



Systematics, Taxonomy and Biodiversity of Sciaridae (Diptera)

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

The Lower dipteran family Sciaridae (Bibionomorpha, Sciaroidea) is a challenging insect group. The current knowledge lags far behind its importance in insect biodiversity.

The known number of species is about 3000. The current knowledge indicates that at least ten times more species than this exist in the fauna worldwide. In its mere magnitude, this tremendous species diversity is a challenge for taxonomists but also offers an intriguing possibility to discover and document undescribed morphological forms representing new genera. For large areas of the Earth, we lack knowledge of their sciarid fauna, and it is necessary to intensify biosystematic research in all regions. Moreover, if we have a better understanding of the morphology and if we use rapidly developing molecular techniques, it is possible to assess the phylogenetic relationships between taxa ever more reliably.

This Special Issue aims to encourage original research on systematics of Sciaridae: morphology, descriptive taxonomy, DNA barcoding, revisions, phylogenetics and various aspects of biodiversity.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Arthropods are a diverse and abundant group of animals that are important to a variety of research dictates. For example, hexapods act as bio-indicators of ecosystem function and pest status and serve as model systems for questions concerning physiology, embryology, genetics, and social interaction. The editorial board and staff at *Insects* is committed to providing contributors an open access forum to showcase objective and innovative research as well as succinct review articles. Our journal is dedicated to providing timely and thorough review of qualified submissions and we welcome you to submit a contribution.

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