

Buchbesprechung

Wilfried Wichard (2013): Overview and Descriptions of Trichoptera in Baltic Amber. Spicipalpia and Integripalpia. Verlag Dr. Kessel, Remagen-Oberwinter: 230 pp. ISBN 978-3-941300-84-2. Preis: 32,00 Euro.

This book is the first comprehensive compilation of the Trichoptera in the Baltic Amber after Ulmer's monumental monograph: "Die Trichopteren des Baltischen Bernsteins, Beiträge zur Naturkunde Preussens 10: 380 pp." published in 1912. Since then the knowledge about the Trichoptera in the Baltic Amber has been considerably expanded and requires a thorough taxonomic revision.

The current compilation considers the trichopteran suborders Spicipalpia and Integripalpia constituting approximately 10% of all species reported from the Baltic Amber. A brief introduction about the history on research of the Eocene Trichoptera is followed by a comprehensive taxonomic account. In total, 57 species described mainly by G. Ulmer about 100 years ago, are redescribed in this volume. These redescriptions are an important aspect of the current revision since almost all specimens described by G. Ulmer were destroyed during World War II and the identity of several species remained unclear until now. Additionally, 32 species and one family (the †Ogmomyidae) have been described now as new to science. Each species description or redescription comprises information on type material, provides diagnosis and a detailed descriptive section illustrated by excellent line drawings or/and light-microscopic images. Furthermore, the author reports for the first time the occurrence of several families (e.g., the Hydrobiosidae, Limnephilidae) in the Baltic Amber.

The text is clearly written, edited and generally, all images are of good quality. However, the labeling of several morphological structures (e.g., the male genitalia) in some figures appears inaccurate or is completely missing. For future publications dealing with the remaining families of the Annulipalpia, the use of scale bars in each figure would be highly appreciated.

This compilation of the Trichoptera in the Baltic Amber is a comprehensive and detailed taxonomic revision which is recommended to each reader interested in the trichopteran systematics. The intended publication of the second part dealing with the suborder Annulipalpia in the near future would greatly extend our knowledge in this field of taxonomy.

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