



<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.6.3.1>

<http://zoobank.org/urn:lsid:zoobank.org:pub:3BA9B7B3-FB07-4616-BEBA-B4C42DFD2D8B>

## Palaeoentomology (2018–2022): A newcomer on the rise to high impact

ZHI-QIANG ZHANG<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Manaaki Whenua–Landcare Research, Private Bag 92170, Auckland, New Zealand

<sup>2</sup>School of Biological Sciences, The University of Auckland, Auckland, New Zealand

✉ [zhangz@landcareresearch.co.nz](mailto:zhangz@landcareresearch.co.nz); <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-4172-0592>

The journal *Palaeoentomology* was founded in late 2018 through a collaboration between the International Palaeoentomological Society (IPS) and Magnolia Press (the publisher of *Zootaxa*) in response to an exponential growth in the number of papers in this field (Azar *et al.*, 2018). This specialized journal aims to be a high-quality platform for bringing together recent research and discoveries in fossil insects and other terrestrial arthropods, as well as other amber inclusions (Azar *et al.*, 2018). The new journal has been warmly welcomed by the palaeoentomological community and sustained stable development in the first five years (2018–2022). In November 2022, *Palaeoentomology* was accepted by Clarivate for coverage in the *Emerging Sources Citation Index*<sup>TM</sup> (ESCI) in the Web of Science Core Collection<sup>TM</sup>, and is expected to have its first journal impact factor in mid-June 2023. All papers published during 2018–2022 in *Palaeoentomology* were indexed in ESCI in January 2023. Here, I provide a summary of the first five volumes of this journal, with focus on citation patterns as well as an estimate of its first Journal Impact Factor<sup>TM</sup>.

### Journal frequency and output

*Palaeoentomology* was published bimonthly with six issues per year between 2019 and 2022, except a single inaugural issue in December 2018. The first five volumes included 318 documents in 2697 pages, averaging over eight pages per paper (Fig. 1). These papers are contributed by 199 authors affiliated with 196 institutions from 30 countries. Most authors (167 or 83.9%) contributed one to three papers. The top 10 authors are: Diying Huang (72 papers), André Nel (62 papers), Dany Azar (41 papers), Chenyang Cai (38 papers), Yanzhe Fu (22 papers), Sibelle Maksoud (20 papers), Evgeny E. Perkovsky (15 papers), Jacek Szwedo (12 papers), Erik Tihelka (12 papers) and Yanda Li (10 papers). The top 10 institutions are: Chinese Academy of Sciences (133 papers), Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle (70 papers), Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (68 papers), UDICE French

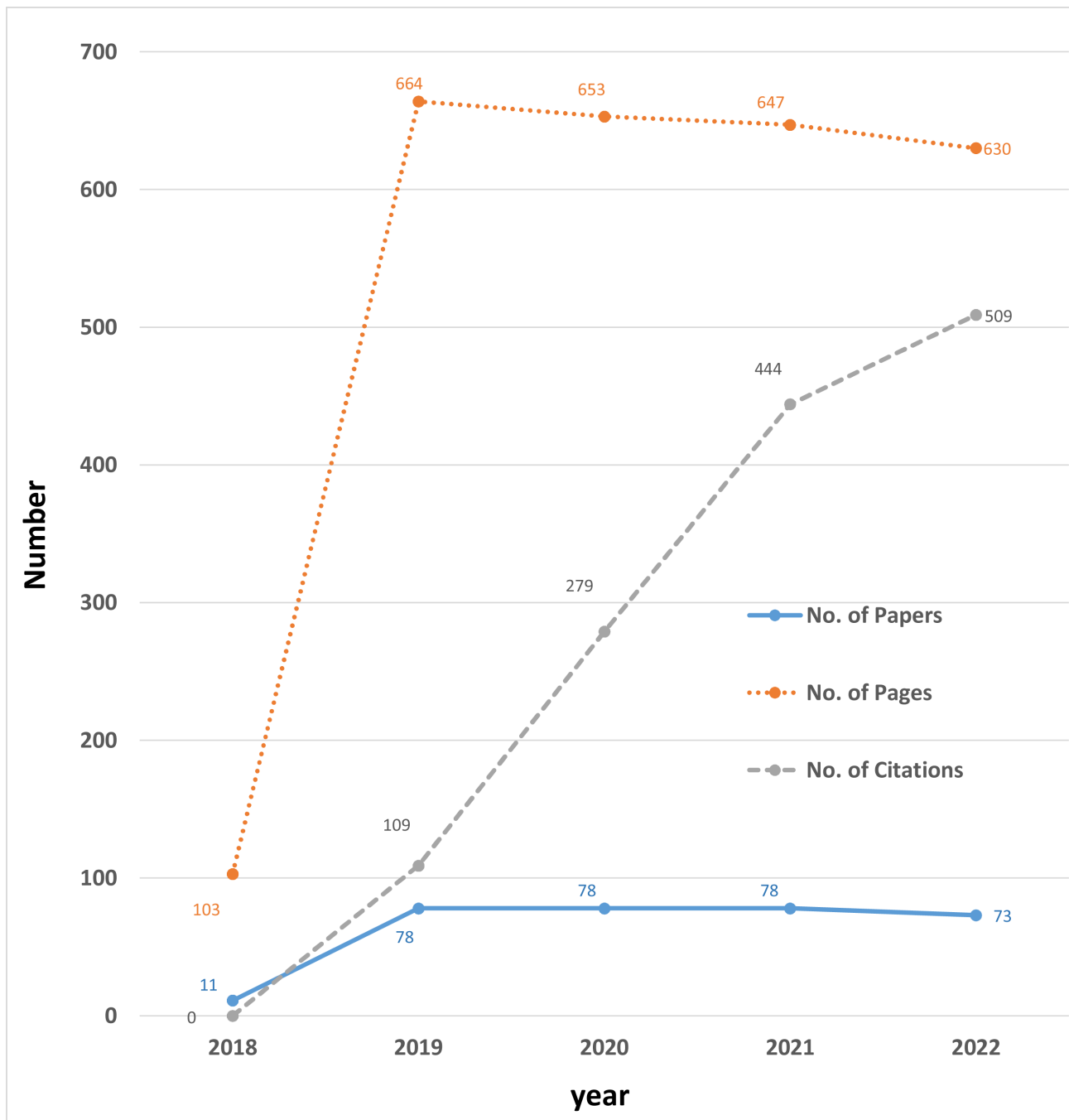
Research Universities (67 papers), Sorbonne Université (63 papers), École pratique des hautes études (62 papers), Université PSL (62 papers), Russian Academy of Sciences (49 papers), Lebanese University (41 papers), Paleontological Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences (30 papers) and University of Bristol (28 papers). The top 10 countries are: People’s Republic of China (146 papers), France (75 papers), Russia (56 papers), England (49 papers), Germany (41 papers), Lebanon (41 papers), USA (39 papers), Poland (24 papers), Ukraine (16 papers) and Spain (10 papers).

Each issue averaged over 107 pages in 12 papers, most of which are original articles (Fig. 1, Table 1). In addition to full-length articles and short communications, *Palaeoentomology* also published nine reviews along with some editorials and biographic items (Table 1). The editors of *Palaeoentomology* and Web of Science Core Collection<sup>TM</sup> differed in the categorization of document types (Table 1). Most brief papers (up to five printed pages) were considered short communications by editors of *Palaeoentomology* but were categorized as “article” or “editorial” in some cases by Web of Science Core Collection<sup>TM</sup>. Most review papers, however, were correctly categorized by Web of Science Core Collection<sup>TM</sup>, except one: Peñalver *et al.* (2022) was categorized by Web of Science Core Collection as a “review” presumably because of this word in its title “A review of the Cretaceous genus *Eltxo* (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) with a description of the new species *Eltxo grimaldii* from El Soplao amber”. However, the editors and authors correctly categorized it as an article because this paper is primarily an original article describing a new species of *Eltxo*, also providing a corrected and expanded description of the other species in the genus. This paper certainly is not a review as defined by Web of Science Core Collection<sup>TM</sup>: “A renewed study of material previously studied. Includes review articles and surveys of previously published literature. Usually will not present any new information on a subject” (Clarivate Analytics, 2020).

**TABLE 1.** Numbers and categories of papers published in *Palaeoentomology* during its first five years.

Year	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Article	5 (9)	35 (61)	41 (68)	41 (66)	51 (65)
Review	1 (1)	1 (1)	4 (4)	3 (3)	0 (1)
Short communication	4 (0)	35 (0)	28 (0)	28 (0)	17 (0)
Editorial	1 (1)	7 (14)	5 (6)	6 (7)	5 (7)
Biography	0 (0)	0 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Erratum (correction)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (2)	0 (0)

\*The numbers in parentheses are those indexed/categorized by Web of Science Core Collection™ (data of 10 April 2023).



**FIGURE 1.** The numbers of papers, pages, and citations in the first five years of *Palaeoentomology*. Citation data from Web of Science Core Collection™ (10 April 2023).

**TABLE 2.** Top 10 most cited papers in *Palaeoentomology* during its first five years. Citation data from Web of Science Core Collection™ (10 April 2023).

Rank	Cites	Title	Source
1	176	Burmese (Myanmar) amber checklist and bibliography 2018	Ross (2019)
2	123	Various amberground marine animals on Burmese amber with discussions on its age	Mao <i>et al.</i> (2018)
3	66	Supplement to the Burmese (Myanmar) amber checklist and bibliography, 2019	Ross (2020)
4	47	Supplement to the Burmese (Myanmar) amber checklist and bibliography, 2020	Ross (2021)
5	36	Lebanese amber: latest updates	Maksoud & Azar (2020)
6	30	Preparation of small-sized 3D amber samples: state of the technique	Sidorchuk & Vorontsov (2018)
7	29	International Palaeoentomological Society Statement	Szwedo <i>et al.</i> (2020)
8	28	The Middle-Late Jurassic Yanliao entomofauna	Huang <i>et al.</i> (2018)
9	23	Application of confocal laser scanning microscopy to the study of amber bioinclusions	Fu <i>et al.</i> (2021)
10	21	Remarks on the age of Dominican amber	Iturralde-Vinent & MacPhee (2019)

### Patterns of citation

The first issue in 2018 was published near the end of the year (on 28 December); so, there were no citations in 2018. From then on, the number of citations increased rapidly from 109 in 2019 to 509 in 2022 (Fig. 1). As of 10 April 2023, the top-cited paper had 176 citations (Table 2) and is a review (checklist) of Burmese amber by Ross (2019). Two updates of this review also made the top 10 (No. 3 and No. 4). These clearly indicated the popularity of Burmese amber among palaeoentomologists. Not surprisingly, three other top 10 papers are also reviews (No. 2, No. 5 and No. 8). Two papers describing methods for studying amber inclusions also made the top 10 (No. 6 and No. 9).

### Estimate of the first journal impact factor

Clarivate (2022) announced changes to the 2023 release of the *Journal Citation Reports*™ that all journals indexed in the Web of Science Core Collection™ will receive a Journal Impact Factor (JIF)™. This means that *Palaeoentomology* will have its first JIF in the 2023 release of the *Journal Citation Reports*™ in mid-June 2023 because it has citation data for the last five years in ESCI. Clarivate (2022) also indicated that the 2023 release of the *Journal Citation Reports*™ will publish JIFs with one decimal place only.

The 2022 JIF is calculated by this formula:  $JIF = X / Y$ , where X is the number of citations in 2022 to articles and reviews published in 2020 and 2021, and Y is the number of articles and reviews published in 2020 and 2021. X is 317 for *Palaeoentomology* and Y is 141

(134 articles + 7 reviews) based on citation data in the Web of Science Core Collection™. So, the JIF of 2022 for *Palaeoentomology* is 2.2. I estimate that this JIF will place *Palaeoentomology* in Q1 (top 25%) among entomological journals in the *Journal Citation Reports*™.

### References

- Azar, D., Szwedo, J., Jarzembowski, E., Evenhuis, N. & Huang, D.Y. (2018) “Palaeoentomology”: A modern journal for a science dealing with the past. *Palaeoentomology*, 1 (1), 1–2. <https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.1.1.1>
- Clarivate Analytics (2020) Web of Science Core Collection Help. Available from [https://images.webofknowledge.com/images/help/WOS/hs\\_document\\_type.html](https://images.webofknowledge.com/images/help/WOS/hs_document_type.html) (accessed 9 June 2023).
- Clarivate (2022) Clarivate announces changes to the 2023 Journal Citation Reports. Available from <https://clarivate.com/news/clarivate-announces-changes-to-the-2023-journal-citation-reports/> (accessed 9 June 2023).
- Fu, Y.Z., Li, Y.D., Su, Y.D., Cai, C.Y. & Huang, D.Y. (2021) Application of confocal laser scanning microscopy to the study of amber bioinclusions. *Palaeoentomology*, 4 (3), 266–278. <https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.4.3.14>
- Huang, D.Y., Cai, C.Y., Fu, Y.Z. & Su, Y.T. (2018) The Middle-Late Jurassic Yanliao entomofauna. *Palaeoentomology*, 1 (1), 3–31. <https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.1.1.2>
- Iturralde-Vinent, M.A. & MacPhee, R.D.E. (2019) Remarks on the age of Dominican amber. *Palaeoentomology*, 2 (3), 236–240. <https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.2.3.7>

- Maksoud, S. & Azar, D. (2020) Lebanese amber: latest updates. *Palaeoentomology*, 3 (2), 125–155.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.3.2.2>
- Mao, Y.Y., Liang, K., Su, Y.T. Li, J.G., Rao, X., Zhang, H., Xia, F.Y., Fu, Y.Z., Cai, C.Y. & Huang, D.Y. (2018) Various amberground marine animals on Burmese amber with discussions on its age. *Palaeoentomology*, 1 (1), 91–103.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.1.1.11>
- Peñalver, E., Arillo, A. & Nel, A. (2022) A review of the Cretaceous genus *Eltxo* (Diptera: Cecidomyiidae) with description of the new species *Eltxo grimaldii* from El Soplao amber. *Palaeoentomology*, 5 (5), 461–467.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.5.5.7>
- Ross, A.J. (2019) Burmese (Myanmar) amber checklist and bibliography 2018. *Palaeoentomology*, 2 (1), 22–84.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.2.1.5>
- Ross, A.J. (2020) Supplement to the Burmese (Myanmar) amber checklist and bibliography, 2019. *Palaeoentomology*, 3 (1), 103–118.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.3.1.14>
- Ross, A.J. (2021) Supplement to the Burmese (Myanmar) amber checklist and bibliography, 2020. *Palaeoentomology*, 4 (1), 57–76.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.4.1.11>
- Sidorchuk, E.A. & Vorontsov, D.D. (2018) Preparation of small-sized 3D amber samples: state of the technique. *Palaeoentomology*, 1 (1), 80–90.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.1.1.10>
- Szwedo, J., Wang, B., Soszyńska-Maj, A., Azar, D. & Ross, A.J. (2020) International Palaeoentomological Society Statement. *Palaeoentomology*, 3 (3), 221–222.  
<https://doi.org/10.11646/palaeoentomology.3.3.1>