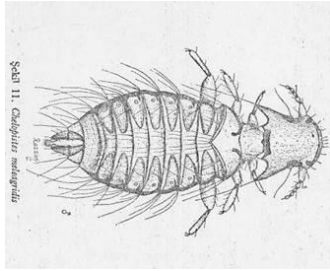


ISoP Newsletter



November 2018

Apologies to everyone for not writing sooner, after my promise to continue with a Newsletter, but after ISoP6 my life was quite busy, as in most summer periods, i.e. just as most people are thinking of vacations my diary becomes full as several of my clients finally get around to ordering work that has been waiting on their desks for months.

After that, of course, my only excuse was laziness and getting motivated to put something down in type!

So, finally having made it just as we enter the meteorologists' beginning of winter, so I thought turkey lice would be an appropriate header, given that their hosts are potentially an "endangered" species at this time of year due to various festivities!

In case you missed it....

The 6th International Conference on Phthiraptera was a great success for all who managed to get to Brno despite the fact that some colleagues experienced transport problems on the way, and it was sad that some who hoped to come did not make it for various reasons. We did not have a record number of attendees but those who came had a wonderful time meeting old friends and colleagues and discussing a range of issues, including the various merits of football teams and even a few daringly played! Our thanks, to Olda Sychra and Dana Cernoskova and the excellent team they gathered to run the conference, cannot be overemphasised. They performed a great job.

Since then, quite a lot of you have been very active, as testified by the number of the articles that were previewed in oral and poster presentations at the meeting, and which are now in or close to "print" that will appear in the bibliography list I shall send out next time around (see sometime early in 2019).

Talking about lice didn't stop in Brno because I have since had a number of people contact me to ask for information on what went on at the conference after they had read about the meeting.

We also had something of a reiteration of content and discussions the 10th annual Kopflaus-Expertentagung in Basel, a one day meeting sponsored by Mundipharma Medical Company for the "Louse Aunties" who screen for infestations in Swiss schools, organised by Martina Meinicke. Christina Roub, newly recovered from her broken leg, managed to summarise all the most important points from the conference so the latest news on lice is spreading.

Guidelines Update

Kostas has bravely set about a redraft and update of the 2007 **International guidelines for an effective control of head louse infestations**. Drafts have been circulated to various colleagues for comments and now Kostas is faced with the unenviable task of working through them with the aim to bring all the suggestions together as a new guideline. Anyone with any special wishes for policy recommendations, suggestions for practical procedures, or clever thoughts for this challenging area of our work, please get in touch directly with him kostasm@ekmd.huji.ac.il.

This is a thorny topic because what is considered to be necessary in one country may not be even acceptable by their next-door neighbours and, as the squeeze on resources for health issues increase worldwide, lice slide lower and lower down the list of health priorities. This is not helped by the fact that treatments for lice in both human and veterinary fields are still in a state of flux.

And finally....

My best wishes to all of you this holiday season (sorry didn't make it before Thanksgiving). And, if you don't eat meat, perhaps these turkeys will be



acceptable?