

## OVERVIEW OF ODONATA KNOWN FROM MAURITANIA (WEST AFRICA)

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The current knowledge on the odon. fauna of Mauritania (20 spp.) is summarized based on literature and unpublished records. In all, 55 localities are listed along with their precise topographic positions. The fauna of Mauritania is poorly explored: 8 spp. are known from a single locality and *Trithemis annulata*, widespread in Africa, is brought here on record for the country for the first time.

**SPATIAL MODELLING OF ODONATA HABITATS  
IN THE PACIFIC,  
1: INTRODUCTION TO THE TECHNIQUES  
IN SPATIAL MODELLING**

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The habitat modelling schemes are briefly reviewed with emphasis on their implication in various fields of science. The best practical solutions for habitat modelling encompassing large geographical units are sought. They are exploited and considered for a macro-scale project aiming in producing predictive habitat models for Odonata species inhabiting a vast territory of the Pacific. The present publication is the first part of a series of papers dealing with this mapping scheme. It represents the study area, explains some common terminology used in Geographical Information Systems (GIS)-based modelling and ecology, and introduces the methodology developed specifically for the purposes of the current investigation.

## **J.W. GOETHE'S *WASSERPAPILLON*: GESCHICHTE EINES LIBELLENGEDICHTES**

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**J.W. GOETHE'S *WASSERPAPILLON*: THE HISTORY OF A DRAGONFLY POEM** – In 1770 the young Johann Wolfgang (von) Goethe (1749-1832), the German poet, universally acknowledged to be one of the giants of world literature, published his earliest poems, among which ‘*Die Freuden*’ refers to Odonata. As a metaphor, Goethe’s poem depicts the irritating flight pattern as well as the changing reflections of body and wing colour of *Calopteryx* damselflies. The text of this poem is near to plagiarism, for it is but an abridged translation of the French poem ‘*Le plaisir et le papillon*’ by A.M.H. Blin de Sainmore, published in 1764. Goethe substitutes a damselfly, a “Wasserpapillon”, for the butterfly of the French poem. Some linguistic aspects of the term “Wasserpapillon” are discussed.

**THE NUMBER OF EGGS DEVELOPED IN THE OVARIES OF  
THE DRAGONFLY *SYMPETRUM INFUSCATUM* (SELYS)  
IN RELATION TO DAILY FOOD INTAKE IN FOREST GAPS  
(ANISOPTERA: LIBELLULIDAE)**

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Daily food intake of *S. infuscatum* was estimated using the quantity of faeces produced. Dry weight of faeces excreted during 24 h after capture was measured for each sex of both sexually immature and mature stages. The grain-like faeces (faecal pellets) contained many fragments of cuticle of prey insects. In the laboratory, there was a relationship between the amount of daily faeces excreted and the quantity of daily food intake. Although both sexes excreted a similar amount of faeces in the immature stages, mature ♀♀ had greater faecal weight than ♂♂, suggesting that ♀♀ fed on more prey than ♂♂. The estimated daily dry weight of prey insects was about 17.7 mg in ♀♀. The relationship between the number of mature eggs in the ovaries and the quantity of food intake indicated that about 8 days were needed to accumulate enough mature eggs in the ovaries to lay in rice paddy fields. The duration of the mature stage in ♀♀ was one and a half months, hence the number of visits to rice paddy fields must be 6, confirming the importance of food intake during visits to the forest gaps between bouts of oviposition.

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

**REDISCOVERY OF *TELEBASIS ERYTHRINA* (SELYS, 1876),  
WITH NOTES ON HABITAT AND CONSERVATION  
(ZYGOPTERA: COENAGRIONIDAE)**

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*T. erythrina* was previously known from 5 ♂, all collected in Minas Gerais (Brazil). 4 ♂ of the type series are deposited in IRSN and the fifth specimen, collected in Santa Barbara, MG, Private Reserve Peti, 18-X-1980, is deposited in ABMM collection (now UFMG). Recently the sp. has been rediscovered in São Paulo state, and data on habitat and conservation are presented here for the first time.

***DREPANOSTICTA HAMALAINENI* SPEC. NOV.  
AND *SULCOSTICTA SIERRAMADRENSIS* SPEC. NOV.  
FROM THE NORTHERN SIERRA MADRE NATURAL PARK,  
LUZON, THE PHILIPPINES  
(ZYGOPTERA: PLATYSTICTIDAE)**

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*D. hamalaineni* sp. n. (holotype ♂ : Dipinantahikan area, Dipagsangan, Palanan, Isabela, Luzon Island, the Philippines, 12/20-IX-2008, to be deposited in RMNH, Leiden) and *S. sierramadrensis* sp. n. (holotype ♂, same locality, date and deposition) are diagnosed, described and illustrated.

**DESCRIPTIONS OF *ANAX IMMACULIFRONS* RAMBUR  
AND *TETRACANTHAGYNA WATERHOUSEI* McLACHLAN  
EXUVIAE FROM CHINA  
(ANISOPTERA: AESHNIDAE)**

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The ♂ and ♀ exuviae of the 2 spp. are described and illustrated from Zhuhai (Guangdong) and some notes on larval ecology and behaviour are provided. Larval morphology of the Guangdong *A. immaculifrons* is compared to that of the larvae from the westernmost known population of this sp., i.e. from the island of Karpathos, Greece.