

FOREWORD

I am pleased to inform contributors about ISA's new mode of sending page proofs and offprints to their authors — as electronic portable document format (PDF) attachments. In the short time that this system has been in place, the period between dispatch of page proofs and their subsequent receipt from authors has been reduced to mere days, compared with the 2–3 weeks previously required when using courier or air mail. The monetary cost of this step of the publication process has also gone down. Apart from these time and cost savings, the electronic version provides many benefits to the author over the hardcopy. For instance:

- the ability to receive the page proofs or offprints as soon as they are ready, without waiting for their printing, packaging and mailing;
- removal of the limitation to 25 free offprints — authors are able to print as many or as few copies as they wish, and on demand; and
- the facility to forward articles instantaneously to interested parties, even at remote localities, at low cost.

We have received positive feedback from several authors about this new mode of correspondence, and we welcome any further comments.

This year Bioline International, which is hosted at the University of Toronto, Canada, assumed the technical aspects of the work of Bioline Publications, UK in facilitating the on-line publication of several developing-country journals at the Base de Dados Tropical (BDT) website, Brazil. We salute and appreciate their efforts in ensuring the regular publication of the on-line versions, and in marketing these journals to libraries in the West. In this regard, I should like to invite authors of articles in ISA to take advantage of the value-added capabilities of on-line publication, by indicating, at the proof stage, any on-line resources (databases, videos, reports, etc.) to which key words in their articles might be linked.

Due to pressure of his responsibilities as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at the Egerton University and Member of various civic bodies, ISA's long-serving Associate Editor, Professor Richard Mwangi, has decided to step down. On behalf of the Editorial Board and all stakeholders, I wish to thank Prof. Mwangi most sincerely for his dedicated service to the journal over the past eight years. Dr William (Bill) Overholt has accepted the position of Associate Editor starting with Volume 21 (2001), allowing for a smooth transition.

With the publication of this last issue of 2000, we would like to say "Thank you" to our authors, reviewers (whose names are published in this issue) and subscribers, all of whom we rely on to keep ISA abreast of tropical entomological research reporting.


Hans R. Herren
Editor-in-Chief