

*The third volume of our collection THE FAUNA OF DURMITOR appears now, ten years after the beginning (in 1980) of the organized and systematic study of the entire animal world of Durmitor, certainly one of the most interesting in the Dinaric range. After six contributions published in the first volume (1984) and seven in the second volume (1987), this issue contains further 11 papers, due to 19 authors, respectively coauthors. As a rule, each of this contribution is dedicated to a particular taxonomic group — to a class, an order, a family, subfamily, sometimes only to a single genus or subgenus, and even to one species, depending of the speciality of our collaborators, specialists in a certain taxonomic group or of the scientific importance and current interest of the topic selected. Similarly to previous volumes, some of the papers submitted for publication contain descriptions of new taxa collected on mountain Durmitor during the study of its fauna or are completely dedicated to the description of newly found species, as is the case with two contributions included in this third volume.*

*However, the past decade saw activities conjunctly on other topics on the fauna of Durmitor too. The field work concerning some of them had in the meantime been completed. The data are now being processed to enable the Editorial board to prepare the manuscripts for some further volumes. During the same period the field work —collecting material, isfor some other faunistical groups or data processing is near completion. Thus the Organizing Committee of the research project and the Editorial board of our collection are hoping to be able to prepare another two to three volumes with nearly 20 contributions for publication. Hence, we expect that the DURMITOR FAUNA COLLECTION should at this stage comprises five volumes with about 50 contributions.*

*In addition, further 16 topics on the fauna of the mountain are actually at their initial stages of development or in the course of ongoing research.*

*The achievements in studying the Durmitor fauna are very interesting and valuable. They are undoubtedly of great scientific, cultural and educational importance reaching far beyond the frontiers of Yugoslavia. This is testified by a certain number of bookreviews published in foreign scientific periodicals on the results assembled in the former two volumes of our collection. The achievements were made thanks to the aid and the extensive support of the Academy of Science and Arts of Montenegro and the Yugoslav Entomological Society — initiators and*

*organizers of the research project "The FAUNA OF DURMITOR", as well as of their bodies and other students, the head of the project and the Organizing Committee. However, the indisputable success cited should primarily be attributed to hearty and generous efforts of the project collaborators, who often had to face difficult conditions, particular financial, making various sacrifices. It is hence justified that the Montenegrin Academy of Science and Arts has token of appreciation of the efforts invested and results obtained by all participants in the project, hosted a modest celebration on its premises in late April this year. The celebration was held on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the research activities on mountain Durmitor. The Yugoslav Entomological Society was awarded a "Letter of Gratitude" for its long-standing cooperation in studying the natural resources in Montenegro and particularly on Durmitor mountain.*

*So far, about 70 scientists from almost all major research centers of Yugoslavia took part in the studies of the fauna of mountain Durmitor. By assembling them from almost all parts of Yugoslavia on a common, long-term research project, this scientific project undoubtedly assumed an all-Yugoslav character, which makes it one of the rare undertakings of such nature in the field of natural sciences in our country.*

*The scope of the activities performed in the field is shown not only by the number of scientists engaged in this project and the number of contributions presented, prepared or planned for publication, but also by the number of working days spent in the field. During the last ten years our collaborators and their technician assistants who helped them in collecting material, spent an average of 300 days annually on mountain Durmitor, sometimes more (864 days in 1980), sometimes less (249 days in 1986). The total sum in the first ten years amounts to 4.154 field working days.*

*The real importance of this project and its results will become evident only after the work is completed, an integral presentation of mountain Durmitor fauna is made and a comprehensive, critical analysis from different standpoints (zoogeography, etc.) presented.*

*We are hoping to approach this activity in the near future.*

*The Editorial Board*