News from the Editor-in-Chief

Michael Traugott · Jürgen Gross

Received: 21 January 2008 / Accepted: 22 January 2008 / Published online: 7 February 2008
© Springer-Verlag 2008

In 2005, Jürgen Gross, the Editor-in-Chief, together with a team of associate editors and advisors took over the editorship of the *Journal of Pest Science* (Gross 2006). Along with these changes in the editorial board, a new online submission system was introduced by the publisher. Since then the *Journal of Pest Science* has seen a steadily growing number of submissions and currently receives more than 100 manuscripts per year. The increasing attractiveness as an international publishing platform for high-quality papers within the field of pest sciences went hand in hand with a rise in the journal's impact factor which developed from 0.359 in 2005 to 0.438 in 2006.

In its past 2 years, the *Journal of Pest Science* has covered a wide range of research within pest sciences. The diversity of topics covered important issues such as antifeedant and toxic effects of plant extracts to insect pests (Ulrichs et al. 2007), plant defence mechanisms against insect herbivores (Fortunato et al. 2007), inundative biological control measures (El-Wakeil et al. 2007), the assessment of insecticide resistance (Doğramacı and Tingey 2007), the use of entomopathogenic fungi for pest control (Er et al. 2007), the ecology of predators and parasitoid

insect natural enemies (Hilszczański et al. 2007; Lumbierres et al. 2007) or the control of vertebrate pests (Kaboodvandpour and Leung 2007)—just to mention a few.

November 2007 brought another change in the history of the *Journal of Pest Science*, as Jürgen Gross resigned from his position as Editor-in-Chief after two and a half years committed to his editorial work. The rising workload from his new university position, his duties as a member of the DGaaE panel and many other scientific responsibilities did not allow him to dedicate as much time to the journal as he wanted to. Nevertheless, he will keep on supporting the journal and will, from now on, be engaged as Subject Editor in the fields of chemical ecology and biotechnical control of pest organisms.

Taking on the role as Editor-in-Chief, Michael Traugott would like to thank Jürgen Gross and the team of associated editors for developing *Journal of Pest Science* as a modern scientific journal. As the new Editor-in-Chief he will try to further improve the standing of the journal and to increase its international impact in modern pest sciences. Besides advances in control of pests, the biology and ecology of pests and their antagonists and the use of beneficial organisms in pest control, *Journal of Pest Science* will also publish papers on the management of agroecosystems where this is relevant to pest management. We also welcome methodological papers reporting on emerging methods for controlling pests (e.g. Stelinski et al. 2007) or on new approaches for studying the biology and ecology of both pests and their antagonists. Besides original and methodological articles, commentaries and review articles will be published. Authors wishing to submit papers within these two categories should contact the Editor-in-Chief in advance.

To cope with the increasing number of submissions, a new reviewing system has been instituted, utilising specialist

Communicated by M. Traugott.

M. Traugott (✉)
Institute of Ecology, Mountain Agriculture Research Unit,
University of Innsbruck, Technikerstrasse 25,
6020 Innsbruck, Austria
e-mail: Michael.Traugott@uibk.ac.at

J. Gross
Institute of Phytopathology and Applied Zoology (IPAZ),
Interdisciplinary Research Centre (IFZ), Justus-Liebig University,
Heinrich-Buff-Ring 26-32, 35392 Giessen, Germany
e-mail: Juergen.Gross@agrar.uni-giessen.de

Subject Editors. They will evaluate the manuscripts in their particular area of expertise and hand them on to the reviewers. Fortunately, some of the former editorial board members have agreed to support *Journal of Pest Science* as Subject Editors in the future, and a number of internationally renowned scientists have joined the journal as new Subject Editors. This new editorial board will enable us to provide a rapid and high-quality peer-reviewing service to authors who can expect a decision on their manuscript within 2–3 months upon receipt of their paper.

To facilitate the reviewing process and to maintain the quality of reviews by the editorial board and external reviewers, the Editor-in-Chief makes an initial assessment of each paper to determine if it is suitable for *Journal of Pest Science*. The quick response at this stage will enable authors of manuscripts, which have been found not to be appropriate for *Journal of Pest Science* to rapidly locate their papers to alternative outlets.

We hope that these changes will attract an increasing number of high-quality papers to make *Journal of Pest Science* one of the leading journals within its field.

References

- Doğramacı M, Tingey WM (2007) Comparison of insecticide resistance in a North American field population and a laboratory colony of potato tuberworm (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae). *J Pest Sci*. doi:[10.1007/s10340-007-0178-5](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10340-007-0178-5)
- El-Wakeil NE, Farghaly HT, Ragab ZA (2007) Efficacy of inundative releases of *Trichogramma evanescens* in controlling *Lobesia botrana* in vineyards in Egypt. *J Pest Sci*. doi:[10.1007/s10340-007-0184-7](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10340-007-0184-7)
- Er MK, Tunaz H, Gökçe A (2007) Pathogenicity of entomopathogenic fungi to *Thaumetopoea pityocampa* (Schiff.) (Lepidoptera: Thaumetopoeidae) larvae in laboratory conditions. *J Pest Sci* 80:235–239
- Fortunato FD, Oliveira MGD, Brumano MHN, Silva CHO, Guedes RNC, Moreira MA (2007) Lipxygenase-induced defense of soybean varieties to the attack of the velvet bean caterpillar (*Anticarsia gemmatilis* Hübner). *J Pest Sci* 80:241–247
- Gross J (2006) New challenges in pest science. *J Pest Sci* 79:1–2
- Hilszczański J, Gibb H, Bystrowski C (2007) Insect natural enemies of *Ips typographus* (L.) (Coleoptera, Scolytinae) in managed and unmanaged stands of mixed lowland forest in Poland. *J Pest Sci* 80:99–107
- Kaboodvandpour S, Leung LKP (2007) Does streptobacillary arthritis reduce house mouse population density, activity and damage to sorghum crops? *J Pest Sci* 80:167–174
- Lumbierres B, Starý P, Pons X (2007) Seasonal parasitism of cereal aphids in a Mediterranean arable crop system. *J Pest Sci* 80:125–130
- Stelinski LL, Miller JR, Ledebuhr R, Siegert P, Gut LJ (2007) Season-long mating disruption of *Grapholita molesta* (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) by one machine application of pheromone in wax drops (SPLAT-OFM). *J Pest Sci* 80:109–117
- Ulrichs C, Mewis I, Adhikary S, Bhattacharyya A, Goswami A (2007) Antifeedant activity and toxicity of leaf extracts from *Porteresia coarctata* Takeoka and their effects on the physiology of *Spodoptera litura* (F.). *J Pest Sci*. doi:[10.1007/s10340-007-0187-4](https://doi.org/10.1007/s10340-007-0187-4)