

**T**he Academy of Sciences and Arts of Montenegro and the Yugoslav Entomological Society, initiators and organizers of the FAUNA OF DURMITOR Research Project, the Committee involved with the task to assure the realization of the field work and the improving of the study of the assembled data, as well as the Editorial board of the FAUNA OF DURMITOR have the honour and the pleasure of presenting the Second part of this edition to the Yugoslav and foreign scientists.

In the First part of our edition (Titograd, 1984) the results of the study of the snails (Mollusca: Gastropoda and Bivalvia) of Durmitor mountain have been presented, as well as representatives of four insect groups (subfamily to suborder level). Furthermore 1 new subspecies and a hybrid of the Carabidae, as well as 4 new species of endogean Coleoptera have been described. In this Second part of the FAUNA OF DURMITOR the results obtained by the collaborators of our Project of the study of further 5 taxonomic groups (4 belonging to the Insecta, and the Mammalia) have been published. There are also two contributions, dealing with particular taxonomic or faunistic problems of the Durmitor mountain fauna.

The authors of the first five chapters of this second issue state to have found 353 species of insects, belonging to their respective groups, as well as 37 mammals. It is of special interest to point out that the authors of the different contributions have established that in the Durmitor mountain fauna a high percentage of the total number of species spread in Yugoslavia is represented. This interesting phenomenon can be probably explained by the geographic position of this mountain, where flora and fauna of various zoogeographic areas intersect, by the extensive heterogeneity of Durmitor's relief and by differences in its altitudes (from 500 to 2,500 m), as well as by the richness of the ecosystems represented on that mountain. It can, also, be added that an important number of species collected during the researches carried out on the Durmitor mountain has not been recorded in Yugoslavia so far. This conclusion draws our attention to the fact that the knowledge of the fauna of Yugoslavia has still considerable lacks, and to the importance and necessity of organized, systematic and complex researches, such as those that are now being carried out on Durmitor mountain. Up to now research projects of this kind and to such an extent have not been realized in our country and hardly

anywhere else. In such a way the results obtained so far clearly show that our project will contribute to a better knowledge not only of the fauna of Durmitor but of Yugoslavia in general. This can be demonstrated by an analysis of the conclusions presented in the respective chapters of this issue.

In the first of them, dealing with the Syrphidae (Diptera), the representatives of this family of insects are studied not only of the Durmitor area but also of some other parts of Montenegro. Of a total of 237 species collected in Montenegro, 201 species have been recorded from Durmitor; 39 of them are new for the fauna of Yugoslavia, and 4 species are new for science. The author came to interesting conclusions, specially concerning the zoogeography, the vertical and biocenotic distribution of species, the origin of the faunistical composition, etc., and this enabled her to compete, succesfully, for a PHD thesis at the University of Novi Sad.

As concerns Tipulidae (Diptera), studied in the second chapter, the authors of this contribution have found on Durmitor mountain 49 species, most of which are widely spread, while 4 of them are new for the fauna of Yugoslavia. The authors consider that 3 of the Durmitor species represent endemites of Yugoslavia, and 6 species Balkan endemites.

The authors of the next chapter exposed their results obtained in the study of the mosquitos, an insect group which in the Palearctic does not comprise of considerable number of representatives, and which has been studied in Yugoslavia in the past even in the present by remarkable number of students. On Durmitor 12 species have been collected, already recorded in Yugoslavia. Six of them belong to the fauna of the boreal area or to that of the mountain as well as the forest regions of the Central and South Holarctic, giving a special biogeographic mark to the investigated area.

The results obtained in the study of the Trichoptera of Durmitor are exposed in the last chapter. A total of 92 species has been found, the majority of them being widely spread in the Palearctic, and even in the Holarctic, the rest occuring in more limited areas, in South Europe, or in Central Europe, the Alps and the Balkans. Three species collected on Durmitor could be considered as carpato-balkan endemites, 8 species have been found only on the Balkan and 6 species are limited to the South Dinarides, two of which

have up to now been known only from Montenegro. An interesting zoogeographical composition, indeed.

In the chapter dealing with the mammals of Durmitor the author also exposes interesting conclusions as a result of his study, underlining, however, that further investigations of the mammals of that area should be necessary.

In the first of the next two contributions a particular taxonomic problem concerning the Durmitor Rhopalocera fauna is dealt with, namely the taxonomic position of the Durmitor populations of the widespread *Parnassius mnemosyne*. This species show a great variability, and only in Yugoslavia 12 subspecies have been described. As a result of biometrical mesurments of an abundant material from Durmitor and many other localities, the author gives his conclusions concerning the taxonomic status of the Durmitor as well as of neighbouring populations of the species.

In the second contribution a new species of the genus *Winklerites* (Carabidae), belonging to the endogean fauna, is described, together with another species of the same genus, collected already in 1935 on the Komovi, a nearby mountain.

The constant engagement of the Academy of Science and Arts of Montenegro to try to supply the necessary funds for our Project, the efforts of the Organising Committee to provide, in spite of many difficulties of different kind, facilities for field work, and the assiduous activity of the collaborators of the Project to carry out the necessary researches, requiring much time, enthusiasm and even sacrifices, were the factors wich explain the interesting and numerous results obtained so far by the Project, still in progress. A part of these results has been exposed in this second issue of the Fauna of Durmitor. Further parts are in preparation or planned.

The Editorial Board