

Editor's report for 2024: *Journal of Conchology*

Anna Holmes is thanked for her work on the Journal and seeing the *Journal of Conchology* through its final years as a printed publication. In March 2024, Robert Forsyth took over the reins of the Journal from Anna. This report includes submissions already in progress at that time. With the new Volume 45, the Journal ceased to be a printed publication and became online only.

The first part of Volume 15 included 15 articles published between March and June, and part 2 included another 17 articles during the remainder of the year. Altogether, 395 journal pages were published. Manuscripts proposing new taxa were plentiful, and two subfamilies, six genera, 17 species, and two subspecies are described as new. With the move to an online-only publication, the Journal has been able to take longer manuscripts that otherwise would have been especially costly to produce for print. The Journal continues to receive interest from potential authors, and submissions come in rather steadily.

ONLINE PUBLICATION

Digital Object Identifiers (DOI). The CrossRef account, which was already set up by Anna was used to register all newly published articles. Articles in the last issue of the previous volume (vol. 44, no. 6) had not been registered or failed to register, and this oversight was corrected. No problems have since been encountered with DOI registration.

ZooBank. Administration privileges for the editor were acquired in April so that all ZooBank records associated with the Journal are now editable. This allows for correction of wrong or missing metadata, and publication (or making public) of ZooBank registrations initiated by authors but never completed. The Journal's previous request for authors to register their own work in ZooBank meant that most of the time registrations were left incomplete. This meant that such registrations were not public and unfindable in ZooBank. In other cases, registrations were duplicated for the same publication. If an author initiated the registration but the manuscript was never published, a "orphaned" record in ZooBank exists that needs removal. Removal of such records, or duplicate ones, have been requested, since this cannot be done even by the administrator of the journal. These kinds of problems show the value in not asking authors to initiate the ZooBank registrations.

Archiving. The amendment to the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature relating to online-only publication of new taxa requires that exclusively online journals archive their content in an approved archiving service. Of the archival services available, Zenodo was chosen because it is a free service and for the ease of setup. All published articles in volume 45 are now available on Zenodo from the day they are published online on the Conchological Society's website.

Conchsoc.org pages and online articles. The naming of journal articles, directories, and pages were simplified to make URLs short and without word spaces (represented in URLs by the "%20" html entity). This may have been a source of errors in the registration of DOIs in

volume 44 (6). Contents lists for issues of Volume 39 through to the current volume were revised accordingly.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Associate Editors. The current Associate Editors are: Daniella E. Bar-Yosef Mayer (Israel), Robert Cameron (UK), Zhe-Yu Chen (China)*, Michal Horsák (Czech Republic), Manuel Malaquias (Portugal/Norway), Barna Páll-Gergely (Hungary), Julia Piza (Argentina), Ira Richling (Germany), Carmen Salas (Spain), Rodrigo Salvador (Finland/Brazil)*, Martin Zuschin (Austria), Ben Rowson (UK), Diego Zelaya (Argentina), Guoyi Zhang (Australia/China)*. New Associate Editors are marked with an asterisk: Chen and Zhang bring expertise in Chinese land molluscs, and Salvador brings expertise in South American land molluscs as well Palaeartic fossil non-marine molluscs.

A letter of introduction email message was sent to the Editorial Board on January 20, 2025, enquiring of Associate Editors' willingness to continue, willingness to perform certain tasks, and fields of expertise. David Holyoak, Dinarzade Raheem, and Julia Sigwart stepped down from their role as an associate editor. Two Associate Editors, Ira Richling, Carmen Salas, have not responded to my inquiry, but they have been retained in the list of editors for now.

The current Associate Editors provides a reasonably broad coverage in the areas of expertise, taxonomic groups, and geography. Editors with expertise in marine molluscs are few, and this might be a concern in the future if the journal receives more submissions on marine molluscs, but for now non-marine molluscs are well served by the current editors.

Some Associate Editors were surprized that they were associated with the journal or had no communication with the Journal for years.

A greater effort will be made to keep Associate Editors informed of the progress of the Journal, and among the purposes of the email message to Associate Editors the gauging of interest among them for greater participation, for example, by taking on the task of finding reviewers and formulating recommendations on manuscripts (in tandem with the Editor). Some agreed to this additional role.

SUBMISSIONS, REVIEWERS, AND ACCEPTED/REJECTED MANUSCRIPTS

Submissions. As of 11 March 2025, three manuscripts submitted in 2024 are still undergoing revisions by their authors following review by referees and comments from the Editor.

Reviewers. Fifty-six people contributed comments on submitted manuscripts: Alberto Martinez-Orti, Alexandre Dias Pimenta, Ariel la Pasta, Aydin Örstan, Barna Páll-Gergely, Ben Rowson, Bernard Hausdorf, Chris Little, Cléo Oliveira, Dai Herbert, Daniel Cavallari, David Holyoak, David P. Cilia, Dilian Georgiev, Edmund Gittenberger, Eike Neubert, Eugene V. Coan, Evelyn Moorkens, Fabrizio Scarabino, Fernanda dos Santos Silva, Fred Naggs, Gabriela Cuezco, Gennady Kamenev, Giuseppe Manganelli, Graham Oliver, Guoyi Zhang, Han Raven, Henk Dekker, Jasna Lajtner, Jin Sun, John Stanisic, Kazutaka Amano, Klaus Groh, Konstantin

A. Lutaenko, Leon Hoffman, Luiz Simone, Marcel Miranda, Marie-Pierre Gosselin, Maxim V. Vinarski, Michal Horsák, Mike Allen, Min Wu, Owen Griffiths, Paul Valentich-Scott, Philippe Bouchet, Peter Tattersfield, Richard Preece, Rodrigo Salvador, Rosaura Mayén Estrada, Ryutaro Goto, Sergio Miquel, Tan Koh Siang, Ted von Proschwitz, Thierry Backeljau, Thomas Walker, and one anonymous (unknown to me as an author). Some reviewers commented on more than one manuscript, and a few went on to submit manuscripts to the journal.

Published articles. Thirty-two articles were published in 2024, amounting to 395 pages. The number of articles by general faunal type and region are as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Terrestrial: 23 | Asia: 13 |
| Marine: 6 | Rest of Europe: 5 |
| Freshwater: 2 | Americas: 8 |
| | Africa: 3 |
| | UK and Ireland: 2 |

Among articles published in 2024, those on terrestrial molluscs were in the majority. The area of the world most represented by Journal articles was Asia. There Journal was rather depauperate of articles on molluscs of the UK or Ireland.

Rejected manuscripts. Eight manuscripts were rejected because the reviewers and Editor felt that there were major problems with the science, lacked sufficient new information, or were simply not on-topic for publication in the Journal. One manuscript was withdrawn by the authors shortly after submission.

SOCIAL MEDIA

The Journal is now on X (Twitter) and Bluesky at the handle @jconchology and @jconch, respectively.

LOOKING FORWARD

As of 11 March 2025, 12 submissions have been received by the Journal in 2025. Four of these are needing reviewers or are currently with reviewers, two have already been published in Vol. 45(3), and two were rejected as not suitable for the Journal.

A focus of the Editor is to try to increase the number of Journal articles having greater relevancy to the Conchological Society membership in general. This means encouraging publications dealing with the fauna of the UK and Ireland, or more broadly, of Continental Europe.

Robert Forsyth

Honorary Editor, *Journal of Conchology*

Kamloops, British Columbia, Canada

11 March 2025