

In memoriam Dr. Ludvík Hoberlandt (1918-2005)

Dr. Ludvík Hoberlandt, a renowned heteropterist and long-lasting editor-in-chief of the *Acta Entomologica Musei Nationalis Pragae*, died after a long illness in Prague on March 15, 2005, shortly after his 87th birthday.

Dr. Hoberlandt was born in Prague on January 22, 1918. Since his youth he was interested in the natural history, especially in entomology, and he undertook his first collecting trip to Bulgaria already in 1938. Because the Czech universities were closed during the war, he completed his studies and graduated from the Charles University in Prague only in 1948. However, already in

1945 he became a member of the staff of the Department of Zoology (since 1955 the Department of Entomology) of the National Museum in Prague, and lead the department in 1972-1978. His lifelong achievements were appraised at various occasions, e.g. by ŠTYS (1978), JEŽEK (1987, 1988), STEHLÍK (1999) and HEISS (2005).

Apart from his research activities, he was always deeply interested in scientific literature from various fields of science. This interest and resulting experience predestined him for the role of the editor-in-chief of the *Acta Entomologica Musei Nationalis Pragae*, which he hold with obvious delight and devotion for a long period of fifty years in 1947-1997. This was an uneasy period in the history of our country, which brought about frequent difficulties in publishing activities. It was the merit of Dr. Hoberlandt that he not only maintained the existence of the journal in spite of all obstacles, but gradually improved both its contents and layout. Under his leadership, the journal became an important platform for publications of many Czech and foreign entomologists, as well as a principle source for enlargement of the library of the Department of Entomology of the National Museum through its exchange with several hundreds of institutions abroad.



L. Hoberlandt – expedition in southern Iran

Rather than a 'big boss', Dr. Hoberlandt was like an older friend, always there ready to help, and all colleagues addressed him familiarly as Luděk. He would certainly share our pleasure that his beloved museum journal re-appears after a long break, as well as our hope that it will successfully continue its legacy in the future.

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Josef Jelínek

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