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CELEBRATION TIME: HERE'S TO 500 NUMBERS OF FAR EASTERN ENTOMOLOGIST!

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Summary. A review of the publication activity in the journal “Far Eastern Entomologist” in 1994–2024 is given. By May 2024, 1067 papers and short communications of 728 authors from 47 countries were published in 500 issues of the journal. Thirteen families, 20 tribes and subtribes, 162 genera and subgenera, 970 species and 40 subspecies of insects and other terrestrial arthropods (millipedes, mites, and spiders) have been described in 30 years.

Key words: entomology, publication activity, taxonomy, fauna, ecology, biology.

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Резюме. Дан обзор издательской деятельности журнала «Дальневосточный энтомолог» за 1994–2024 гг. К маю 2024 года в 500 номерах журнала было опубликовано 1067 статей и кратких сообщений 728 авторов из 47 стран. За 30 лет в журнале описано 13 семейств, 20 триб и подтриб, 162 рода и подрода, 970 видов и 40 подвида насекомых и других наземных членистоногих (многоножек, клещей, пауков).

“Far Eastern Entomologist” is an international journal in English with Russian summary, which since October 1994 publishes the original papers on insects and other terrestrial arthropods, including taxonomy, morphology, phylogeny, as well as biology, ecology, and biogeography. Today we have prepared the five hundredth number of this journal.

The idea of publishing their own scientific journal came in 1994 among scientists of the Laboratory of entomology of the Institute of Biology and Soil Science, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (since 2017 – Federal Scientific Center of the East Asia Terrestrial Biodiversity, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences). At the beginning of the 1990s, Russian scientists were going through hard times. The list of Russian journals publishing entomological articles was limited to “Entomological Review” and “Zoological Journal”. Far Eastern entomologists were helped by thematic books published in Vladivostok, but with the collapse of the USSR their publication stopped. True, the opportunity arose to publish in foreign journals, but there was no experience in preparing

such works. Therefore, English was chosen as the working language of the journal, which not only greatly expanded the foreign audience, but also provided Russian scientists with the necessary experience to publish the results of their own research in international publications.

It was also important that in 1993 we “acquired” the appropriate office equipment (computer, scanner, and printer) and were able to produce print-quality magazine layouts, whereas before that the main tool was a typewriter. And, of course, it was very important to reduce the publication time. At that time, an article was “tracked” in the central Russian journals for at least one and a half to two years, and publication in local books took up to three years. Therefore, the opportunity to publish an article within a month seemed simply fantastic. The design of the journal was initially based on the style: one article – one issue, published in the form of a separate notebook, similar to that used in a number of European journals, for example, the “Entomofauna”. This was soon abandoned, however, as we could not afford “blank” pages in individual issues of the journal. Thus the “Short communication” section for papers of 1-3 pages was born.

An image of a of primitive Orthoptera species endemic to the Russian Far East – *Paracyphoderris erebeus* Storozhenko, 1980 was chosen as the emblem of the journal (Fig. 1).

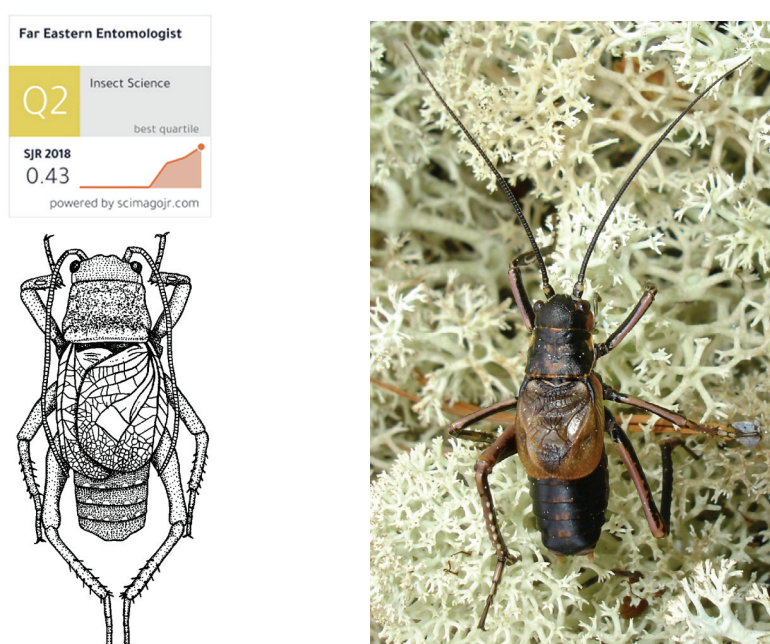


Fig. 1. Bottom left – the journal’s emblem; right – a male *Paracyphoderris erebeus* in the nature (photo by E.S. Koshkin); top left – Scopus/SCImago icon with the journal’s metric data for 2018.

The official registration of the journal “Far Eastern Entomologist” took almost a year and a half. All attempts to register a journal in Russia encountered bureaucratic obstacles or were accompanied by demands for payment of sums equivalent to a researcher's annual salary. Therefore, the ISSN number was assigned to the journal only in February 1996 by the International Center for Registration of Serials in Paris.

From 1994 to 2003, the Editorial Board of the journal included S.Yu. Storozhenko (Fig. 2), A.S. Lelej, N.V. Kurzenko, and Yu.A. Tchistyakov. Later, in 2004–2007, Yu.A. Tchistyakov was replaced by V.S. Sidorenko. In 2008 P.G. Nemkov joined the Editorial Board. The most significant changes took place in 2010, when the Editorial Board was expanded to 11 members. Currently, the members of the Editorial Board are S.Yu. Storozhenko (Editor-in-Chief), S.A. Belokobylsky, A.V. Gorokhov (Zoological Institute RAS, St. Petersburg), V.A. Mutin (Amur State University of Humanities and Pedagogy, Komsomolsk-on-Amur), A.S. Lelej, M.G. Ponomarenko, E.A. Belyaev, E.A. Makarchenko, T.M. Tiunova, M.Yu. Proshchalykin, S.A. Shabalin, and V.M. Loktionov (FSC Biodiversity FEB RAS, Vladivostok).



Fig. 2. Prof. Sergey Yu. Storozhenko – Editor-in-Chief of the journal since 1994.

Since its foundation, the journal has focused primarily on the publication of taxonomic and faunistic papers. The first issue, published in October, described a new family of Hymenoptera (Kozlov, 1994). In total, only five papers were published in 1994 (Lelej, 1994; Makarchenko & Makarchenko, 1994; Sidorenko, 1994; Storozhenko, 1994). In 1995, 20 articles and short communications were published, including the first joint publication with foreign colleagues (Storozhenko & Vršansky, 1995).

Subsequently, 10–16 issues of the journal were published annually until 2009, with the number of articles and short communications varying from 14 to 23 over the years (Fig. 3). At this time, the content of the journal was expanded. In addition to faunistic papers, works on the phylogeny, systematics and evolution of various families and orders of insects were published (Nemkov & Lelej, 1996; Lelej & Nemkov, 1997; Storozhenko, 1997; Sidorenko, 2002, etc.). In 1997, the first catalogue was published in the journal (Ponomarenko, 1997).

Particularly noteworthy are a series of papers devoted to revisions of the Palaearctic Heme-
robiidae (Neuroptera) (Makarkin, 1995, 1996) and descriptions of a large number of new
insect taxa (Belokobylskij, 1996, 2000; Fedotova & Sidorenko, 2003, etc.).

In 2010–2015 there was a gradual increase in the number of papers (from 29 to 38), and
since 2016 the number of publications has doubled (Fig. 3). In 2016–2023 usually 23-25 issues
of the journal were published annually, with a total volume of more than 600-680 pages. By
May 2024, 1067 articles and short communications by 728 authors from 47 countries had been
published in 500 issues of the journal (Fig. 3).

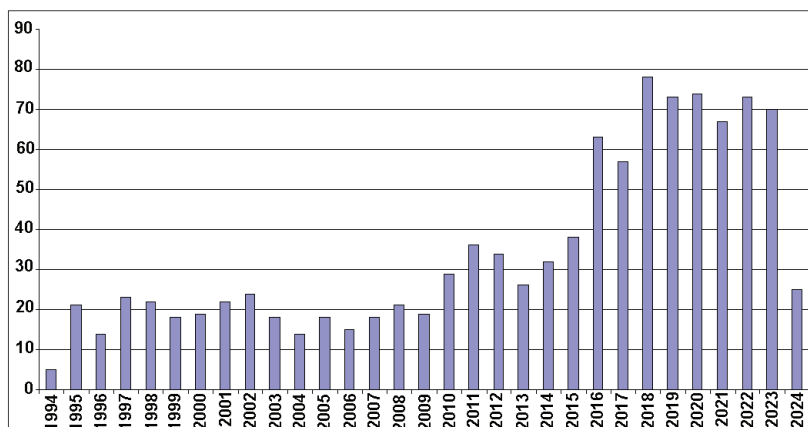


Fig. 3. Number of articles and short communications published in the journal “Far Eastern Entomologist” in 1994–2024.

The majority of the authors are citizens of the Russian Federation. There is also a large
representation of foreign authors from various countries near and far from Russia, led by
scientists from the People's Republic of China, Thailand, Japan, Iran, and India leading here
(Fig. 4).

Among the authors from Russia, the largest representation belongs to Vladivostok, St.
Petersburg, Moscow, and Novosibirsk, i.e. the largest entomological centers of the country.
During the 30-year history of the journal, more than 35 scientists from the Federal Scientific
Center for Biodiversity, Far Eastern Branch of the Russian Academy of Sciences (former
Institute of Biology and Soil Science) have published their works in “Far Eastern
Entomologist”. The most active authors of the journal are, of course, S.Yu. Storozhenko (60
papers and short communications), A.S. Lelej (56), M.Yu. Proshchalykin (41), V.S. Sidorenko
(27), and E.A. Makarchenko (25). The most active other Russian colleagues are A.V. Gorokhov
(St. Petersburg) – 26 papers, I.Ya. Grichanov (St. Petersburg) – 20, V.A. Mutin (Komsomolsk-
on-Amur) – 19, S.A. Belokobylsky (St. Petersburg) – 18 papers. Among foreign colleagues the
most papers were published by S.V. Triapitsyn (USA) – 19, F.-M. Shi (China) – 19, W.
Jaitrong (Thailand) – 11, and H.-Y. Liu (China) – 10 papers.

“Far Eastern Entomologist” takes a leading position among Russian entomological
journals in the number of new taxa. Thirteen families, 20 tribes and subtribes, 162 genera and
subgenera, 970 species and 40 subspecies of insects and other terrestrial arthropods (mil-
lipedes, mites, spiders) have been described in 30 years. Most of the new taxa were described

by the Russian entomologists A.V. Gorokhov (39 genera and subgenera, 141 species and subspecies), S.A. Belokobylsky (4 genera, 81 species), V.S. Sidorenko (23 genera, 57 species), and the Italian researcher P. Rosa (46 species).

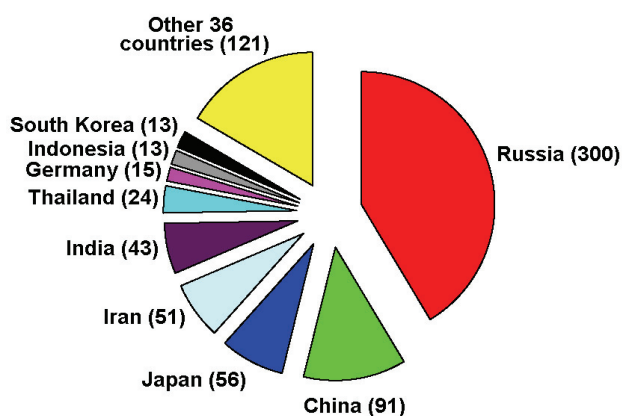


Fig. 4. Number of authors of the journal “Far Eastern Entomologist” by countries.

Over the last three years, 210 articles have been published in the journal, of which 62% (130 articles) were taxonomic works describing new taxa and establishing various nomenclatural acts for recent insects (Daniel *et al.*, 2021; Gorochov, 2021, 2022; Jaitrong *et al.*, 2022; Storozhenko, 2023; Grichanov, 2023; Lelej, 2023, etc.) as well as for fossil forms (Rasnitsyn & Aristov, 2021; Kupryjanowicz *et al.*, 2022; Aristov & Gorochov, 2022, etc.). In total, in 2021–2023, one tribe, 23 genera and subgenera, and 158 species and subspecies of insects, one genus and four species of spiders, two species of oribatid mites and one species of diplopod were described in the journal. The articles on the fauna and distribution of terrestrial arthropods in different regions of the world account for 32% (67 articles). Only 13 articles (6%) were published in other research directions: biological control (Karpun *et al.*, 2022; Syaukani *et al.*, 2023, etc), morphology (Ferrari *et al.*, 2021; Kasatkin, 2022; Ivanov *et al.*, 2023, etc), genetics (Kudô *et al.*, 2022), ecology (Kudô *et al.*, 2021; Veremenko *et al.*, 2022; Shabalin, 2023, etc).

In 2008, the journal was included in the database of the Russian Electronic Library (e-library) and started to be indexed in the RSCI (Russian Science Citation Index). Data on new taxa described in the “Far Eastern Entomologist” since 2013 (N 256) have been entered into the international Zoobank database, which significantly facilitates the work of taxonomists. Since 2017 (N 337), each article in the journal has a unique DOI number, making it easy to find it on the Internet. The inclusion of “Far Eastern Entomologist” in the international Scopus database (2016) took almost three years. Currently, the journal occupies a worthy position among European entomological publications (second quartile, or Q2 according to Scopus, in the “entomological sciences” section) (Fig. 1). All papers and short communications published so far in “Far Eastern Entomologist” are freely available (see the journal’s website: <http://www.biosoil.ru/fee>).

All editorial work is carried out on a voluntary basis; members of the editorial board conduct their own scientific research and actively participate in expeditions (Fig. 5) within the framework of the state assignment of the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation (topic No. 124012400285-7).



Fig. 5. The most active members of the Editorial Board during fieldwork in Tuva, Russia. From left to right: V.M. Loktionov, A.S. Lelej, M.Yu. Proshchalykin, S.Yu. Storozhenko.

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