

UNITAS

MALACOLOGICA

**Newsletter**



Dear fellow-malacologists,

I hope I can welcome everyone who has registered for participation in this year's Congress. Many requests for substantial assistance in financing travel and stay have reached me. In most cases, we could help only with a rather symbolic amount of money, and in no case has it been possible to defray travel expenses. So, I would regret if some of you are eventually forced to withdraw their registration. What we urgently need, however, is to learn of your negative decision as soon as possible. This would help avoid too heavy gaps in the programme. To all who can come and attend our meeting I wish a safe and pleasant trip to Tübingen.

Claus Meier-Brook

To all Unitas Malacologica Members:  
Invitation to the General Assembly,  
Friday, 1 Sept. 1989, 11-12.30, in  
Hörsaal 25, Kupferbau, University  
of Tübingen

Agenda:

- 1) Opening and approval of agenda
- 2) President's report
- 3) Treasurer's report
- 4) Auditors' report
- 5) Secretary's report
- 6) Um Trust Fund Committee's report
- 7) Resolution Committee's report
- 8) Announcement of election results
- 9) Introduction of new Council
- 10) Motion to raise annual subscription
- 11) Establishment of an Advisory Board
- 12) Date and place of 1992 and 1995 Congresses
- 13) Miscellaneous

COUNCIL ELECTION

Members of Unitas Malacologica will find enclosed in this Newsletter a voting paper for the next council to act for the period of September 1989 to August 1992. The voting paper contains the names proposed by the present Council in NL 2, page 16. No other proposals have been submitted.

Please, return your voting paper until 15th August, 1989 to the Secretary of UM, Dr. Gittenberger. The results, including the percentage of voting, will be reported to the General Assembly. A light or heavy voting would show how the general interest is in a functioning international association like ours.

EDINBURGH CONGRESS PROCEEDINGS  
Unforeseen difficulties of various kinds have seriously delayed the production of the Edinburgh Congress Proceedings. We deeply regret this unfortunate situation and want to apologize for the resulting confusion and inconvenience. It is still our goal to have the Proceedings published before the Tübingen Congress.

A number of people have expressed concern to the Secretary and others that authors have not received proofs of their papers to be printed in the Edinburgh Congress Proceedings. Long-term members of Unitas may have noticed that after previous congresses proofs were also not sent, with one exception: the Perpignan Congress. The reason is quite simple: finance. The postage for mailing the proofs of several hundred papers would strain production costs of the proceedings beyond what Unitas can afford. It has always been the policy of Unitas Malacologica to keep annual subscription rates sufficiently low so that membership would not be confined to rich people and institutions.

In order not to force the editor and the secretary to spend even more of their time answering your letters, you are kindly asked to refrain from inquiring. UM Council

IMPRESSUM

UM NEWSLETTER ISSN 1011-2375  
Published by UNITAS MALACOLOGICA. Edited by  
Claus Meier-Brook, Wilhelmstr. 31, D-7400  
Tübingen, and Susan M. Wells, Cambridge, UK.  
Issued annually as a platform for non-scientific communication among malacologists.  
Number 4 is scheduled for summer 1990.

#### PAYMENT OF FEES

You may have noticed that in the second circular I did not request advance payment. This was because you, the congress participants, would lose money on two occasions: (1) the handling fee charged by your bank and (2) the conversion fee charged by our bank. I therefore thought it preferable that you should pay your fees on arrival, so that you have to pay only one handling fee etc.

Nevertheless, I seem to have caused a lot of uncertainty, for which I am sorry. Several participants sent in cheques or transferred their fees to Dr. Jungbluth or to me without knowing the necessary bank account. This caused some (hopefully minor) trouble, but we trust every remittance or cheque has now reached us. Unfortunately, however, either changes in exchange rates or errors in estimating the bank fees have caused a number of deficits on your congress accounts. In most cases, this is just a few Marks and Pfennigs difference, but we are sorry that we will have to charge some of you who have already sent cheques, again.

Claus Meier-Brook

#### Receipts

You will all receive receipts, for cheques or remittances, as well as for cash payments, after settling your account on arrival. This will be done at registration at the registration desk in the congress building.

I am very sorry but I am unable to confirm each individual advance payment and written registration. It is beyond my scope of time and finances (for postage) to send out receipts. If you have a record of your cheque, please, bring it with you to the congress in case of discrepancies between your advance payment and our files.

If you live in a country where the reliability of banking operations is doubtful, I will, of course, send you a receipt on request.

Claus Meier-Brook

#### Advance Payment

If you prefer to pay in advance, the congress account number is: Kreissparkasse Tübingen (BLZ(\*): 641 500 20), Account no.: 20595258. Account holder: MALACOL.CONGRESS. (\*)BLZ = Bank Code  
Cheques should be made payable to "Malacol.Congress" and may be sent to the Congress Office, Dr.C.Meier-Brook, Wilhelmstr.31, D-7400 Tübingen, F.R.G. .

#### Payment at the Registration Desk and Currency Conversion

Once you are in Germany you will have to pay in Deutschmarks, in restaurants, hotels and shops as well as at the Registration Desk. Unfortunately the railway station in Tübingen has no exchange counter; but you will find an official exchange service (VOLKSBANK TUBINGEN) in the congress building, next to the Registration Desk, on Sunday, 27 August, from 3 to 6 p.m. Traveller cheques are accepted as well as Euro-cheques. However, cash through credit cards is obtained only on working days.

During the congress you will be able to change money at the official branch of Kreissparkasse in NAUKLERSTRASSE, about 100 m distance from the congress building. Opening times:

Kreissparkasse in Nauklerstrasse:  
Monday through Friday 8.15 a.m. to 4.15 p.m.; Thursday until 5.30 p.m.

Advance payment has been received by the Congress Office from the following participants (in chronological order): Stevanovich, Kabat, Mikkelsen, Beckmann, Moore, Haszprunar, Berthold, Manga.Gonzalez, Lazaridou-Dimitriadou, Ch.Petit, Moor, Bailey, Leal, Muley, Simoes, Wächtler, Aparicio, Br.Scott, Foighil, Reynolds, Bogan, Paci-Lucia, M.A-Ramos, D.G.Reid, Heppell, Voltzow, Lindberg, Hickman, Goodfriend, Bolognani, Fantin-Bolognani, Carriker, Ottaviani, Kohn, S.N. Thompson, Platts, McLean, Dussart, Shimek, Nybakken, Mead, Salas-Casanova, Grossu, Glaubrecht, Lancastre, Harper, Troncoso, Outero-Rodrigues, Riballo,Riballo, Rodrigez-Lopez, Thone, Wiese, Rebollo de la Torre, Cabanas-Diaz, Foekler, Gomez, Carajaville, Mari Gomez, Michelson, Shuto, Frenzel, Cleven Templada, Luque, Araujo, Tribskorn, Kay, Heard, Daguzan, Ponder. PLEASE, notify us if you have paid and are not in the above list.

Provisional Scientific Programme of  
the Tenth International Malacolog-  
ical Congress, Tübingen

SUNDAY, 27 August 1989

- 10.00 UM Council Meeting  
14.00 Curators Meeting  
14.30 Scientific Progr. Committee  
Meeting  
14.30 - 17.10 CONSERVATION (HS 24)  
15.30 Chair Persons Meeting

Note changed time for Reception by  
German malacological groupings  
(with snacks sufficient to replace  
a modest supper):  
17.30 - 19.00 Reception

MONDAY, 28 August 1989

- 9.30 - 12.15 Opening and Plenary  
Lectures (25 = Hörsaal 25)  
9.30 - 10.00 (note change in time):  
Opening Session  
10.15 K. Simkiss (Reading) & K.M.  
Wilbur (Durham, N.C.):  
Molluscan shell and other mineral-  
ization systems.  
11.15 D.R. Lindberg (Berkeley, CA):  
The evolution of respiratory  
structures in the Conchifera.  
11.45 J.D. Thomas (Brighton):  
The role of pulmonate snails in  
freshwater modular systems: Ecolog-  
ical and evolutionary perspectives.

- 14.00 - 17.10  
PROSOBRANCH PHYLOGENY (25)  
TOXICOLOGY (21)  
FRESHWATER ECOLOGY (causal ana-  
lysis) (22)  
REPRODUCTION & GROWTH (23)

TUESDAY, 29 August 1989

- 9 - 12.30  
EVOLUTIONARY PROCESSES (24)  
MARINE MOLLUSCAN SYSTEMATICS (23)  
UNIONOIDEA (Workshop)(22)  
9 - 10 NEUROPHYSIOLOGY (21)  
10.30 - 12.30 FUNCTIONAL MORPHOLOGY  
(21)  
9 - 12 NON-MARINE SYSTEMATICS  
(Extra-European) (25)  
12 - 12.30 GENERAL MALACOLOGY &  
METHODOLOGY  
14 - 14.20 POSTER SESSION  
14.20 - 17.10  
NON-MARINE SYSTEMATICS (Europ.)(25)  
TOXOGLOSSA (Symposium) (24)  
FRESHWATER ECOL.(Communities)(22)  
MARINE ECOLOGY (23)  
UNIONOIDEA (Workshop)(Sem.Room A)

TUESDAY (continued)

- 14.20 - 15 HYDROBIOIDEA (21)  
15.30 - 17.10 METABOLISM (21)

WEDNESDAY, 30 August 1989

Excursions (for details see NL 2,  
page 9 - 10)

THURSDAY, 31 August 1989

- 9 - 11.50  
PROSOBRANCH PHYLOGENY (25)  
HELICOID PHYLOGENY (24)  
MEDICAL MALACOL. (Epidem.&Ecol.)  
(22)  
REPRODUCTION & GROWTH (23)  
E.I.S. (Seminar Room A)  
9 - 10 ECONOMIC MALACOL. (21)  
11.50 - 12.30 POSTER SESSION  
14 - 17.10  
NON-MARINE SYSTEM.(limnic)(25)  
ECONOMIC MALACOL. (21)  
FRESHWATER ECOL. (autecol.& anthro-  
pogenic influences)(22)  
MARINE MOLL. SYSTEM. (23)  
E.I.S. (Seminar Room A)  
14 - 15 EVOLUTIONARY PROCESSES (24)  
15.30 - 17.10 GENETICS & POPULATION  
GENETICS (24)

FRIDAY, 1 September 1989

- 9 - 11  
NON-MARINE BIOGEOGRAPHY (25)  
TOXOGLOSSA (24)  
ECOPHYSIOLOGY (21)  
MEDICAL MALACOLOGY (host-parasite  
relations) (22)  
MARINE ECOLOGY (23)  
11 - 12.30 General Assembly of  
UNITAS MALACOLOGICA  
14 - 15 POSTER SESSION  
15.30 - 17.10  
QUATERNARY (25)  
TOXOGLOSSA (24)  
PALEONTOLOGY (21)  
HYDROBIOIDEA (Workshop) (22)  
MARINE BIOGEOGRAPHY (23)  
HISTORY OF MALACOLOGY (Semin.Rm.A)

SATURDAY, 2 September 1989

- 9 - 12.30  
TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY (25)  
TOXOGLOSSA (24)  
METABOLISM & PARASITIZATION (Symp.)  
(21)  
MEDICAL MALACOLOGY (control &  
various parasites) (22)  
10.30 - 12.30 ONTOGENESIS (23)

Social programme as in NL 2, page 7

#### WHAT IS INTERESTING ABOUT YOUR PRESENTATIONS?

Congress languages are English, French, and German.

##### Projection

The regular projectors take 5 x 5 cm slides. Your name should be with your slides. Correct orientation saves time!

Two projectors are available in each lecture theatre. These enable double projection if desired.

Overhead projectors are available as well; the maximal area to be projected is 25 x 25 cm.

Avoid the use of large tables. Confine data to what you need to show. If you find that your slides have come out poorly, replace them with satisfactory transparencies for overhead projection. Please, practice your talk to remain within your allotted time of 15 minutes, or the Chair Person will stop you whether you have finished talking or not. Limit the number of slides to 8 or at most 10.

##### Poster Presentation

As announced earlier, posters may be up to 1 m wide and 2 m high (recommended height: 1.40 m). As the number of poster titles submitted exceeds the number of stands available, we will have some additional stands of 1.10 by 1.10. Posters with this maximal size are, therefore, particularly appreciated. Manuscripts of poster presentations meet the same requirements as for oral presentations.

##### Manuscript Size to be Revised?

UNITAS is facing a growing number of congress participants, this time approaching 400, most of which had to announce papers or posters to enable fund raising.

Despite the restriction of contributions to two per author, the number of titles has reached approximately 380, which exceeds our expectations by far. On the other hand, we have an upper limit of 700 to 750 pages for the Proceedings, i.e. the volume of the Perpignan Proceedings (MALACOLOGIA 22).

As an escape from this situation we would have the following alternatives:

- 1) to reduce manuscript size to two printed pages (i.e. detailed abstracts, as in the Copenhagen Proceedings), with the possibility to allow overpages at charges possibly exceeding DM 100 per page.
- 2) to reject up to two thirds of the manuscripts submitted,
- 3) to publish no more than one ms. per author (i.e. half of the upper limit of presentations) on the authors' decision and, moreover, to reject low standard mss.
- 4) to publish all mss. submitted by increasing the Proceedings to more than one volume and, consequently, raising annual subscriptions considerably.

These and any further proposals will be discussed in the General Assembly to be held on 1st September, this year.

So far, keep your mss. at an upper limit of 6 printed pages, as announced in the 2nd circular. Hand your ms(s) to the Registration Office during the Congress, but before presentation.

For one page reckon with 4128 strokes (i.e. 48 printed lines a 86 strokes) incl. space-bars. For each space line subtract 86 strokes. The title (with author) takes 15 lines in print.

Exceptions from this page limit can be made with plenary papers and those contributions, which will be printed in a separate volume. At present this will probably apply only to the Toxoglossa Symposium and the Unionoidea Workshop. At any rate, keep your ms. as concise as possible, though as detailed as necessary. Every page saved saves us a lot of problems.

Experiences with abstracts submitted show that we should urgently recommend to have a native speaker proof-read your ms. before submission. This saves the editors much energy, time and postage. As a rule, proofs will not be sent to authors.

Claus Meier-Brook and Jürgen H. Jungbluth as the editors of the Tübingen Proceedings

## MANUSCRIPTS

As announced in the 2nd circular manuscripts must be submitted at the congress. Although it has not yet been decided where the Proceedings will appear (perhaps as a special volume of *Archiv für Molluskenkunde*, Frankfurt) we recommend to follow the directions to authors of MALACOLOGICAL REVIEW:

Manuscripts may be in English, French or German (English is preferred) and should follow *Malacological Review* style. They must contain a concise but adequate abstract, which should be an informative digest of significant content and should be able to stand alone as a brief statement of the conclusions of the paper. Manuscripts must be typewritten on one side of the paper, double spaced, with top and left-hand margins at least 3 cm wide, and are to be submitted in duplicate (carbon copy on thin paper). Papers are accepted on condition that copyright is vested in the journal. No part of any article published in *Malacological Review* may be reproduced without the written permission of the publishers. All statements made and opinions expressed in any article are the responsibility of the author.

The printers will set the text in the style adopted for the journal, and it would be helpful if authors would follow this style as closely as possible in the manuscript. Contributors are advised to follow the recommendations of the *Style Manual for Biological Journals*, obtainable from the American Institute of Biological Sciences, 2000 P Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, U.S.A. In particular, simplified practices, such as the following, are favored: numbers one through nine and numbers at the beginning of a sentence are written out; numerals are used when the number is followed by units of weight and measure; percentages following a number are expressed as %; units of weight and measure (mm, ml, kg, etc.) are abbreviated when preceded by numerals, and the abbreviations have neither a period nor an s in the plural.

Latin names of genera and species should be underlined, and all Latin specific names should be followed by the authority when the name is first mentioned in the text or table. Generic names should be written out when first used in a paragraph; thereafter, in the paragraph, they are abbreviated when used with a specific name.

Illustrations must be carefully executed and so planned that they may be printed as figures of an appropriate size. The maximum size of a printed figure is 13.1 x 19.7 cm. Large illustrations must be accompanied by a smaller photograph for the editors. Drawings and lettering must be in black India ink or carbon black printing on white, blue tracing, or blue-lined paper. Charts should be drawn large enough to stand a reduction of one-half to one-third. This should be taken into consideration especially in relation to the lettering. Letters and numbers must not be less than 1 mm in height, preferable larger, after reduction. A number of drawings or photographs may often be conveniently grouped together to fit a page. Photographs should be printed on white glossy paper, showing a full range of tones and good contrast.

Literature Cited. See current number of *Malacological Review* for desired form of citing. In particular, it should be noted that the journal uses the ampersand (&) for "and"; "et al." may be used in the text but not in the list of references at the end; in addition to the volume number, complete page numbers of articles and books must be cited; for books, the publisher and city also must be cited. *Malacological Review* follows the journal abbreviations as listed in the *List of serials with coden, title abbreviations, new, changed and ceased titles* published annually by the BioSciences Information Service of Biological Abstracts, 2100 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103, U.S.A.

Voucher specimens of all species used in all types of research papers published in *Malacological Review* must be lodged in a recognized repository, i.e., sample specimens of each species studied must be sent to a museum and the registered numbers and full data of these specimens published. This insures that future workers will have easy access to this material and that species determinations will be accurate or can be checked.

Here is a sample copy of a reference list:

## LITERATURE CITED

- ANTHEUNISSE, L.J. 1963. Neurosecretory phenomena in the Zebra mussel, *Dreissena polymorpha*. *Arch. Neerl. Zool.*, 15: 237-314.
- COE, W.R. 1943. Sexual differentiation in mollusks. 1. Pelecypods. *Q. Rev. Biol.*, 18: 154-164.
- GAINEY, L.F. & GREENBERG, M.J. 1977. Physiological basis of the species abundance-salinity relationship in molluscs: a speculation. *Mar. Biol.*, 40: 41-49.
- KEEN, M. & CASEY, H. 1969. Superfamily Corbiculacea Gray, 1847. In: Moore, R.C. (Ed.), *Treatise on invertebrate palaeontology*. Pt. N, Vol. 2 (of 3), Mollusca 6. Bivalvia. The Geological Society of America, New York, and University of Kansas Press, Lawrence, U.S.A. pp. N491-N952 [pp. N664-N670].
- LOOSANOFF, V.L. 1937. Seasonal gonadal changes of adult clams, *Venus mercenaria* (L.). *Biol. Bull.*, 72: 406-416.

## HOW TO REACH TÜBINGEN

## BY CAR:

From the North and the West:  
Autobahn (blue sign posts) nos. 81 or 8, respectively, directed to Stuttgart and Singen. At "Stuttgarter Dreieck" you turn southwards (direction: Singen), no. 81, until Böblingen; from here use Bundesstrasse no. 464 (yellow sign posts) to Tübingen. Alternative exit: Herrenberg (route 28).

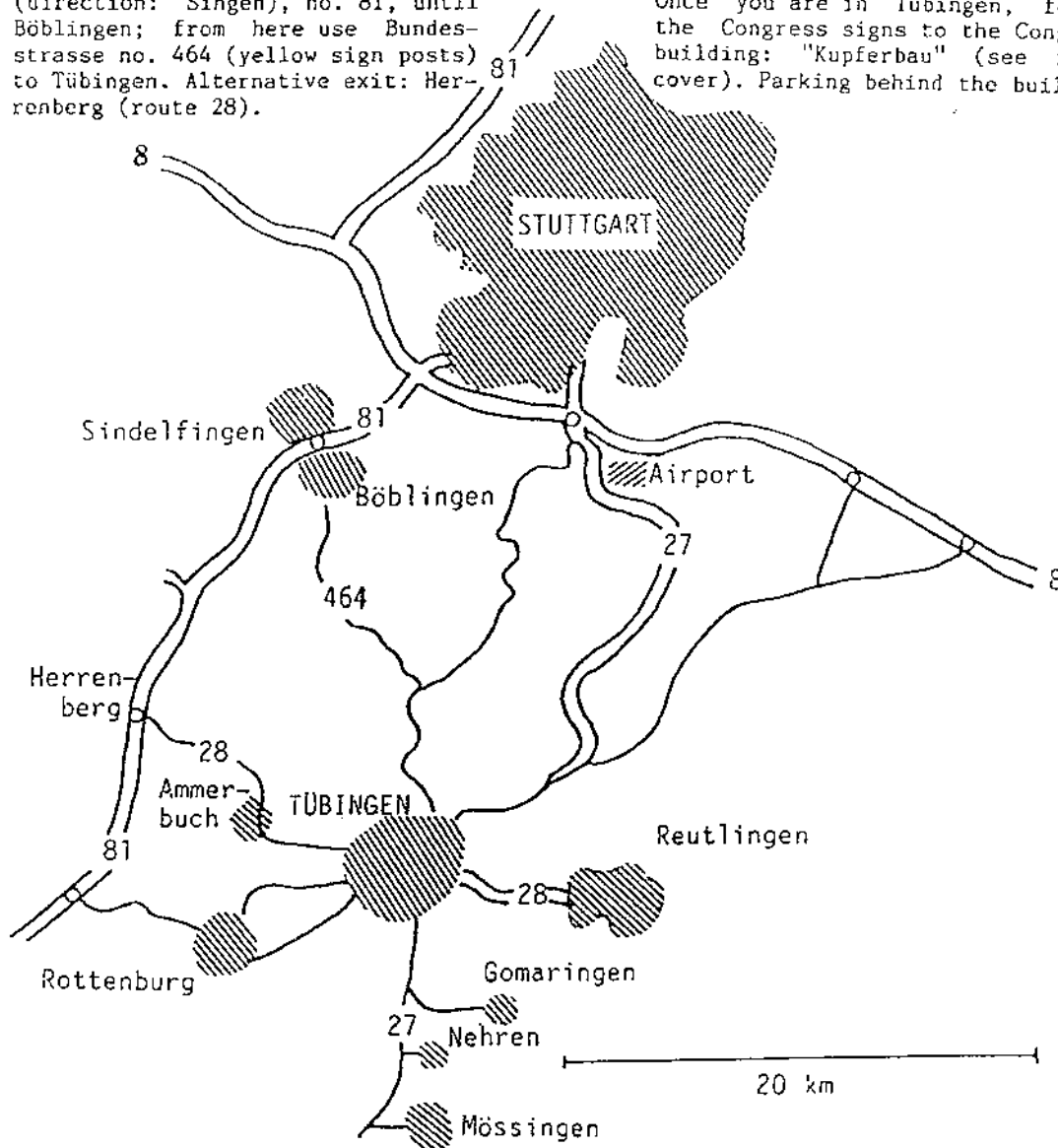
## From the East:

Autobahn 8 to exit Reutlingen/Tübingen, route 27 to Tübingen.

## From the South:

Autobahn 81 northwards to Rottenburg/Tübingen or Herrenberg.

Once you are in Tübingen, follow the Congress signs to the Congress building: "Kupferbau" (see front cover). Parking behind the building.



## BY TRAIN:

Buy a ticket to Tübingen (usually via Stuttgart, except when you come from the south) and relax. After arrival at "Hauptbahnhof", take a bus to "Universität Wilhelmstrasse" or "Universität Gmelin-

strasse". Bus lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 7 leave every 15 minutes from platforms 4, 5 or 6 of the Bus Terminal. A ticket is DM 1.60. Otherwise take a taxi to "Kupferbau".

HOW TO REACH TÜBINGEN BY AEROPLANE

Most international flights would end in Frankfurt. From an A-Gate you get your connection flight to Stuttgart.

On Saturday (26th) and Sunday (27th) there will be shuttle busses to pick you up at the Airport. Departure times depend on which flights bring more than just a few participants.

If you inform us in time on your expected arrival (with flight number) at Stuttgart, we send you a postcard indicating our time table or an alternative way to reach Tübingen.

Taxis are expensive: DM 80.--!

An alternative way to Tübingen is to take a bus to Stuttgart Haupt-

bahnhof and to take a train to Tübingen: 11 minutes past each hour from platform 3 (takes one hour).

look out for this sign  
in the arrival area of  
Stuttgart Airport or in  
front of the entrance

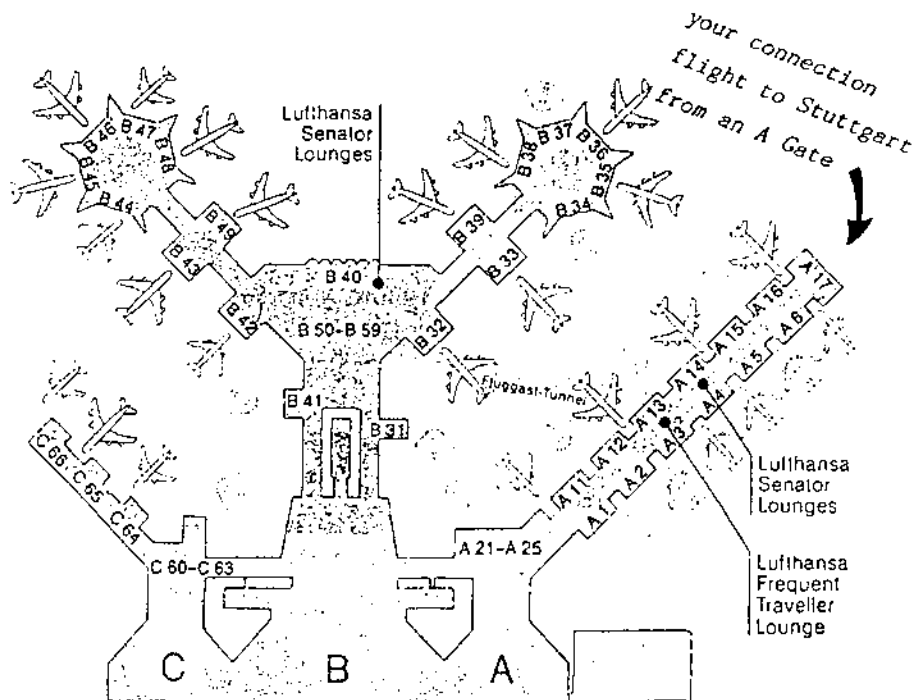


New: Direct Bus  
Line Airport - Tübingen:  
7.00 (not Sunday)  
9.20, 11.20, 14.50,  
18.10, 21.00  
Fare: DM 9.00

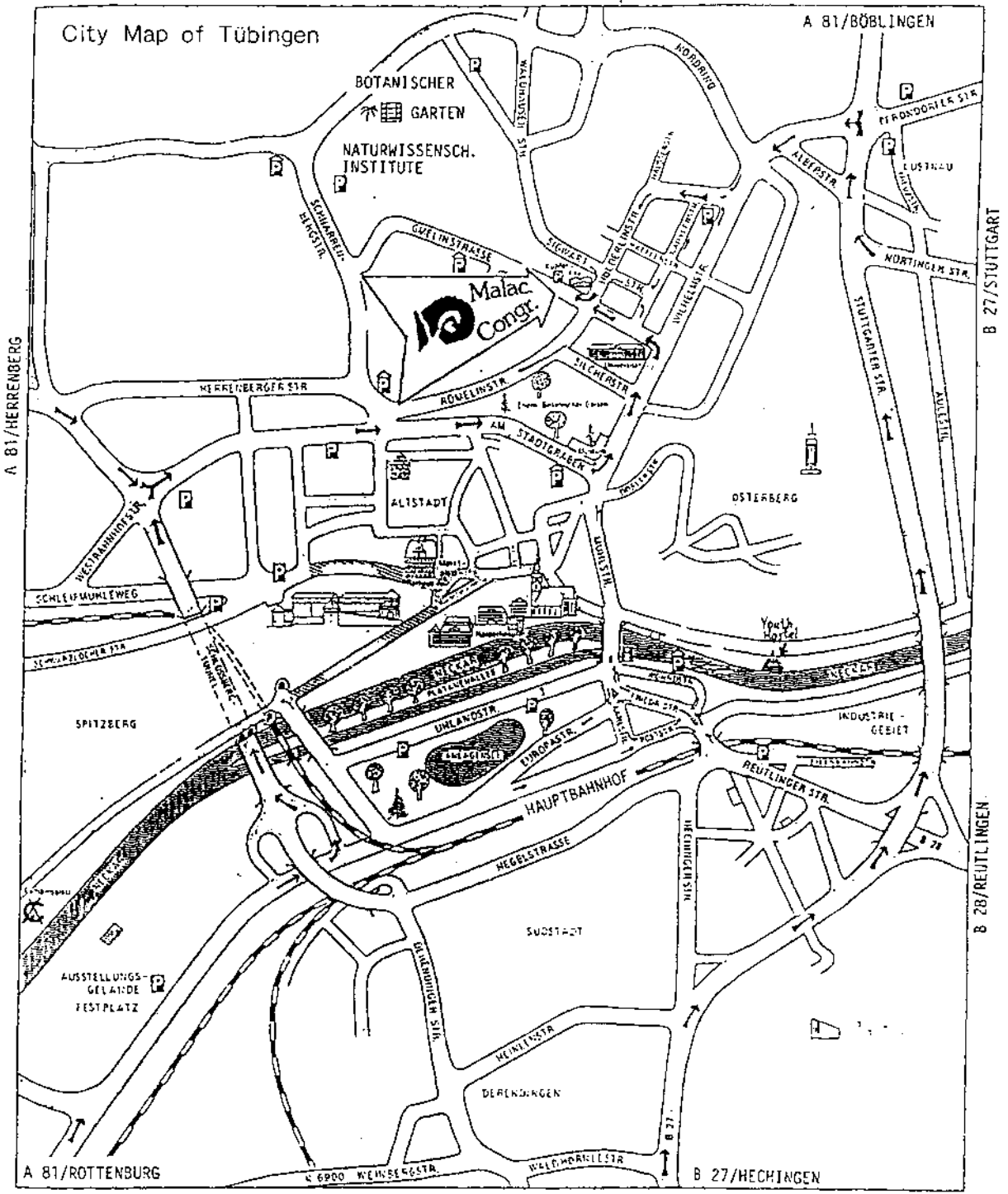
# Pleasant change in Frankfurt

Rushing from one terminal to another, or running about to find connection gates, just can't happen in Frankfurt. Because here you'll find everything under a single roof. So you won't lose time, or your bearings.

And most Lufthansa flights are timed so as to turn transfer times into agreeably brief stopovers. So it's easy come - and easy go: by one of the 1239 Lufthansa flights a week to 172 destinations round the world.







After arrival at the Congress Building ("Kupferbau") have your baggage locked in a room of the building and turn to the registration desk.

After registration you turn to the Accommodation Desk, where the Verkehrsverein Tübingen will give you the information you need. You may then go to your hotel. Be back around 5.30 p.m., when, during an informal welcome party, German malacological groupings will serve up some snacks and drinks, which will be able to replace a modest supper.

At 7.30 p.m. a shuttle bus will take those of you "home", who are lodged outside Tübingen.

The Registration Desk will be open on Saturday, 26 August, from 10 to 12 a.m. and from 2 to 6 p.m.

Sunday, 27 August, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.,

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday (28 August through 1 September, except Wednesday) probably from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (see further notice in the programme handed to you after arrival).

The phone number of the Registration Desk remains the same as that of the Congress Office:

07071-292928

During the congress you can also be reached by FAX: ..49-7071-295404; in this case have "Ring 2928" added to your address.

Your address during the Congress:

Malacological Congress  
Universität Tübingen, Kupferbau,  
D-7400 Tübingen, F.R.of Germany

#### Europ.Mar.Moll.Checklist

Professor Bedulli, of Parma, Italy, suggests a meeting of colleagues interested in a common checklist of European marine Mollusca. A first informal meeting is scheduled to take place in Seminar Room B on Tuesday, 29 August, starting at 2.20 p.m.; moreover, a new working group to be established will join the meetings of the European Invertebrate Survey on Thursday, 9 to 11.50 a.m. and 2 to 5.10 p.m. (Seminar Room A).

#### RESOLUTIONS

Would those who have to propose resolutions send them to the Resolution Committee, per address of the UM Secretary,  
Prof.E.Gittenberger,  
Rijksmus.v.Nat.Hist.,  
Postbus 9517,  
NL-2300 RA Leiden, Netherlands,  
prior to the Congress, so that they can be brought into shape and exposed to the Congress audience in time before the General Assembly.

#### Urgent Inquiries or Communications?

Send a FAX : ..49-7071-295404 ,  
addressed to:

Dr. Claus Meier-Brook  
Tropenmed.Inst.d.Univ., Ring 2928,  
Wilhelmstr. 31  
D-7400 Tübingen, F.R.of Germany

Or call me by phone no.:

..49-7071-292928 .

If you do not have access to Telefax, send a TELEX: 7262867 UTNN

#### Missing Abstracts

Those participants whose abstracts are still missing will find a reminder enclosed in this circular. All others may proceed on the assumption that their abstract(s) has(ve) reached us.

In several cases authors appeared *more than twice in the authorship* of contributions. In all these cases I have addressed a personal letter urging authors to either withdraw surplus titles or cancel their names as co-authors in surplus titles. Should authors' decisions fail to reach the congress office before the end of June, we will have to reject surplus titles or omit names of co-authors on our discretion. This would be a hard challenge to both you and us. So, please write us immediately, if you have appeared more than twice as an author or co-author of a contribution (no matter whether oral or poster presentation), unless you have notified us meanwhile. C.M.-B.

General Assembly of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS)

The IUBS was created in 1919. Its objectives are: to promote the study of biological sciences; to facilitate and coordinate research and other scientific activities that require international cooperation; to ensure the discussion and dissemination of international conferences and to assist in the publication of their results.

The IUBS interdisciplinary programmes are of an interdisciplinary nature; they are undertaken in collaboration with the national scientific authorities and in cooperation with other international organizations, both intergovernmental (UNESCO, UNEP, FAO, EC, etc.) and non-governmental. (quote from Year Book 1988 of the International Council of Scientific Unions).

The IUBS holds general assemblies (G.A.) every three years at different places. The 23rd G.A. took place in Canberra, Australia, from October 16 to 22, 1988.

About 110 delegates took part, divided into Ordinary members (= o.m.) (= nations) and Scientific members (= s.m.). Of the 41 o.m. with voting rights, 25 were represented. These had the right to vote on each issue (including finances etc.). Of the 69 s.m., 32 were represented. These had voting rights on scientific issues only. The discrepancy between 110 delegates and 25 + 23 = 48 voting members was a result of several o.m. or s.m. sending several delegates, as well as observers and invited lecturers to speak in a 1 1/2 day symposium on "The new biology: its challenges to society". One half day was spent visiting labs and research sites in and around Canberra. Three days were devoted to assembly business. Prof. J. Salanski, of Tihany, Hungary, was elected President for the next three years, succeeding Prof. Otto Solbrig, USA. Issues dealt with during the G. A. included reports on, or applications for, various scientific pro-

grammes to be supported.

Points of potential relevance to UM members are as follows:

### 1. Nomenclature

Reference was made to plans to stabilize names in botany by setting a new starting date and publishing an "Approved List" of names in current use. It has been suggested that such lists are issued at five-yearly intervals to update and include new names. (D. L. Hawksworth, Nature 334 (1988): 301) For plants, about 36,500 out of about 79,000 generic names, and 400,000 out of 1,700,000 species names published will be included in the lists to be issued from 1991 onwards. A pre-assembly workshop, held in Canberra, recommended that a request be made to the Commission on Zoological Nomenclature "to commence discussions with other agencies to consider the feasibility of moving in the same direction as botanical nomenclature with respect to zoological names in current use." Furthermore it was resolved to "continue its work in encouraging the development of harmony between the botanical and zoological codes - both of which are used in protistology".

I am sure an initiative such as the "Approved List of Names in Current Use" would provide, as well as greater stability, an opportunity to save time and energy, currently used in extensive quarrels about nomina conservanda and nomina nuda, and would save a lot of money for publication of unfruitful discussions in OPINION.

### 2. Taxonomy

As their "Resolution 4"- Support to Biological Taxonomy", the IUBS-G.A., have accepted the following: The 23rd IUBS General Assembly:

- RECOGNIZING the importance of taxonomy as a fundamental framework for all biological research and education, -Recognizing that taxonomy also provides an essential framework for communication in agriculture, commerce, medicine and other activity relating to biological products,

- STRESSES the urgent need for increased resources to be made

available for taxonomic education and taxonomic research in the light of rapidly increasing rates of extinction and the need for that research for the management and conservation of natural resources. It further RESOLVES that its Commission on Biological Education, in consultation with its Section of Plant Taxonomy and its Section of Zoological Nomenclature, be requested to DEVELOP an education programme to:

- (a) explain the significance of taxonomy, especially in applied fields, and
- (b) clarify to users of biological names, the reasons behind taxonomic name changes and how they arise from progress in taxonomy itself.

### 3. Biological Diversity

A new scientific programme on Biological Diversity, essentially a continuation of the "Decade of the Tropics" which has now ended, had been prepared. Two proposals had been submitted, one by the U.S. national delegation ("Biological Diversity in the Context of Ecosystem Structure and Function") and the other by the French delegation ("Reconstitution of Tropical Forests. Control of Development in Juvenile Stages"). The US proposal has been published in *BIOLOGY INTERNATIONAL* (vol.17: 15-17, 1988), the IUBS News Magazine.

A pre-assembly workshop held during four days in Como, Western Australia, dealt with both motions and included a two day field trip into the marvellous shrublands north of Perth under the excellent guidance of Mr. Angas Hopkins and Ted Griffin, both with the Department of Conservation and Land Management (Government of W.A.).

The result of our joint efforts was a proposal for a programme entitled "Maintenance and Reconstitution of Biological Diversity." From the report I would like to select a few of the recommendations submitted to the General Assembly:  
The workshop recommended .....

"that taxonomic studies and studies of population genetics and biology

continue. Where there is a need to select organisms to study, this should be done using criteria which include functional aspects (e.g. particularly roles in the regeneration process) as well as conservation status (vulnerability) and practical considerations."

"that studies of plant-animal interactions be included within the proposed programme and that these focus on the implications of the interaction in maintaining functional aspects of the systems."

"that the new programme take account of the likely problems arising from global change and maintain a close liaison with IGBP" (Intern. Geosphere Biosphere Programme).

"Education and training should be important aspects of the proposed new programme .....

There should be formal programmes for communication amongst researchers and between researchers and managers. ....

An important aspect of the communication process is the necessity of continuing liaison with decision makers."

"Even if every step of the foregoing programme is successfully implemented it will not be a substitute for adequate land planning which, if performed appropriately, could avoid all the problems of degradation."

(Final version of report by A. Hopkins). Claus Meier-Brook

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