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**Publication and Dating of the *Exploration Scientifique de l'Algérie: Histoire Naturelle des Animaux Articulés (1846–1849)*  
by Pierre Hippolyte Lucas**

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## Abstract

The history of the Exploration Scientifique de l'Algérie and the publication of its results are given. The contents of the plates and text for the livraisons of the 3-volume set of Pierre Hippolyte Lucas's *Histoire Naturelle des Animaux Articulés* are researched and dates of publication proposed, with annotations given on the composition of text and plates of each livraison, including notice of the dating of plates of birds, fish, reptiles, and mammals, the new names therein which pre-date their publication in text in some cases as much as 20 years later. An index to all taxa proposed as new in this work is presented giving the earliest known date of publication for each name.

**Key words:** Dates of publication, insects, Mollusca, annelids, Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Myriapoda, Diptera, Orthoptera, Arachnida, Crustacea, Hemiptera, Neuroptera, Odonata, Lepidoptera, Pisces, Aves, Reptilia, Mammalia, Algeria, French exploration, taxonomy

## Introduction

At the 19 June 1849 séance of the Société Entomologique de France, invertebrate zoologist Pierre Hippolyte LUCAS<sup>1</sup> (1815–1899) (Fig. 2) announced to the society the completion of the 3-volume *Histoire Naturelle des Animaux Articulés* section (henceforth called *Animaux Articulés* in this paper) of the multi-volume *Exploration Scientifique de l'Algérie pendant les années 1838, 1839, 1840 et 1841...*. The 3 volumes (= *parties*) of the *Animaux Articulés* (Fig. 1) contained 1,495 pages of text and 122 hand-colored plates depicting arthropods (crustaceans, arachnids, myriapods, “hexapodes” [smaller orders of insects and related arthropods], and the larger orders of insects) that were collected during the 4-year expedition. A number of new species were described in the text and on the plates, so obtaining accurate dates of publication is critical to establishing priority of the many new taxonomic names proposed. However, since its publication, attempts to date the text and plates have proven difficult. According to the publisher (Arthus Bertrand, 1856: 20), the entire 3-volume set of the *Animaux Articulés* was part of a larger *Sciences Physiques.—Zoologie* containing text and plates of *Mammalogie, Ornithologie ... Érpétologie, Ichthyologie*, all of which was issued in 33 livraisons, each livraison being comprised of a series of 6 plates and (usually) 5 feuilles (= gatherings; at 8 pages per feuille) of text. However, little evidence of receipts of

1. Persons listed with surnames in all capital letters and boldface have short biographies that can be found in Appendix V.