

77

14th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY

Canberra - Australia - 22-30 August 1972

Report of a meeting of the Standing Committee
on Pacific Entomology of the Pacific Science Association

Canberra - 25 August 1972

P. COCHEREAU*

Last year, in August 1971, in Canberra has been held the Twelfth International Pacific Science Congress. During the meeting of the Standing Committee of Entomology, I was asked by Prof. B.L. ASTAUROV, President of the Standing Committee, to organize an informal meeting of our Committee during the 14th International Congress of Entomology, held also in Canberra in August 1972.

The meeting was announced in the Congress Programme (page 21), again in the daily bulletin of the Congress (21 August 1972) and by placards in Halls and Buildings at the University, where Symposia and Sessions have been held. This preparation could ^{have been} well done with the great help of Dr. WATERHOUSE. I have distributed the report, that I planned to read at the meeting, to about forty entomologists likely to be interested in Pacific Entomology; on placards and bulletins anybody interested in Pacific Entomology was cordially invited to attend and participate.

It was difficult to arrange this meeting, - Dr. WATERHOUSE pointed out in letters - at an other time than during a lunch break. So, the meeting was held during the lunch break of Friday 25 August in the Research School of Chemistry Theatre. A good deal of people came and after the report all participants discussed the aims of the Committee and how it should be possible to reach them.

My report read at the meeting is as it follows :

"14th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIE, 22-30 August 1972

Meeting of the Standing Committee on Pacific
Entomology of the Pacific Science Association

P. COCHEREAU

*Entomologiste, Maître de Recherche à l'ORSTOM, B.P.4, Nouméa, Nouvelle-Calédonie.

.../...

-7 JUIN 1973

O. R. S. T. O. M. exl

Collection de Références

no 66458 Ent. Agt.

"Last year in August in Canberra has been held the Twelfth International Pacific Science Congress.

For your information, the Pacific Science Association is an International Regional Scientific Organization, whose Congress is held every four years.

The objectives of the Association is :

- 1° - to make a critical inventory of existing knowledge of the Pacific region ;
- 2° - to outline scientific problems in the region ;
- 3° - to suggest methods for their solution ; to devise plans for future studies and initiate and promote cooperation in the study of scientific problems.

Countries or appropriate areas within or bordering the Pacific Ocean, or with territorial responsibilities in the region, form the membership of the Association. There are 46 member countries or areas and seven honorary member countries.

Sixteen Scientific Committee are authorized by the Pacific Science Council. The President of the Entomology Committee is the Professor ASTAUROV from the Academy of Sciences of USSR. He is sorry he could not attend this International Congress of Entomology and asked me to organize this informal meeting, with the help of Docteur WATERHOUSE and Professor GHILAROV, also Chairman of the Standing Committee on Pacific Island Ecosystems. I thank them here very much for their help.

At the time of our last year meeting, it had seemed useful to compile informations on the Pacific basin in general and to what are Pacific entomological problems, applied or otherwise, so that the Committee should decide priorities and establish plan of effective action : general survey, critical assessment, entomological training, and recommendations to the Council for seminar on methodology, population dynamics, training in taxonomy etc...

Because it seems not to be the purpose of our Committee in undertaking the huge task of compiling entomological works done in countries all around the Pacific ocean-works which sometimes are yet very well compiled, without speaking about the cost to publish - it seems better to concentrate our efforts only on the small countries and territories which lay on the Pacific ocean itself.

.../...

For that, first, more entomologists working in these archipelagos must be involved in the Committee ; Professor ASTAUROV wrote to me that this is in progress. I quote his letter(march 15th 1972) :

"I would like to inform you that I asked Prof. M.S. GHILAROV to serve as one of the members of the Standing Committee on Pacific Entomology. Happily Prof. GHILAROV serves simultaneously as the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Pacific Ecosystems.

I accept your recommendations concerning others members of our Standing Committee. Taking into account that some Territories are already represented in our Committee, I sent the invitations to join the Committee to the following Scientists recommended by you :

- R.P. OWEN (Caroline islands)
- G. PICHON (Tahiti)
- R. MUNIAPPAN (Guam)
- J.H. STAPLEY (Solomon islands)
- and B. ZELAZNY (Western Samoa)."

.....

Remarks :Among this people G. PICHON, J. STAPLEY and B. ZELAZNY were present at the Congress and also at our meeting ; only G. PICHON said to have received a letter from Prof. ASTAUROV ; J. STAPLEY and B. ZELAZNY, consulted during the session about so a letter, replied they never received any letter. In spite of this, they were afterwards considered during the Meeting as a part of the Committee, and they agree to work in.

After I have read my report, Prof. M.S. GHILAROV gave me from Prof. ASTAUROV the list of the Standing Committee on Pacific Entomology, as for August 10th 1972, and I announced the nominations I did not know before of C.R. BALTAZAR (Philippines) and T. WHITE (Fiji). The nominations of J. HOY (New Zealand) and B. BEIRNE (Canada) were already known.

.....

Report continued "So, our enlarged Committee is now as it follows ; it can also be formed into two groups :

.../...

- representatives from bordering countries who could give help (when they can) and scientific advises (New Zealand is included in these countries).

- and entomologists representatives from the Pacific Territories, who work on Pacific entomological problems, could be with the help of funds coming from various International Organizations.

Standing Committee on Pacific Entomology

Chairman : B.L. ASTAUROV (USSR)

Countries bordering the Pacific Ocean

D.F. WATERHOUSE (Australia)
K. YASUMATSU (Japan)
C.R. BALTAZAR (Philippines)
M.S. GHILAROV (USSR)
R.A. HARRISON (New Zealand)
J. HOY (New Zealand)
E.G. MUNROE (Canada)
B.P. BEIRNE (Canada)
R.H. GONZALEZ (Chili)

Countries within the Pacific Ocean*

J.L. GRESSITT (Hawai and New Guinea, USA)
R. MUNIAPPAN (Guam)
T.C. WHITE (Fiji)
G. PICHON (Tahiti)
J. STAPLEY (Solomon)
B. ZELAZNY (Western Samoa)
P. COCHEREAU (New Caledonia)
? R. OWEN (Palau)
?? S. SINGH (Fiji)

Doctor GRESSITT, a member of our Committee, proposed last year to publish all the collected informations in the entomological magazine : "Pacific insects" ; so, it should be possible to compile from Pacific islands only :

- a list of all the entomologists working in this area ; some years ago the Pacific Science Association yet established a list of Pacific Zoologists.
- the research programs actually undertaken in Entomology, with a short exposé of the problems, the aims and the results in :

- extension agriculture
 - biological control
 - stocks
 - medical entomology and public health
 - institutions and buildings established in the Pacific area for Entomology
- .../...

*T. BOURKE (Papua New Guinea) is very likely to be involved in this group.

- papers annually published on Pacific insects (taxonomy, physiology)
- meetings on entomological problems concerning the Pacific area
- entomological expeditions
- outbreaks of insects ; control by natural enemies
- ecological changes ; conservation of nature ; pollution
- activities of other International Entomological agencies (IOBC, FAO, WHO, IBP).

About all these topics, a lot of work has yet been done. Fastly, I give some indications.

Actually a strong team of Australian entomologists work in the Papua and New Guinea Territory and Dr. GRESSITT and his colleagues are working at the Wau Ecology Institute in New Guinea. A lot of entomologists work in Hawaii (State, USDA, University, Bishop Museum). A group of entomologists is working in Samoa and Fiji with a FAO Project on Oryctes rhinoceros, ORSTOM entomologists work in French Territories, the University of the South Pacific in Fiji is involved with Entomology, one entomologist works in Solomon Islands, and other one in Fiji ; two in Saipan and Guam and I think that is all.

On the other hand, about the works already done, remember the bibliography of Micronesian Entomology by BRYAN (1948) ; the reports of the various Standing Committee Chairmans, mainly :

- the Insects of Micronesia bibliography by ESAKI ; BRYAN and GRESSITT (1955)
- the GRESSITT's report and bibliography at the ninth Pacific Science Congress in Bangkok (1957)
- the list of pests, parasites and predators in the Pacific by DUMBLETON (1957)
- the very important and useful SZENT-IVANY's report and bibliography at the tenth Pacific Science Congress at Honolulu (1961)
- the Man in the South Pacific by DOUMENGE (1966)
- the bibliography of New Guinea Entomology by GRESSITT and SZENT-IVANY (1968)
- the draft check list and bibliography of Pacific oceanic islands by DOUGLAS (1969)
- the handbook of plants pests and diseases in the South Pacific by O'CONNOR (1969)

.../...

- the directory of Agricultural Research and Experimentation in the South Pacific by LAMBERT (1971)
- the 21 Resolutions of the IUCN/SPC Regional Symposium on Conservation of Nature, Reefs and Lagoons held in Noumea last year
- and a paper that I have myself just written on biological control in the Pacific basin ; it compiles for the Standing Entomology Committee of the Pacific Science Association and the Pacific Regional Section of the International Organization for Biological Control the work done and the work to be done in this area in biological control.

Now it seems to me I have to ask to you some comments ; before, I wish we can be able to do from this meeting at least one recommendation (may be on had hoc committees) to the Pacific Science Council for his next year Inter Congress Meeting in Guam.

P. COCHEREAU

CANBERRA, August 1972."

During the discussions which followed this report, it appeared that members who are working within the Pacific area must concentrate their efforts only on this area. So, we decided to establish some sub-committees, one for each important topic, with an animator for each sub-committee and supporting members from countries bordering the Pacific. Each year, each animator, well aware about his topics, will send to the chairman a small report. Inside each sub-committee, informations are also exchanged, help given from one to another member or supporter and common problems could so be cleared and studied inside a common programme with funds coming from each territory of likely coming from some International Organization.

These sub-committees, of which the constitution is submitted to the agreement of the President, could be the followings:

I Taxonomy, biogeography of Pacific insects. Entomological expedition.

Papers published on Pacific insects.

Animator : J. GRESSITT (Hawaiï, New Guinea)

Supporters : M. GHILAROV (USSR)
K. YASUMATSU (Japan)
T. WHITE (Fiji)
R. HARRISON (New Zealand)
G. HOLLOWAY (Australia)
K. LEE (Australia)
G. FABRES (New Caledonia)
T. FENNER (New Guinea)
G. PICHON (Tahiti)

II Biological control programs being carried out in Pacific countries.

List of the entomologists working in biological control. Biocontrol agents being picked up in Pacific countries (worky paper for each crop). Outbreaks of insects and control by natural enemies.

Animator : J. HOY (New Zealand)

Supporters : K. YASUMATSU (Japan)
D. WATERHOUSE (Australia)
P. COCHEREAU (New Caledonia)
C. BALTAZAR (Philippines)
G. SNOWBALL (Australia)

III Pacific islands ecosystems ; ecological changes ; conservation of nature ; pollution.

Animators : B. ASTAUROV and M.S. GHILAROV (USSR)

Supporters : R. HARRISON (New Zealand)
B. BEIRNE (Canada)
R. OWEN (Palau)
R. GONZALEZ (Chili)

IV Medical Entomology and Public Health problems and Projects. Health quarantine.

Animator : G. PICHON (Tahiti)

Supporters : B. TAYLOR (Solomon)
E. REYE (Australia)
B. CHOW (Philippines)
Y. SUSUKI (WHO, Manilla)

V Rhino beetle control in the Pacific area ; aims and progress.

Animator : B. ZELAZNY (Western Samoa)

Supporters : G. STRIDE (Western Samoa, Tonga)
G. BEDFORD (Fiji islands)
J. HOY (New Zealand, Tokelau)
P. COCHEREAU (New Caledonia, Wallis)
P. BAILEY (New Britain)
J. STAPLEY (Solomon islands)
C. BALTAZAR (Philippines)
B. WOOD (Malaysia)

VI Problems of extension agriculture (coconut, pastures, rice, cocoa etc...); outbreaks of insects. Programs undertaken and list of scientists working in.

Animator : J. STAPLEY (Solomon)

Supporters : S. SINGH (Fiji)
C. LI (Australia)
R. MUNIAPPAN (Guam)
DEMEI OTOBED (Palau)
C. BALTAZAR (Philippines)
P. COCHEREAU (New Caledonia)
R. GONZALEZ (Chili)
E. MUNROE (Canada)
Agriculture Departments of the different Territories

VII Movements of stored products between Pacific countries and movements of resistant strains of insects, specially stored products insects.

Animator : T.V. BOURKE (Papua and New Guinea)

Supporters : R. MUNIAPPAN (Guam)
J. STAPLEY (Solomon)
S. SINGH (Fiji)
Territories' Agriculture Departments and Quarantines.

VIII Forest Entomology in the Pacific

Animator : B. GRAY (Papua and New Guinea)

Supporters : F.R. WYLIE (Papua and New Guinea)
Territories' Forestry Departments.

In this sub-committees it is born in wind the fields of work of the members of the Committee and of the supporters and also the discussions which followed my report ; so, T. BOURKE is very interested by the movements of stored products insects between Pacific countries and he is well called to be the animator of this sub-committee.

This organization of our Committee and the tasks of the sub-committees could be submitted and recommended, with the recommendations likely to be done by each sub-committee animator's report, to the Council of the Pacific Science Association at his Inter Congress meeting in Guam in 1973.

COCHEREAU
Noumea - New Caledonia
September 1972