

Preface

This issue is dedicated to the approaching 80-year jubilee of Pekka T. Lehtinen, who has made an outstanding contribution to the classification of arachnids (both spiders and mites) and who actively continues his research in this field. Being a friend of Pekka, I cannot be objective in an evaluation of his studies of arachnology, but fortunately other colleagues, all world experts in arachnology, Charles Griswold, Martin Ramírez, Jonathan Coddington and Norman Platnick have already acknowledged the importance of Lehtinen's studies: "... Pekka Lehtinen and Ray Forster **started a revolution** in spider taxonomy. They brought a world-wide perspective to the subject and focused on the tropics and especially the austral regions. This **revolution continues**, and the importance of taxa and data from the southern hemisphere suggests that a continued focus on the austral regions will be crucial to understanding spider evolution." [Griswold *et al.*, 2005].

Articles in this issue deal with five arachnid orders: mites, pseudoscorpions, scorpions, schizomids and spiders and one article describes a new species of Ichneumonidae that parasitizes spiders. Unfortunately, it was

not possible to accept all the manuscripts submitted to this jubilee issue due to limitation of the size of the journal and/or the review process taking too long. These articles will be published in the next issue.

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A figure of *Apyretina tessera* (Simon, 1903) was chosen as the frontispiece, because it is one of Pekka's favorite species, has not been illustrated previously, and also because it reflects his current interests in the taxonomy of thomisid spiders.

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