



NEWSLETTER

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The IAA has received the following letter from Dr. E. Peter Volpe, President of the American Society of Zoologists :

"It is with profound pleasure that I invite the International Association of Astacologists to convene with the American Society of Zoologists at Louisville in December 1982. This invitation has the enthusiastic support of the Crustacean Society, a group that will also participate in the Louisville annual meeting. Indeed, the Crustacean Society is contemplating sponsoring an attractive symposium on crayfish biology at that meeting.

I trust that your Society will accept the invitation, and that we will have the pleasure of associating with your members".

The IAA has a great pleasure of meeting with the members of the Crustacean Society and of the ASZ. Hopefully also many a European member finds this invitation attractive enough to make to this meeting on crayfish biology.

Regretfully we inform, that due to unexpectedly heavy demand, copies of Freshwater Crayfish 3 are no more available. The Editor of the book is Dr. Ossi V. Lindqvist, University of Kuopio. Should the financial situation allow, we may be able to make a second printing of this book in a year or two.

Aquaculture & related publications of the Fisheries Section of the School of Forestry & Wildlife Management, Louisiana State University, are available. You may ask for a list of publications from : Publications Clerk, 249 Ag Center, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70803.

May we again remind you of the forthcoming Fifth international Symposium on Freshwater Crayfish, to be held in Davis, California, on 16 - 20 August, 1981. The coordinator of the Symposium is Prof. Charles R. Goldman, Division of Environmental Studies, University of California, Davis, California 95616.

Summary points of crawfish pond survey Louisiana. 1980. by Prof. James W. Avault, Jr

1. Total acreage in crawfish ponds = 55,301 acres. = 23380 hectares.
2. Rice-crawfish ponds = 21,269 acres. = 8607 hectares.
Open water ponds with native vegetation = 13,044 acres = 5278 hectares
Wooded ponds with native vegetation = 20,988 acres = 8493 hectares.
3. Number of crawfish farmers = 361.
4. Districts Cooperators = 292

5. Use of ponds (No.)¹ / - Commercial = 274
 Family = 134
 Recreation fish out = 6
6. A total of 35 parishes have crawfish ponds.
7. Lafourche, Vermilion, St. Martin, St. James, Avoyelles, and St. Landry are the six leading parishes in total production, with a combined total acreage of 43,677.
8. Area breakdown of acreage in crawfish ponds - Area 1 = 197 acres ; Area 2 = 36 acres ; Area 3 = 4,232 acres ; Area 4 = 41,439 acres ; Area 5 = 9,397 acres.

The second Scandinavian Symposium on Freshwater Crayfish. Kai Westman's report. The Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute and the Evo Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture Research Station arranged the Second Scandinavian Symposium on Freshwater Crayfish at the Lammi Biological Station on 25-27 September 1979. Some 40 astacologists mainly from Sweden and Finland participated at the Symposium.

Crayfish catching and crayfish eating are traditions with a long history in the Scandinavian countries. Due to the great extent of inland waters, conditions in these countries are particularly favourable for the development of crayfish fisheries. Interest in crayfish and in promoting their production, both in natural waters and through crayfish cultivation, has grown strongly in recent years. Several questions of vital importance for the development of crayfish fisheries are especially topical at the moment e.g. the effects of environmental changes on crayfish population, new crayfish diseases and parasites found, the cultivation of crayfish, the management of crayfish populations, and stocking with Pacifastacus leniusculus.

The objectives of the Symposium were the following :

- to review our knowledge of Astacus astacus and Pacifastacus leniusculus.
- to facilitate the exchange of recent research findings on freshwater crayfish
- to promote contacts among specialists in different areas of research on freshwater crayfish and to stimulate research on Astacus and Pacifastacus.

The Symposium was addressed by Dr. P. Tuunainen, Acting Director of the Fisheries Division, Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute, Prof. O.V. Lindqvist, President of the IAA and Mr. K. Westman, Chairman of the organizing group.

The Symposium consisted of 15 contributions and discussions. The papers presented were : M. Appelberg : The effect of low pH on Astacus astacus during moult. P. Brinck, T. Kauri and S. Karlsson : Aspects of freshwater crustacea in aquaculture. M. Furst and U. Boström : Frequency of symptoms of Aphanomyces on Pacifastacus leniusculus. S. Hamrin : The vertical distribution of young crayfish (Astacus astacus) in the littoral zone of lake Ivösjön (South Sweden). E. Lahti and O.V. Lindqvist : On the survival of the crayfish (Astacus astacus) in lakes with different oxygen regimes. A. Niemi : Effects of dredging operations on the crayfish (Astacus astacus) population in the river Pyhäjoki, Finland. V. Nylund, K. Westman, J. Wartiovaara and K. Lounatmaa : Ultrastructure and effects of Psorospermium haeckeli, a crayfish (Astacus astacus) parasite found in Finland. T. Odelström : The 1978 yearclass of the freshwater crayfish Pacifastacus leniusculus in lake Erken. M. Pursiainen and K. Westman : The fecundity of the crayfish Astacus astacus in five sites of Finland. M. Pursiainen and K. Westman : The behaviour of crayfish in electric fishing in population studies. K.E. Storberg : Size and structure of the crayfish catch in three lakes on Åland. K. Westman : Aspects of introduction of foreign crayfish species. K. Westman, T. Järvenpää and A. Soivio : The sampling and analyzing of freshwater crayfish (Astacus astacus and Pacifastacus leniusculus) haemolymph. K. Westman and V. Nylund : Crayfish parasites and diseases observed in Finland and K. Westman : Carapace length-total length relationship for the Pacifastacus leniusculus.

The papers will be published in Finnish Fisheries Research, the journal of the Finnish Game and Fisheries Research Institute.

As the Symposium was held in Finland, the native crayfish Astacus were eaten traditionally in a crayfish banquet with lot of Swedish and Finnish "snaps" songs for the delicate crayfish. Mr. H. Suomus, Director of the Department of Fisheries and Game, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Mr. G. Bergman, senior inspector, represented the Ministry at the banquet.

The papers presented at the First Scandinavian Symposium on Freshwater Crayfish, held at the Limnological Station at Erken, Sweden, in 1977, have been published in the Information från Sötvattenslaboratoriet Drottningholm (Nr 14, 1978, edited by M. Furst). The papers have an English summary.

The third Scandinavian Symposium on Freshwater Crayfish was decided to be held in Sweden, probably in 1982.

Sixth International Symposium on Freshwater crayfish. "The organizing committee for the 1984 symposium is already in operation. The local committee, chaired by Professor Per Brinck, held on April 23 a planning conference with invited representatives from all the Scandinavian countries. The symposium will take place in August 1984 at the University of Lund, with optional visits to other institutions in Scandinavia included in the program. In the spring of 1982 the local committee will again call for a Scandinavian planning conference, after which the first provisional program will be published".

News from Africa. Dr Duro Adegboye (Acting Head of Department, Department of Biological Sciences, Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria, Africa) is proposing a course on SHELLFISHERIES with emphasis on CRAYFISH BIOLOGY and PHYSIOLOGY. Dr. Adegboye and his students are also considering the prospects, problems and possibilities of crayfish transplantation in Nigeria. As there are no indigenous species of crayfish on the continent of Africa, Dr. Adegboye has also prepared a paper in which he proposes 4 theories on the non-existence of Astacidae on the continent of Africa. In order to create an awareness on the economic and biological importance of the CRAYFISH and other decapod CRUSTACEANS, D. Adegboye is initiating the formation of the NIGERIAN CRUSTACEAN SOCIETY in the Research Institutes, 18 universities and 20 ministries of agriculture and fisheries in Nigeria. To further the cause of Crayfish in Nigeria, Dr. Adegboye requires all your papers, books and other publications on Crayfish Biology, Physiology and Industry.

Recent crayfish literature.

- Cheah, M.L. ; Avault, J.W. ; Graves, J.B., 1980 - Acute toxicity of selected rice pesticides to crayfish Procambarus clarkii. The Progressive Fish-Culturist, 42, 3 : 169-173.
- Capelli, G.M. ; Magnuson, J.J., 1980 - Crayfish abundance in relation to environmental variables. F.A.O. Fisheries Technical Paper n° 198 : 32.
- Jones, P.D. ; Momot, W.T., 1981 - Crayfish productivity, allochthony and basin morphometry. Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci., 38, 2, : 175-183.
- Malley, D.F., 1980 - Decreased survival and calcium uptake by crayfish Orconectes virilis in low pH. Can. J. Aquat. Sci., 37, 3 : 364-372.
- Chaisemartin, C., 1978-1979 - Bioaccumulations métalliques chez les Astacidae. Vie et Milieu, 28-29, 2, ser. AB : 209-220.
- Anonymous, 1980 - Essai d'élevage d'écrevisses Astacus leptodactylus. CEMAGREF, Groupement de Bordeaux, étude n° 10, F 33610 Gazinet.
- Reynolds, J.D., 1979 - The introduction of Freshwater Crayfish species for aquaculture in Ireland. In Proceedings of a Symposium "The Introduction of exotic species advantages and problems" Royal Irish Academy. 19 Dawson street Dublin 2 : 57-64.

New books

- Arrignon, J., 1981 - L'écrevisse et son élevage. A comprehensive study of three major aspects of crayfish breeding "know your crayfish to breed him better", covering morphology, reproduction and attacks from predators or disease ; a study of the best breeding conditions, installation, breeding extensively or intensively, stocking and profitability and lastly the economic aspects - the supply, markets and the crayfish's place in leisure activities. "Nature et Agriculture" séries. 240 pp. 95 illustrations. Gauthiers-Villars, 17 rue Rémy Dumoncel F 75686 Paris Cédex 14.
- Huner, J.V. ; Barr, J.E., 1980 - Red swamp crawfish : biology and exploitation. To order to Sea Grant Communications center for Wetland Resources. Louisiana State University Baton Rouge, La 70803 USA. Price : 2.50 USD.

- Remember due date July 1^o for registration to the Fifth International Association of Astacology Conference, University of California, Davis, August 16-21, 1981.