

Editorial

Biodiversity - increasing knowledge

Torkild Bakken

Bakken T. 2009. Biodiversity - increasing knowledge. *Fauna norvegica* 29: 1-2.

*Museum of Natural History and Archaeology
Norwegian University of Science and Technology
NO-7491 Trondheim
Norway
E-mail: torkild.bakken@vm.ntnu.no*

We are pleased to present a new volume of *Fauna norvegica*. Our aim is to publish a volume each December. A delay was caused when NTNU Museum of Natural History and Archaeology took over as publisher from Norwegian Institute of Research in 2006. With this issue we are finally on track in terms of publishing consecutive volume numbers, one each year.

Since we published the last volume Reidar Andersen has stepped down as subject editor for *Fauna norvegica*. We are grateful for his service during the time he served on the editorial board.

Open access and online submission

When NTNU Museum of Natural History and Archaeology as new publisher of *Fauna norvegica* published our first volume (volume 26/27, 2008) our aim was to be an open access journal with all published content freely available from our website (Bakken & Heggberget 2008). This proved to be a challenge, and has been a problem. We regret that this has not been solved – until now. As from this issue we are online with new web pages, and with published papers freely available. From this issue we are indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals. Online content is deposited at NTNU's open institutional archive, and is accessible from NTNU Library's Open Journal Systems through our new web pages. We are grateful for the support from staff at NTNU Library.

With our new web pages using services in the Open Journal Systems we will from now on only accept manuscripts submit-

ted online. The system requires registration. There have also been minor adjustments in the "Instructions to authors". Please follow these instructions prior to submissions carefully.

Focus on diversity

We believe the three papers in this volume along with the papers published in the two previous volumes, demonstrate the broad span in focus of *Fauna norvegica*. The aim to cover aspects of biodiversity from limnic, terrestrial as well as marine environments is important. Our scope is to also publish faunistic information, a topic beyond the scope of many journals. Therefore, the presentation of descriptive and empiric data is of value to the scientific community and applicable to nature management. We have already experienced that information we publish is valuable in e.g. Red List assessments, as was anticipated (Bakken & Heggberget 2008).

With the launch of the Species Project in Norway this year (Artsdatabanken 2009), and in Sweden several years ago (ArtDatabanken 2009), large surveys, inventories and research in biosystematics will be undertaken covering all organism groups over several years. We hope to be an attractive journal where results from these projects can be presented. This may cover small and large surveys in a given geographic region, revision of taxonomic groups, and discoveries of new and less well known species groups in general. It is beyond doubt that current knowledge is still meagre for many groups of organisms and even lacking in many cases. In other instances a group may be well known in some geographic areas while it is very

poorly known or even unknown all together in other geographic areas.

Fauna norvegica has high hopes to publish more knowledge on biodiversity following our main aim: to document the biological diversity in, mainly, Nordic areas.

REFERENCES

- ArtDatabanken. 2009. Svenska artprojectet. <http://www.artdata.slu.se/svenskaartprojektet.asp>. Accessed 2009-12-07.
- Artsdatabanken. 2009. Det norske Artsprosjektet har startet! <http://www.artsdatabanken.no/ArticleList.aspx?m=6&amid=5095>. Accessed 2009-12-07.
- Bakken T, Heggberget TM. 2008. Knowledge on biodiversity in focus. *Fauna Norvegica* 26/27: 1-2.