The Trichoptera World Checklist

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Abstract

The Trichoptera World Checklist (TWC) is a project of the successive International Symposia on Trichoptera, with the responsibility for its policy and maintenance assigned to the international Trichoptera Checklist Coordinating Committee. The TWC originated 20 years ago and has been available on the worldwide web for over 11 years, providing ready access to data regarding caddisfly taxa. Security is assured by daily backup of the database. Trichoptera scientists everywhere are urged to continue sending their published research to the Editor. As of June 2009, the TWC included records for 13,574 valid, extant species and 308 valid, extant subspecies in 609 genera of 47 families. It also included 650 valid, extinct (fossil) species, 113 extinct genera, and 8 extinct families. The density of species among biogeographic regions is variable, with known species density in the Oriental Region about 7.5 times that in the Afrotropical Region.

Key words: classification, literature, synonyms, taxa, types

Introduction

The Trichoptera World Checklist (TWC) is a project of the successive International Symposia on Trichoptera, with the responsibility for its policy and maintenance assigned to the international Trichoptera Checklist Coordinating Committee. Currently, Dr. John C. Morse is the Editor.

The TWC was initiated by Morse about 1990 with data from the Trichopterorum Catalogus (Fischer 1960–1973), Zoological Record (1961–2008), and publications received in exchanges from colleagues. In 1995, it was transliterated from its original WordPerfect software (Corel WordPerfect® version 5.1) to FileMaker Pro software (Claris® FileMaker Pro® version 3.0) with support from the Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS, http://www.itis.gov/) and programming assistance from Ms. Susan Petracco. The work on the TWC was reported in 1995 to the participants in the 8th International Symposium on Trichoptera (Morse 1997). At that same meeting, the original Taxonomic Checklist Coordinating Committee was elected. A searchable website for the TWC was launched 22 May 1999 from a server using a MySQL database, which is hosted by Clemson University http://entweb.clemson.edu/database/trichopt/index.htm. Updates for the TWC have been posted to that website irregularly several times since then.

Records in the TWC concern names of extant and extinct (fossil) taxa that are regulated by the International Code of Zoological Nomenclature (International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature 1999), i.e., family-group, genus-group, and species-group names. Records also are provided for order Trichoptera and for 4 subordinal names.