



Summary of the history of the International Congresses of Acarology*

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“The conception of the First International Congress of Acarology originated one evening during an informal discussion in the library of the Zoological Institute at the University of Vienna in August 1960. This simple beginning during the course of the convened XIth International Congress of Entomology initiated the general plans. Subsequent discussions among those acarologists present resulted in the establishment of an organizing committee which was charged to consider the feasibility of an international meeting and to make positive arrangements.

Historically, acarologists have felt a need to develop closer affiliations with each other as specialists. And acarology, while integrated and associated with entomology, and somewhat overshadowed by the more matured prestige of this sister science, has grown in importance and stature as a discipline. This growth stimulated the desire of acarologists to develop closer scientific relationships and the informal meeting in Vienna gave impetus and meaning to the expressions of this need for a more autonomous functioning of the acarologists, concurrent with the desire for continued association and cooperation with entomology and entomologists. Moreover, it was intent of the acarologists assembled in Vienna to profit from the experiences of their fellow scientists, to direct the science of acarology, to set standards and steer the course of this specialty in an orderly way.

The general committee elected in Vienna subsequently selected sectional chairmen, sectional committees and panels together with major subjects to be discussed in the proposed program. Initial proposals were submitted to the general committee by the Chairman, revised and finally submitted to National Science Foundation and National Institutes of Health for funding.

Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, accepted responsibility for staging the meeting. The final funding of the Conference was completed early in the year of 1963 and preparations were made for the meeting at Fort Collins from 2 to 7 September 1963.

From this cosmopolitan group emerged a first, singularly significant step in the upward reach of the new and dynamic science of Acarology.” [Proceedings, 1st International Congress of Acarology, Acarologia, 1964, 6 (h.s.): 31–32].

Important notes about the congresses

1ST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Venue: Fort Collins, Colorado, USA.

Period: 2–7 September 1963.

Participants: 146 delegates from 23 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: G.W. Wharton; Secretary: T.A. Woolley.

Sections: Systematics and taxonomy; Soil ecology; Medical and veterinary acarology; Physiology, behavior, genetics; Agricultural and stored product Acarology.

Proceedings: published as a special number of Acarologia: Acarologia, (1964), 6, 1–439.

2ND INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Venue: Sutton Bonington, United Kingdom.

Period: 19–25 July 1967.

Participants: over 200 delegates “on a world-wide basis”.

Officers of the Congress: President: T.E. Hughes; Secretary; G.O. Evans.

Sections: General and experimental taxonomy; Physiology and genetics; Soil Acari; Marine and freshwater Acari; Mites associated with plants; Mites of stored products; Parasitic mites; Ticks; Acari and diseases of medical and veterinary importance; Biological control; Chemical control; Techniques.

Proceedings:

a) Evans, G.W. (ed), 1969—Proceedings of the 2nd International Congress of Acarology (Sutton Bonington, England, 19–25 July 1967). Akademiai Kiado, Budapest, 652 pp.

b) Contributions to the Symposia of the 2nd International Congress of Acarology (Sutton Bonington, 1967). *Acarologia*, 11(3): 356–503.

3RD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Venue: Prague, then Czechoslovakia.

Period: 31 August–6 September 1971.

Participants: “over 200 delegates” from 32 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: B. Rosický; Secretary: F. Dusbabek.

Sections: Soil mites; Marine and freshwater mites; Plant mites; Taxonomy of higher categories, phylogeny and zoogeography; Mites of stored products; Parasitic mites, faunistics and taxonomy; Ticks, faunistics and taxonomy; Mites and ticks of medical and veterinary importance; Mites and ticks in natural foci of diseases; Biological, chemical and physical control; Physiology, genetics and behaviour; Ecology of mites and ticks.

Proceedings:

Daniel, M. & Rosický, B. (eds), 1973—Proceedings of the 3rd International Congress of Acarology (Prague, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 31–Sept. 6, 1971). S. Junk, The Hague & Academia, Prague, 837 pp.

4TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Venue: Saalfelden, Austria.

Period: 12–19 August 1974.

Participants: “more than 200 delegates” from 32 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: R. Schuster; Secretary: E. Piffel.

Sections: Soil mites; Water mites; Plant mites; Stored product mites; Faunistic taxonomy of parasites; Host-parasite interactions; Parasites of medical and veterinary importance; Acari and epidemiology of diseases; Higher taxonomy and phylogeny; Physiology and biology; Genetics; Chemical control.

Proceedings:

Piffel, E. (ed), 1979—Proceedings of the 4th International Congress of Acarology (Saalfelden, Austria, 12–19 Aug. 1974). Akademiai Kiado, Budapest, 752 pp.

5TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Venue: East Lansing, Michigan, USA.

Period: 6–12 August 1978.

Participants: “more than 300 delegates” from 39 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: E.W. Baker; Secretary: J.G. Rodriguez.

Sections: Pest management of agricultural mites; Biology of spider mites; Stored product

acarology; Physiology, biochemistry and toxicology of Acari; Ecology, behaviour and bionomics of Acari; Recent advances in soil mite biology; Management of Acari of medical and veterinary importance; Biology and ecology of Acari of medical and veterinary importance; Current research on disease transmission by Acari; Pheromonal communication in acarines; Specificity and parallel evolution of host-parasite in mites; Systematics, morphology and evolution of Acari.

Proceedings:

Rodriguez, J.G. (ed), 1979—Recent Advances in Acarology (Proceedings of the 5th International Congress of Acarology, East Lansing, Michigan, USA, 6–12 Aug. 1978). Vol. I: 631 pp; Vol. II: 569 pp. Academic Press, New York.

6TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLGY

Venue: Edinburgh, Scotland.

Period: 5–11 September 1982.

Participants: “about 300 delegates” from 39 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: G.O. Evans; Secretary: D.A. Griffiths.

Sections: Systematics and taxonomy of Acari; Form and function in Acari; Physiology and biochemistry of Acari; Genetics and reproduction of Acari; Ecology and biology of Acari; Biological control of Acari; Soil mites; Stored product mites; Water mites; Medical and veterinary Acarology; Ticks; Chemical control of Acari.

Proceedings:

Griffiths, D.A. & Bowman, C.E. (eds), 1984—Acarology VI. (Proceedings of the 6th International Congress of Acarology, Edinburgh, Scotland, 5–11 Sept. 1982). Vol. I: 1–645; Vol. II: 646–1296. Ellis Horwood, Chichester.

7TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLGY

Venue: Bangalore, India.

Period: 3–9 August 1986.

Participants: 157 delegates from 24 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: G.P. ChannaBasavanna; Secretary: C.A. Viraktamath.

Sections: Ecology and behavior of ticks; Medical and veterinary acarology; House dust mites; Form and function in Acari; Reproduction in Acari; Systematics and taxonomy of Acari; Water mites; Soil mites; Plant mites; Stored product mites; Mites associated with insects, birds and small mammals; Biological control; Chemical and other methods of control; Acarology in developing countries.

Proceedings:

ChannaBasavanna, G.P. & Viraktamath, C.A. (eds), 1988—Progress in Acarology (Proceedings of the 7th International Congress of Acarology, Bangalore, India, Aug. 3–9, 1986). Vol. I: 523 pp; Vol. II: 484 pp. Oxford & IBH, New Delhi.

8TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLGY

Venue: Ceske Budejovice, then Czechoslovakia.

Period: 6–11 August 1990.

Participants: 317 delegates from 45 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: B. Rosick; Secretary: F. Dusbabek.

Sections: Biological role of mites in soil; Water mites as the indicators of environmental pollution; Mites as pests of plants; Mites as pests of stored products; Mites and ticks as parasites of humans and animals; Mites and ticks as vectors of diseases; Morphology and phylogeny; Physiology and biochemistry; Genetics and reproduction; Ecology, biology and behavior; Biological control; Chemical control.

Proceedings:

Dusbabek, F. & Bukva, V. (eds), 1991—Modern Acarology (Proceedings of the 8th International Congress of Acarology, Ceske Budejovice, Czechoslovakia, Aug. 6–11, 1990). Vol. I: 651 pp + 24 pl.; Vol. II: 779 pp + 50 pl. Academia, Prague.

9TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLGY

Venue: Columbus, Ohio, USA.

Period: 17–22 July 1994.

Participants: 399 delegates from 40 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: D.E. Johnston; Secretary: John Conroy.

Sections: Behaviour and physiological ecology; Parasitic Acari and host parasite relationships; Mites and bees; Control strategies for plant-feeding mites; Morphology and phylogeny; Genetics and population biology; Acari and human diseases; Mites and allergies; Mites in aquatic habitats; Mites in soil habitats; Mites in stored products; Physiology and biochemistry.

Proceedings:

Mitchell, R., Horn, D.J., Needham, G.R. & Calvin Welbourn, W. (eds), 1996—Acarology IX. Vol. I—Proceedings (Proceedings of the 9th International Congress of Acarology, Columbus, Ohio, USA, Jul. 17–22, 1994). Vol. II—Symposia. 507 pp. Ohio Biological Survey, Columbus.

10TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLGY

Venue: Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia.

Period: 5–10 July 1998.

Participants: 219 delegates from 29 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: R.B. Halliday; Secretary Roy Norton.

Sections: Acarine systematics and phylogeny; Acarine biogeography and biodiversity; Evolutionary ecology of acarine reproduction; Acarine morphology and ultrastructure; Ecology and biology of soil mites; Interactions between mites and plants; Biology and control of mites in horticulture; Acarine biological control agents; Medical and veterinary acarology; Ecology and physiology of ticks.

Proceedings:

Halliday, B., Walter, D.E., Proctor, H.C., Norton, R.A. & Colloff, M.J. (eds), 1998—Acarology. Proceedings of the 10th International Congress of Acarology (Canberra, Australia, Jul. 5–10, 1998). CSIRO Publishing, 657 pp.

11TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLGY

Venue: Merida, Yucatan, Mexico.

Period: 8–13 September 2002.

Participants: 245 delegates from 37 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: T.M. Pérez; Secretary: J.B. Morales-Malacara and V. Behan-Pelletier.

Sections: Bioecology diversity and phylogeny of mites in natural tropical habitats; Aquatic Acari: ecology, morphology and behavior; Mites of soil and litter; Parasitic Acari and host plant associations; Important mites in tropical crops; Phytophagous, parasitic and stored product mites and quarantine issues; The effects of pesticides on predacious mites; Agricultural mites: current issues and control strategies; Acarine morphology and ultrastructure; Acari: evolution, biology, genetics and ethology.

Proceedings:

Morales-Malacara, J.B., Behan-Pelletier, V., Ueckermann, E., Perez, T.M., Estrada-Venegas, E.G. & Badii, M. (eds), 2007—Acarology XI, Proceedings of the International Congress. (Merida, Mexico, Sept. 8–13, 2002). DR Universidad Nacional Autonoma de México. 726 pp.

12TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ACAROLOGY

Venue: Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

Period: 21–26 August 2006.

Participants: 386 delegates from 58 countries.

Officers of the Congress: President: M.W. Sabelis; Secretary: B. OConnor.

Sections: Morphology and anatomy of Acari; Ecology of mites; Veterinary acarology; Physiology; Soil acarology; Phylogeny and taxonomy; Agricultural acarology; Taxonomy and molecular methods; Taxonomy and faunistic surveys.

Proceedings:

Sabelis, M.W. & Bruin, J. (eds), 2010—Trends in Acarology. Proceedings of the 12th International Congress. (Amsterdam, The Netherlands, Aug. 21–26. 2006). Springer. 561 pp + indexes.