Grants supporting the Orthoptera Species File

OSF grants funded for 2017:

The OSF grants committee received seventeen applications from sixteen countries (India, Germany, Serbia, Austria, USA, Argentina, Hungary, Brazil, Mexico, Croatia, Pakistan, Cuba, Algeria, Greece, Spain and Ukraine) from which the following proposals listed below were funded. The proposals were selected based on the relation to the amount of data (images, specimen records, etc.) expected to be added into the Orthoptera Species File or to any other Species File within Polyneoptera. It was also considered if the proposal was related somehow to a taxonomic research project and on the candidate's expertise.

1. Dhaneesh Bhaskar (Kerala Forest Research Institute, Kerala, India). Title: Digitalisation of type & non-type specimens of Indian Orthoptera in the National museum of Natural History Madrid (MNCN, Spain) and the National Museum of Natural History Paris (MNHN, France).

2. Franziska Billmaier (Trier University, Germany). Title: Photographic documentation of the Raphidophoridae types stored in the Zoological Institute St. Petersburg.

3. Slobodan Ivković (University of Novi Sad, Belgrade, Serbia) & Laslo Horvat (Austria). Title: ODistribution, faunistics and stridulation of Orthoptera, Mantodea and Phasmida of the Serbia and Montenegro.

4. Mariño-Pérez, Ricardo (Texas A&M University, USA). Title: Caelifera type collection of San Francisco and Hawaii Museums in the Orthoptera Species File.

5. Martina E. Pocco (Museo de La Plata, UNLP, Argentina). Title: Extension to the grant "Illustrating Neotropical Acridoidea species with emphasis on Romaleinae in OSF."

6. Gellért Puskás (Hungarian Natural History Museum, HNHM) & Gergely Szövényi, (Eötvös Loránd University). Title: Digitalization of Dermaptera types of HNHM and investigations of the West Balkan Orthoptera fauna.

7. Taras Pushkar (Schmalhausen Institute of Zoology, NAS of Ukraine). Title: Orthoptera of the Easternmost Europe: from Carpathians and Crimean Mountains to Caucasus, and from Black and Azov to Caspian Sea (Ukraine, South-Western Russia up to Western Kazakhstan) with distribution maps, and photographic documentation of living and type specimens.

8. Ranjana Jaiswara (Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Punjab, India). Title: Digital Imaging and geo-referencing of type specimens of Gryllinae and Eneopterinae crickets collection in MNHN Paris.

9. Darlan Rutz Redü (Zoology Program, University of São Paulo, Brazil). Title: Photographic documentation of Grylloidea type specimens deposited in the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum, with emphasis in Landrevinae.

10. Hugh Rowell (Switzerland) & Claudia Hemp (Germany). Title: Grasshoppers of South-west and South-central Tanzania.

11. Oscar Salomon Sanabria-Urban (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, Facultad de Estudios Superiores Iztacala, México). Title: Improving the digital content of the genus Sphenarium Charpentier, 1842 (Orthoptera; Pyrgomorphidae) in the Orthoptera Species File.

12. Josip Skejo (University of Zagreb, Croatia). Title: Revision of the Ignacio Bolívar's Tetrigoidea collection in MNCN Madrid (Spain).

The Orthopterists' Society in cooperation with the Illinois Natural History Survey has provided funding for work in support of the Orthoptera Species File. Members of the Orthopterists' Society are invited to apply. Applications should be sent to María Marta Cigliano.

Grants are available for a project as defined by the applicant. The project must involve benefit to the Orthoptera Species File or to a Species File for another group within Polyneoptera. The usual benefit is the addition of images (photographs of the habitus and diagnostic details of type specimens, other reliably identified museum specimens, and/or living individuals), sound recordings, and/or geo-referenced specimen records. Any proposal that solely focuses on field work or other systematic research without direct benefits to OSF will not be considered. Projects may be proposed for periods of one to three years.

Funding availability for 2018 will be announced in October 2017. All requested information must be submitted by November 30, 2017 to receive full consideration. The committee will complete its assessment and announce the results by January 10, 2018.

The proposals should include:

1. Project description (not more than five pages):
   o Title
   o Significance (highlighting the new data that will be added to OSF, preferably to taxa currently lacking images, sound recordings, distribution records, etc.)
   o Objectives, methods and activities
   o Timetable
2. If applicable, provide summary of the research project related to the proposal
3. Curriculum vitae
4. Budget (including justification of trips to museums, field work, equipment, etc.)
5. If applicable, provide letter of agreement/acknowledgement to work with the collection from the corresponding institution/curator's collection

Proposals from graduate students should include a simple recommendation from their professor or advisor.

Preference will be given in relation to the amount of data added into OSF, i.e. as the expected contribution to the considered taxa (dependent on already existing data). Preference will be also given to applicants who develop a proposal that is related somehow to a taxonomic research project, and demonstrate knowledge of the taxa involved. The methods, e.g., techniques for capturing images, will be likewise considered.

Important: A short financial and tasks report will be required from each grantee once the funding period is finished. The tasks report will be in a format suitable for publishing in Metaleptea.