

Letter to the Editor

Meera Srivastava

Department of Zoology, Government Dungar College, Bikaner, India; meerasrivastava@rediffmail.com

Received 10 June 2013; revised 26 August 2013; accepted 1 September 2013

Copyright © 2013 Meera Srivastava. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Dear Editor

Open-access journals are scholarly journals that are available online to the readers “without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself”. Today, there is much discussion on the advantages and disadvantages of open access journals amongst scholars and publishers. One may argue against the OA but a few obvious advantages include the free access to scientific papers regardless of affiliation with a subscribing library, lower costs for research in academia and industry, in addition to improved access for the general public and higher citation rates for the author. Truly speaking, OA is compatible with copyright, peer review, revenue, print, preservation, quality, indexing and many other features and supportive services associated with conventional Journals. OA provides a world wide platform for authors and readers within no time. Besides, OA also increases the visibility and impact, as data can be easily retrieved. It facilitates full-text searching, indexing, mining, summarizing, translating, querying, linking, recommending, alerting, and other forms of processing and analysis. Above all, OA puts rich and poor on an equal footing.

Today, insects constitute the largest class not only of the animal kingdom but also of the whole living world. It's hard to imagine, but 95% of all the animal species on the earth are insects! Millions of insects can exist in a single acre of land! Over one million species have been discovered by scientist, and they think that there might be ten times that many have not been named yet! Over a period of several hundred million years, insects as a class,

have acquired many distinctive structural, developmental, physiological and behavioral perfections which have enabled them to occupy this dominant position. Man's association with insects has been right from their primitive ancestors. Insects are incredibly adaptable creatures and have evolved to live successfully in most environments on earth, including deserts, and even the Antarctic. These are directly useful to humans by producing honey, silk, wax, and other products. They are also important as pollinators of crops, natural enemies of pests, scavengers and food for other creatures. At the same time, insects are major pests of humans and domesticated animals because they destroy crops and carry diseases. Each and every character of insect is very special: the wings, compound eyes, types of mouth parts, tracheal respiration, communication, types of metamorphosis and above all the society and division of labour among social insects showing a much advanced evolution at Arthropod level.

Man has been exploiting them as a research material right through and, therefore, the launch of this new OA journal “Advances in Entomology” at this juncture is of great relevance and significance. The editorial board with top academic profile will definitely monitor the quality publishing in all spheres of publication. The researches published in this Journal will pave the way for young entomologists working in varied fields associated with insects. Here they would not only get the latest information but could also publish their significant findings! No doubts a dual benefit and moreover within a click's time...!!!