The authors regret that the following testimonial in honor of Laurence Mound was omitted from the original article. It is now published here with our sincerest apologies.

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I have never had the pleasure of meeting Dr Laurence Mound in person. However, I have extensively researched his work, particularly his papers that focus on the diversity of thrips in small islands in different parts of the world, during my doctoral studies, which focused on the diversity of Thysanoptera of the Maltese Islands. Eventually, I decided to correspond with him for advice and help in confirming the identity of some of the thrips species from the Maltese Islands, since literature on these insects, particularly on the Tubulifera of the Mediterranean region, is relatively sparse and dated. In his correspondence, Dr Mound did not merely identify species where this was possible; he was also critical of the approach I was adopting, and gave me pointers to improve my identification skills. Through these pointers, together with the observation of the scientific thinking behind his works, I have managed to enhance my observation, thinking and questioning skills that were necessary to make the right decisions in order to be able to identify thrips species, particularly those which were tricky, such as species of the genera *Haplothrips* and *Karnyothrips*. Dr Mound also suggested literature to consult in order to also improve the skills needed to construct the identification keys for the species I was studying.

I have also sought guidance from Dr Mound when I was co-authoring the papers that dealt with the data I found in my thesis. His guidance enabled me to interpret my data more accurately, particularly when it came to presenting chorological data of the species found in the Maltese Islands.

Through my interaction with Dr Mound, as well as through the studying of his publications, I could observe and appreciate the fact that Dr Mound has excellent mastery of the scientific thought process which led him to ask the critical questions necessary in order to conduct the relevant works. This can be seen throughout his publications, which span over a period of fifty years, thus making him vastly experienced and an unparalleled veteran in the study of Thysanoptera.