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## EDITORIAL

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The flow of papers to the *Bulletin of Entomological Research* continues unabated. It is very pleasing that so many authors choose this journal to publish the results of their research. I am also very grateful to the members of the Editorial Board and the large number of referees from all parts of the world who have given their time to ensure that the quality of papers published in the *Bulletin of Entomological Research* is of the highest standard. The Executive Editor, John Badmin, has had the difficult task of moving the Editorial Office to Canterbury during the year while not disrupting the editorial process. I am very grateful for his efforts to minimize the disruption that could have occurred and for ensuring that high standards and consistency prevail at all times.

Last year in my editorial I indicated that we were exploring different ways of presenting the results of entomological research. I am delighted to announce that in the near future a series of 'Critiques' will be introduced. These articles will not review whole subject areas but will be selective reviews of a discrete topic of relevance to applied entomology. The views presented will be those of the authors and I am sure will be stimulating and provoke thought and discussion. I believe this is a very important approach as it is vital that all research scientists remain outward looking and don't just focus on their current research programme without regard for alternative approaches and interpretations. To take forward the Critiques series I am delighted that Dr Matt Cahill has agreed to take on the role of Critiques Editor so ensuring these articles have their own identity. Matt has extensive experience of research in both Australia and in Europe where he has worked on two of the most important pests of agriculture, *Helicoverpa armigera* and *Bemisia tabaci* and in particular the management of resistance to insecticides. Matt is currently working in Australia. The Critiques will initially be published by invitation. However, I am aware that members of the Editorial Board are not the only people who can identify potentially good authors and topics. Therefore should you have good ideas for potential Critique articles, please forward them to the Editorial Office where they will be given careful consideration.

In volume 88 there was a particularly broad spectrum of entomology presented that took forward our knowledge and understanding of insects and their interaction with man's interests in preserving supplies of food and raw materials, in preventing the transmission of human and animal diseases and in avoiding nuisance. Many of these studies had considerable methodological challenges which ranged from the use of cranes to provide access to a 4 ha site of forest to study arthropod communities to the use of molecular genetics to understand the diversity within the population of a single species. These very different approaches all take forward our knowledge and understanding of insect populations and communities and will continue to be published in the *Bulletin of Entomological Research*.

Two further topics provide the subject for many papers. These are resistance to insecticides in insect populations and the biological control of pest insects. These subjects epitomize more than any the public and governmental concerns associated with applied entomology worldwide. On the one hand, the use of synthetic chemicals is failing to control insects due to the selection for resistant genotypes which therefore threatens insect control strategies and hence the supply of food and raw materials and the health of man and animals. On the other hand, the demand for sustainability and the maintenance of biodiversity is driving the search for biologically-based approaches to regulation of insect populations that threaten man's economy and welfare. Biological control of insect pests continues to have huge potential. There does, however, need to be greater realism and understanding of the differences between classical biological control, in which a stable equilibrium is established between pest and natural enemy, and the substitution of insecticides with biological control agents. To achieve either of these in practice, there needs to be a narrowing of the gap between the very high quality research done on the theory of the natural regulation of populations and that done on practical implementation of biological control. Filling this gap is a subject ripe for research and I look forward to receiving quality papers in this area.

Mark Tatchell