Editorial

Franz Oberwinkler

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Mycological Progress was founded in 2002 by the German Mycological Society (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Mykologie, DGfM) as its official English-language journal, and published by the IHW-Verlag Eching. Affiliated were the All-Russian National Academy of Mycology, the Estonian Mycological Society, the Lithuanian Mycological Society, the Mycological Section of the Polish Botanical Society, the Mycological Subcommittee of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, the Russian Botanical Society (Mycological Branches), the Società Lichenologica Italiana, and the Unione Micologica Italiana.

When Springer took over publishing of *Mycological Progress* in 2006, the journal was included in the “Online First” program, and the electronic system “Editorial Manager” has considerably facilitated and accelerated the submission and reviewing processes. An international editorial board helped to select important manuscripts and to improve the quality of submitted papers by careful and quick reviews. We are very much indebted to the editorial members’ support for the benefit of the journal. The joint effort to reach a high international standard of publications became visible when *Mycological Progress* was included in periodicals with impact factors in 2009.

Since then, submissions of manuscripts increased rapidly, and consequently, were subject to more stringent reviewing. To avoid an increasing backlog of “Online First” published articles, and to publish important articles immediately and with complete citation, editors and publisher jointly

considered that continuous article publication (CAP) would be advantageous for authors and the research community. In agreement with the DGfM and Springer, *Mycological Progress* is starting CAP in January 2015. Submitted papers will from now on be published immediately online after acceptance in monthly intervals. Consequently, the Online First publishing system will become obsolete. It is the experience of the publisher and other CAP-journal providers that the time between submission of a manuscript and its publication will be shortened to a minimum. We are sure that this improvement will encourage additional authors to submit more studies to *Mycological Progress* in future. It is already internationally accepted that articles in CAP journals fulfill the criteria of full citation in its electronic version. Therefore, additional hard copy issues are superfluous, and are consequently no longer produced.

In addition, we decided that the editorial board should be modified to enhance review efficiency. For that purpose the board will be structured in sections with section editors. Submitted manuscripts will be forwarded to them by the editor-in-chief to start the reviewing process. The new structure of the editorial board and its members will be published in the first CAP issue of *Mycological Progress* in 2015.

I am grateful to all authors who have so far submitted their manuscripts to *Mycological Progress* and who are herewith encouraged to publish in our journal further on.

Franz Oberwinkler, Editor-in-Chief
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