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EDITOR'S ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Dr. George E. Ball, long time editor of *Quaestiones Entomologicae*, began a well-earned administrative leave of absence this summer after serving with distinction for 10 years as Chairman of the Department of Entomology, University of Alberta and for one year each as First and Second Vice-President, President and Past-President of the Entomological Society of Canada. Before leaving for Europe in June with his wife Kaye, George asked me to serve as Acting Editor of the journal for one year. Thus, it falls to me the pleasant task of thanking those individuals, listed below, who served as reviewers of the papers appearing in Volume 20:

W.G. Evans, Department of Entomology, University of Alberta, Edmonton, AB
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I would also like to acknowledge the cheerful assistance in this department of D. Shpeley and J. Scott in reading proof and of J.-F. Landry in translating abstracts of some of the papers into French.

Publication of this issue of Volume 20 also marks the end of year five of Mrs. S. Subbarao's sojourn as Publications Manager of the journal and I wish to thank her for her continuing high level of interest and performance in executing the many, often tedious, tasks required of this position. It is also due to her efforts that publication of the journal is, at long last, back on schedule.

Finally, I would like to thank those authors who selected *Quaestiones Entomologicae* for publication of their work and the small, and we would like to think select, body of faithful subscribers and readers whose continued support of the journal makes our effort in producing it worthwhile.

Before signing off I wish to comment on a few of the manuscripts recently submitted for publication. While all manuscripts we published this year were acceptable in content and organization, I noticed a lack of attention to detail in the final preparation of some of them that may relate to George Ball's well known generosity as an editor— details like uncited papers appearing in the list of references and vice versa; incomplete literature citations; inconsistent use of numerals and words for numbers; inconsistent spelling of scientific names etc.— all items fully covered in most manuals on scientific writing. When George receives such a manuscript and its content is basically sound, he has it reviewed, accepts it, makes all the (often considerable) changes required himself and passes it on to Mrs. Subbarao, for processing. He

does this because he wants the paper for *Quaestiones Entomologicae*, and because he accepts only the highest quality of presentation. Because of his countless other responsibilities he also sometimes spreads himself too thin and misses some details or adds some inconsistencies of his own to the manuscripts. When these errors appear in print, they upset the author and are usually laid at Mrs. Subbarao's door. Too many authors seem to be willing to have George do the final cleaning up of their manuscripts.

Another continuing problem is that of authors adding items or removing them from the galleys of their manuscripts. These changes are time-consuming and expensive for Mrs. Subbarao to implement and often result in new errors not there before creeping into the manuscript. Also, authors often make such changes in only one place in the manuscript when the same change might be required elsewhere. When this happens, the deletion or addition adds a new inconsistency to the manuscript that the author and/or editor may not catch until he sees the final product. For this reason we prefer that such changes not be made at this stage of production.

Consistency and attention to detail are the responsibility of author, editor and production manager; but, after publication, it is the author who "reaps the whirlwind". Thus I would ask that future contributors please attend fully to these little details before submitting and save George some work when he returns. This effort will, I'm sure, also result in more satisfied authors.

B.S. Heming
Acting Editor