

Special Issue

Diptera Diversity in Space and Time

Message from the Guest Editors

Based upon recent DNA barcoding and extensive sampling efforts, two-winged flies (Diptera) are well established as one of the most species-rich groups of insects on Earth. At the same time, Diptera, in terms of the proportion of described versus undescribed species, is the least studied major insect order. Additionally, phylogenetic relationships and classification of various subgroups of Diptera are far from fully elucidated. Preliminary studies suggest that there are still more species undescribed than described, particularly in the tropics and other less studied areas. The same applies to the study of fossil flies. Although new taxa of fossil Diptera are continuously being described, especially from the mid-Cretaceous amber of Myanmar, they still represent a rich, valuable, and understudied source of information. This Special Issue aims to promote fundamental and high-quality biodiversity research, based on both extant and fossil specimens.

Keywords: Diptera; systematics; taxonomy; phylogeny; DNA barcoding; biodiversity; morphology; ecology; fossils; zoogeography

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