Shoup's Crayfish) is classed as vulnerable. The book contains remarks on habitat, ecology, distribution, scientific interest and potential value, and threats to survival. Conservation measures are also discussed. Information on ordering may be obtained from:

IUCN Conservation Monitoring Centre  
219(c) Huntingdon Road  
Cambridge CB3 0DL  
ENGLAND

IUCN Publications  
Avenue du Mont-Blanc  
1196 Gland  
Switzerland

UNIPUB  
Box 433  
Murray Hill  
New York  
New York 10016

### MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

The Tasmanian College of Advanced Education (Tasmania, Australia) has been allocated a grant of \$77,700 to conduct a feasibility study program into farming the Tasmanian fresh water lobster commercially. The team of three researchers, headed by Dr. Andrew Osborn, know some details of the lobster's biology, but there is still a long way to go before an all-round picture has been reached. "We do know that the animal is the largest known fresh water lobster in the world and that it can reach 40 cm in length and weigh about 3.5 kgs," Dr. Osborn said. "It has been found walking along the river banks particularly during heavy rains in search of food, such as worms, and possibly a mate. The animal is more terrestrial than we thought." Dr. Osborn said that as a result it is theoretically possible to farm the fresh water lobster in the near future. "In the northern part of Tasmania especially, there are certain areas where the lobster might be successfully farmed," he said. "One of our aims is to determine the animal's growth rate on a variety of diets and we will try to have it reach table size from the embryo stage in about two years which, we believe, would be an economical proposition." Each lobster will have to be housed individually, as they are extremely aggressive, especially in captivity, and will kill each other. During their research, the team will be in close liaison with the Inland Fisheries Commission, the Tasmanian Fisheries Development Authority and colleagues at the University of Tasmania, who have already been working on the research of the animal (from Aquaculture Magazine, May-June/1983).

The Louisiana Crawfish Farmers Association reports on estimated increase in acreage of 50,000 acres during 1982. It seems as though the low price of soybeans and rice is causing many row-crop farmers to look more closely at water farming. It's a natural conversion since they already have much of the necessary equipment to make the change-over.

Prices from 1983 are down from \$0.80 last year to \$0.50 currently. Retail prices range from \$0.80 to \$1.00 per pound. (Aquaculture Magazine, July-August/1983).

## 6th International Symposium

Information-application forms for the August, 1984 meeting in Lund, Sweden were mailed a few weeks ago. The two pages for registration are duplicated within this Newsletter for those who wish an additional copy. Please return the form to Per Brinck as soon as your plans are made. The Arrangements Committee has worked hard and will benefit in their planning by early responses from participants.



6<sup>th</sup> International  
Symposium of Astacology  
13-15 August 1984 - Lund,  
Sweden



Dear Colleague,

We have the privilege to invite you to the 6<sup>th</sup> International Symposium of Astacology, 13-15 August 1984, at Lund University, Lund, Sweden.

Below you will find some information and an application form which should be returned before 30 November 1983.

Abstract of your presentation (if any) and the registration fee should be sent in before 15 March 1984.

MAIN TOPICS (later to be structured into sessions):

Structure and function  
Diseases and defence mechanisms  
Aquaculture  
Ecology and behaviour  
Reports on research and applied experiences

### PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Su 12 August: Registration. Crayfish trapping and welcome party  
Mo 13 August: Sture Abrahamsson Memorial Lecture. Plenary and poster sessions. Reception at the Vice Chancellor  
Tu 14 August: Plenary and poster sessions. Excursion to aquaculture activities in the Lund area  
We 15 August: Plenary and poster sessions. Closing of the symposium. Dinner

Oral presentations: Invited papers 30 min, submitted papers 15 min (discussion included).

Ms to be considered for publication must be submitted not later than 1 October 1984. Ms which are not delivered before 1 October will not be printed, only the title and the author's name or abstract if available.

### POST-SYMPOSIUM EXCURSION

The excursion is composed of three parts which succeed each other. If you want so, you can participate in the first part only (break in Stockholm), or the first + the second (break in Helsinki) or in all three parts (break in Helsinki after return from Leningrad).

APPLICATION FORM

First part:

we 15 August: Night train to Uppsala (change in Stockholm)  
 th 16 August: Visits to departments at Uppsala university and  
 Lake Erken  
 fr 17 August: Arrival in Stockholm in the afternoon

Second part:

fr 17 August: Boat to Finland  
 sa 18 August: Arrival in Helsinki. Excursions in Finland

Third part:

su 19 August: Tourist trip to Leningrad (visa required) will be  
 arranged provided that there will be a sufficient number of  
 participants

PRICES (in Swedish Crowns): 1 US \$ - 7:50 Sw Cr (May 1983)

REGISTRATION FEE: participants 600:-  
 students and accompanying persons 300:-

In case of non-attendance half of the fee will be refunded.  
 If cancelled before 15 July, the fee will be repaid

HOTELS (1983 prices per night):

Alternative A, Alternative B, Alternative C,  
 International Family hotel Sparta, Student  
 standard Centre  
 (limited numbers of rooms available)

Single room	500- 50	250-300	160
Double room	600-650	350-400	230
single room,economy (no room service)			130
Double room,economy (no room service)			170

Meals: Welcome party, lunch during local symposium excursions in-  
 cluded, reception at the Vice Chancellor and closing dinner are  
 included.

Post-symposium excursions:

First part: about 100 US \$  
 Second part: about 100 US \$  
 Third part: about 200 US \$

Registration fee should be with the Organizing Committee not later  
 than 15 March 1984. The application is considered valid on receipt  
 of the registration fee.  
 Overseas participants who wish to pay by cheque are respectfully  
 requested to include an adequate amount for Bank Charges (2 US \$).  
 Your cheques should be payable to:

6TH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF ASTACOLOGY  
 C/O PROFESSOR PER BRINCK  
 ECOLOGY BUILDING  
 S-223 62 LUND  
 SWEDEN

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Accompanying person(s) (name) \_\_\_\_\_

I am interested in the following accomodation (rank first and se-  
 cond choice):

Alternative	A	B	C	yes	no
Single	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single,economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double,economy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

I/We will attend an excursion      yes       no

First part      yes       no

Second part      yes       no

Third part      yes       no

I intend to contribute with a talk or a poster. I would prefer  
 to present it as a talk  as a poster  (the decision on which  
 will be taken by the Steering Committee).

I do not intend to give a presentation

\* APPLICATION FORM SHOULD BE WITH THE ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE NOT  
 LATER THAN 30 NOVEMBER 1983.

Address: 6th INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF ASTACOLOGY  
 C/O PROFESSOR PER BRINCK  
 ECOLOGY BUILDING  
 S- 223 62 LUND  
 SWEDEN