

Czech Zoological Society: The 90th anniversary of its foundation

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The Czech Zoological Society, founded on 7 March 1927, as the Czechoslovak Zoological Society, is one of the oldest Czech scientific natural history societies that were established in the Czechoslovak Republic in the first years of its existence. Two of the oldest scientific societies had been established even earlier, in the time of the Austro-Hungarian Empire: the Czech Entomological Society in 1904 and the Czech Botanical Society in 1912. After the establishment of the Czechoslovak Republic, four scientific societies were founded between 1922 and 1928, namely the Czechoslovak Biological Society in 1922, the Czechoslovak Society for Ornithology in 1926, the Czechoslovak Zoological Society in 1927 and the Czechoslovak Society for Microbiology in 1928.

HISTORY

The 90th anniversary of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society (later called the Czech Zoological Society) is a long period of time that can be divided into six stages corresponding to the historical development of our country.

The first stage includes the twelve year period from the founding of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society in 1927 until 1938. It was a period of building the society, characterized by frequent meetings of members of the Society at various lectures and excursions, as well as by organizational efforts in the development of the society. At the end of this period, the society had 97 members. At that time also the first volumes of the newly founded scientific journal *Věstník Československé Zoologické Společnosti* (in English: Journal of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society) were published. This period was suddenly ended in 1938 by the German occupation of Czechoslovakia and the tragic events that followed.

The second stage includes the seven-year period from 1939 to 1945, when the activities of the Czech Zoological Society were suppressed as a result of tragic events at the beginning of the Second World War. Several members of the Czech Zoological Society were arrested and executed for resistance against the occupants. Nevertheless, several volumes of the journal *Věstník České Zoologické Společnosti* were published.

The third stage includes the seven-year period from 1945 to 1952. It was the time of the revival of scientific activities of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society thanks to the organizational efforts of several members of the pre-war committee who survived war-time. Many zoologists displayed interest for membership in the Czechoslovak Zoological Society. In the year 1948 the list includes 131 members. During this period seven volumes of the journal *Věstník Československé Zoologické*

Společnosti were published. In that time there started a gradually broadening exchange of this journal with zoological societies and other institutions in foreign countries and, therefore, the possibility to build and broaden the library of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society. This period ended in 1952 when the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and other scientific societies were affiliated with the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences.

The fourth stage involves a relatively long time period of forty years, from 1952 to 1992. It was a period of growth and increasing membership of the Society. Some members of the Society living in several larger towns of the country decided to establish branches in which they could better work and cooperate on zoological problems. Similarly, some members decided to establish sections based on professional interests. The number of members of the Society gradually increased and in 1990 the highest number of members – 570 members – was registered. During this period the Society published forty volumes of the journal *Věstník Československé Zoologické Společnosti*. The library of the Society has grown not only by acquisition of many volumes of foreign journals that have come from different institutions and libraries but also by the activities of librarians who have established new contacts with foreign institutions and have significantly expanded exchanges of the journal. In the course of the fourth stage six national congresses of the Czech and Slovak zoologists were held.

The fifth stage includes a short period from 1993 to 1997, when the society celebrated seventy years since its foundation. In 1993, after the splitting of Czechoslovakia into two separate states,



Fig. 1. The building of the Faculty of Sciences of the Charles University in Prague in the Viničná Street No. 7 where the secretariat and the library of the Czech Zoological Society are located (photo by Milan Kaftan).

the Czechoslovak Zoological Society divided into two separate societies: the Czech Zoological Society and the Slovak Zoological Society. As a result of this division the number of members of the Czech Zoological Society significantly decreased. At the end of 1997 only 323 members were recorded in the list of members of the Czech Zoological Society. During this period the Society published five volumes of its scientific journal under the new name: *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae*. At the end of this period, in 1997, the Ninth Congress of Czech Zoologists was held in the town České Budějovice in southern Bohemia.

The sixth stage covers the last twenty years from 1997 to 2017. Although the number of members of the Society gradually decreased, it succeeds to fulfil all activities of the Society. Between 1997 and 2017, the Czech Zoological Society published twenty volumes of the international scientific journal *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae* and twenty numbers of a small publication called *Informační zpravodaj České zoologické společnosti* (Information Reporter of the Czech Zoological Society), published only in Czech for the members of the Society. The library has gradually grown by addition of scientific journals sent by foreign institutions in exchange. The members of the Society have participated in several international congresses, conferences, symposia and workshops, which were held in the Czech Republic, and also cooperated in organization and lectures of ten Central European conferences (workshops) with the theme of soil zoology and in organization and lectures of conferences devoted to ichthyology. The Czech Zoological Society participates in the organization of zoological conferences, which since 1994 have been called Zoological Days.

In 1999 the first website of the Czech Zoological Society and in 2011 new and expanded website were established. They are accessible at the address: <http://www.zoospol.cz>.

The new statutes of the Czech Zoological Society were accepted and approved by the plenary assembly of members on 4 December 2015 and then were registered at the Municipal Court in Prague on 11 May 2016.

The secretariat and the library of the Czech Zoological Society are located in the basement of the Faculty of Science, Charles University, Prague 2, Viničná 7 (Fig. 1).

PRESIDENTS

In the course of ninety years of the existence of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society, from 1927 to 1997, eleven presidents were successively at the head of the Society (Fig. 2):

Professor Dr. František Vejdovský, 1927–1939

Professor Dr. Jaromír Wenig, 1928–1933

Professor Dr. Julius Komárek, 1934–1955

Professor Dr. Otto Jírovec, 1955–1959

Professor Dr. Emanuel Bartoš, 1959–1963

Professor Dr. Jaroslav Kramář, 1963–1966

Assoc. Professor Dr. Walter Černý, 1966–1972

Professor Dr. Josef Kratochvíl, 1972–1990

Dr. Čestmír Folk, 1990–1993

Dr. Ivan Heráň, 1993–2001

Assoc. Professor Dr. Václav Pižl, since 2001

In the following part we introduce these outstanding zoologists with fundamental data of their life and activities. They are listed in the order of time of their function.

František Vejdovský (1849–1939)

He was born on 24 October 1849 in Kouřim and died on 4 December 1939 in Prague. He was an excellent Czech zoologist, one of the greatest personalities of Czech zoology and biology; from 1892 professor of comparative anatomy and embryology at the Charles University and 1912–1913 rector. He dealt with cytology, comparative anatomy and embryology of animals. In 1886 he studied cell centrosomes, which had just been discovered. He studied various groups of animals, vertebrates and invertebrates. He described many new species of animals. He introduced new working methods in zoology, understood new scientific developments abroad, introduced them to the Charles University in Prague, and thus raised Czech zoological research to the world level. In 1927–1939 he was the first president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society; in 1928 he was elected as a lifetime honorary president and honorary member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Jaromír Wenig (1877–1933)

He was born on 4 December 1877 in Sázava and died on 1 October 1933 in Olomouc. Czech zoologist, the disciple of František Vejdovský; from 1924 professor and from 1923 Director of the Zoological Institute of the Charles University in Prague. He was involved in comparative embryology and anatomy of both invertebrates and vertebrates. Author of a number of scientific papers and of historical studies on zoology. He was one of the initiators of the founding of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society; and since 1927 was a member of the first committee. In 1928–1933 the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Julius Komárek (1892–1955)

He was born on 15 August 1892 in Železná Ruda and died on 7 February 1955 in Prague. Czech zoologist and entomologist, since 1932 professor of zoology at the Charles University in Prague. He was a member of several organizations: of the Czech Academy of Science and Arts, of the Masaryk Academy of Labour (1920), the Czechoslovak National Council of Research (1934), of the Royal Czech Society of Science (1951), of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (1953). In 1921 he was the founder and in the course of 1921–1945 the director of the State Research Institute for Forest Protection and Hunting in Jiloviště-Strnady. In 1945, after the second world war, he participated in the revival of the Faculty of Sciences of the Charles University; from 1947 to 1948 he was its dean. He dealt mainly with forest entomology and game biology. He traveled to the Caucasus, Greece, Macedonia, Italy and Romania. Author of a number of scientific and scientific-popular works and a number of books. Honorary member of the Czechoslovak Entomological Society. Since 1927, he was a member of the first committee of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society. In 1934–1955 (until his death) he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Otto Jírovec (1907–1972)

He was born on 31 January 1907 in Prague and he died on 7 March 1972 in Prague. Czech parasitologist and protozoologist, since 1947 professor of parasitology and protozoology at the Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague; member of the Royal Czech Society of Science, Masaryk Academy of Labour, of the National Council of Research and of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. He is the founder of Czech humane parasitology, outstanding university educator and organizer. In the years 1940–1945 he was the head of the Parasitology Laboratory at the State Medical Institute; since 1945 he worked at the Faculty of Sciences of the Charles University in Prague, 1954–1961 the head of the Protozoological Laboratory of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, 1955–1972 director of the Zoological Institute of the Charles University in Prague. In his professional work he focused in particular on the study of parasitic protozoa, both in

temperate and in tropical regions. Author of 300 scientific and 250 scientific-popular works and 11 books (some with co-authors). Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1927, first listed in the list of members in 1937, from 1941 to 1972 editor of the scientific journal of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society (called in Czech: *Věstník Československé zoologické společnosti*). In 1955–1959 he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Emanuel Bartoš (1902–1966)

He was born on 2 April 1902 in Maglaja (Bosnia) and died on 22 March 1966 in Prague. Czech zoologist, since 1952 professor of systematic zoology at the Faculty of Science of the Charles University in Prague. He dealt with problems of taxonomy and ecology of various small invertebrates, mainly Rotatoria, Tardigrada, harvestmen and spiders. Author of 130 scientific papers, several books and teaching texts for university students. Co-author of the important publication: *Soustava a jména živočichů* [= System and names of animals] (1954, with Josef Kratochvíl). Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1939, first listed in the list of members in 1948. In 1959–1963 he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

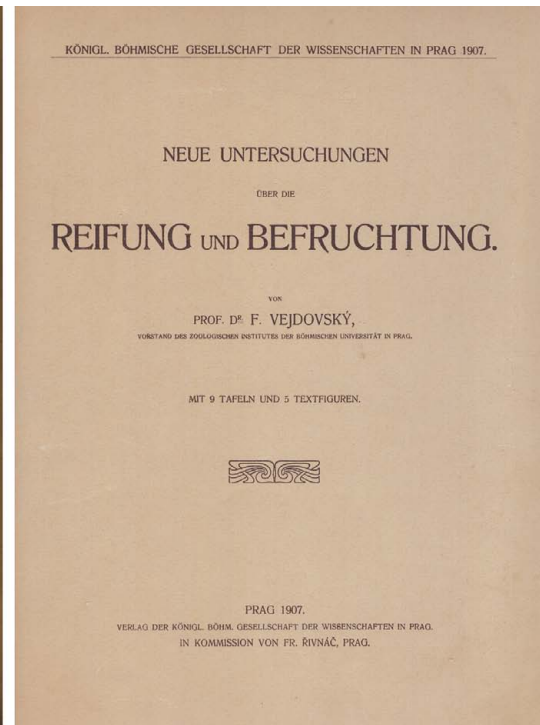


Fig. 2. František Vejdošský, the founder and the first president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society, and his important publication on the ripening and fertilization of the egg published in the year 1907.

Jaroslav Kramář (1910–1990)

He was born on 11 April 1910 in Velké Hamry (Jablonec nad Nisou District) and died on 16 April 1990 in Prague. Czech parasitologist and entomologist, since 1963, professor of parasitology at the Faculty of Science of the Charles University in Prague. He dealt with problems of medical entomology, protozoology and microscopic technique. He was an excellent expert on the family of mosquitoes (Culicidae); he described several new species of this group of insects. In 1963 he discovered the possibility of using immunofluorescence reaction in the diagnosis of parasitic diseases. Author of many scientific publications and author or co-author of several books. Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1948; his name is given for the first time in the list of members. In 1963–1966 he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Walter Černý (1905–1975)

He was born on 5 November 1905 in Hamburg and died on 5 April 1975 in Prague. Czech zoologist and ornithologist. From 1939 he was a member of the Masaryk Academy of Labour. In 1931–1946 he was the head of the testing laboratory for hormonal preparations at the State Medical Institute in Prague, since 1947 he was a teacher and since 1956 assistant professor at the Department of Zoology at the Faculty of Sciences of the Charles University in Prague; one of the founders of systematic zoology of vertebrates. He dealt with the study of bird blood parasites, problems of taxonomy and distribution of birds. Author of 65 scientific papers and 40 popular articles, author or co-author of nine books. Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1934; his name is given for the first time in the list of members; member of the Czechoslovak Society for Ornithology. In 1966–1972 he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Josef Kratochvíl (1909–1992)

He was born on 6 January 1909 in Kúsky (Velké Meziříčí District) and died on 17 February 1992 in Brno. Czech zoologist; since 1947 professor of zoology at the University of Agriculture in Brno, member of the Royal Czech Society of Sciences, of the Masaryk Academy of Labour, member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. In 1964 he founded the Institute for the Study of Vertebrates in Brno and was its director from the foundation until 1976. He studied the biology and ecology of various groups of arthropods, including spiders; later he directed on the study of small vertebrates which are important for agricultural and health-care practice. He described many new species and genera of invertebrates (Diptera, Thysanoptera, Hymenoptera, Opilionida, Araneae) and discovered two new species of rodents in Central Europe. Author of 200 scientific publications, 26 monographs, 12 books and several teaching texts for university students; the co-author of the important publication *Soustava a jména živočichů* [= System and names of animals] (1954, with Emanuel Bartoš). Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1928; his name is given for the first time in the list of members in 1947. In 1972–1990 he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Čestmír Folk (1931–2003)

He was born on 1 September 1931 in Třebíč and died on 21 February 2003 in Brno. Czech zoologist and ornithologist. In 1954–1991 he worked as a researcher at the Institute for the Study of Vertebrates in Brno. He studied the ecology of birds and mammals, their food and possibilities of biological control of pests. In 1977 he explained the importance of mammals and birds in the transmission of diseases. Author of 90 scientific publications, 4 monographs and author or co-author of five books. Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1966; his name is given for the first time in the list of members in 1972. In 1990–1993 he was the president of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society.

Ivan Heráň (1934–2001)

He was born on 1 May 1934 in Litomyšl and died on 5 September 2001 in Prague. Czech zoologist. In 1961–1997 he worked as a research curator at the Department of Zoology of the National Museum in Prague. He dealt with the morphology and ethology of vertebrates, mainly mammals, and studied their functional adaptation mechanisms. Author of 70 scientific publications, six books and co-author of two other books. Since 1962 the editor of the scientific journal *Lynx*, devoted to the zoology of mammals. Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1960; his name is given for the first time in the list of members in 1972. In 1993–2001 he was the president of the Czech Zoological Society.

Václav Pižl (*1956)

He was born on 11 April 1956 in Děčín. Czech zoologist focused in the study of soil fauna. In 1986–2005 he worked as a researcher in the Institute of Soil Biology of the Academy of Sciences in České Budějovice, since 1998 as the director. He deals with soil biology and with ecology and taxonomy of Lumbricidae. He is studying the impact of anthropogenic interventions on earthworm communities in forests and in agroecosystems. Author or co-author of more than 150 scientific publications and editor of several proceedings from the conferences on soil zoology. Member of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society since 1984, since 2001 the president of the Czech Zoological Society.

COMMITTEES

In the course of ninety years of the existence of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society all activities of the Society have been managed and administered by twenty seven committees the members of which were elected in plenary meetings of the Society held each three or four years. In these committees altogether 126 members have been involved in various functions.

The current Committee of the Czech Zoological Society elected for the years 2016–2019 is working with the following composition:

President: Assoc. Professor Dr. Václav Pižl

Vice-presidents: Dr. Karel Tajovský, Dr. Ivan Hadrián Tuf

Scientific Secretary: Dr. Miroslav Švátora

Treasurer: Dr. Marcela Skuhrová

Librarian: Dr. Vladimír Vohralík

Editor-in-chief of the *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae*: Dr. David Král

Website Manager: Dr. Ivan Hadrián Tuf

Committee Members: Assoc. Professor Dr. Petr Benda, Assoc. Professor Dr. Josef Chalupský, Assoc. Professor Dr. Lucie Juříčková, Dr. Markéta Knitlová, Professor Dr. Jan Kubečka, Dr. Jiří Moravec, Professor Dr. Karel Pivnička, Dr. Antonín Reiter, Assoc. Professor Dr. Jan Zuka. Auditorial Commission: Dr. Robert Černý, Professor Dr. Lukáš Kratochvíl, Dr. Irena Schneiderová.

MEMBERS

In 1927, at the time of foundation, sixty prominent zoologists, living in Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia and also in Germany, applied for membership of the Society. In 1934 – one hundred zoologists were registered in the list of members, in 1948 – 131, in 1990 – 570, in 1997 – 323, in 2006 – 271 and in 2016 – 217 zoologists were included in such lists of members (Fig. 3).

The members usually have met at sessions or meetings of branches situated in several towns of the country: in Brno, Prague, České Budějovice and Ostrava, or in specialised professional sections. Since 1964 twelve such professional sections were founded: in 1964 the section of protozoology, 1967 the section of ichthyology, 1968 the section of ornithology and the section of the riology, 1973 the section of herpetology and the section of invertebrate zoology, 1974 the section of zoological gardens and of museums, 1976 the section of ecology, 1979 the section of ethology, 1981 the section of protection of fauna, 1984 the section of soil zoology and 1990 the section of pedagogy. Some sections became independent societies, some sections ceased their activities. At present only two sections are working very actively: the section of ichthyology and the section of soil zoology (Fig. 4 and 5).

During the ninety years of the existence of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society, 46 outstanding zoologists were awarded honorary membership of the Society. Thirty six zoologists were from the Czech Republic and Slovakia and ten zoologists from abroad.

The Foreign Honorary Members (alphabetically): Andrej Grigorevič Bannikov, Vladimir Georgievich Geptner, Sergej Pavlovič Naumov, Jurij Ivanovič Polánski, Vladimir Jevgenevič Sokolov, Grigorij Alexandrovič Šmidt, Nikolaj Kuzmič Verešagin (all from the former Soviet Union), Ivan Bureš (from Bulgaria), Jovan Hadži (from Slovenia) and Siniša Stankovič (from Serbia).

The Domestic Honorary Members (alphabetically): Eugen Balon, František Bayer, Vladimír Černý, Josef Chalupský, Václav Dyk, Oskar Ferienc, Jiří Gaisler, Ivo Hodek, Karel Hudec, Karel Hůrka, Milan Klíma, Jaroslav Kramář, Josef Kratochvíl, Vladimír Landa, Františka Lelláková, Vojen Ložek, Vladimír J. A. Novák, Karel Novák, Ota Oliva, Evžen Opatrný, Jaroslav Pelikán, Bohumír Rosický, Dalibor Povolný, Bohumil Ryšavý, Josef Rusek, Marcela Skuhravá, Otto Slabý, František Sládeček, Vladimír Sládeček, Otakar Štěpánek, František Vejdovský, Zdeněk Veselovský, František Vilček, Antonín Vimmer, Jiří Volf, and Jan Zejda.

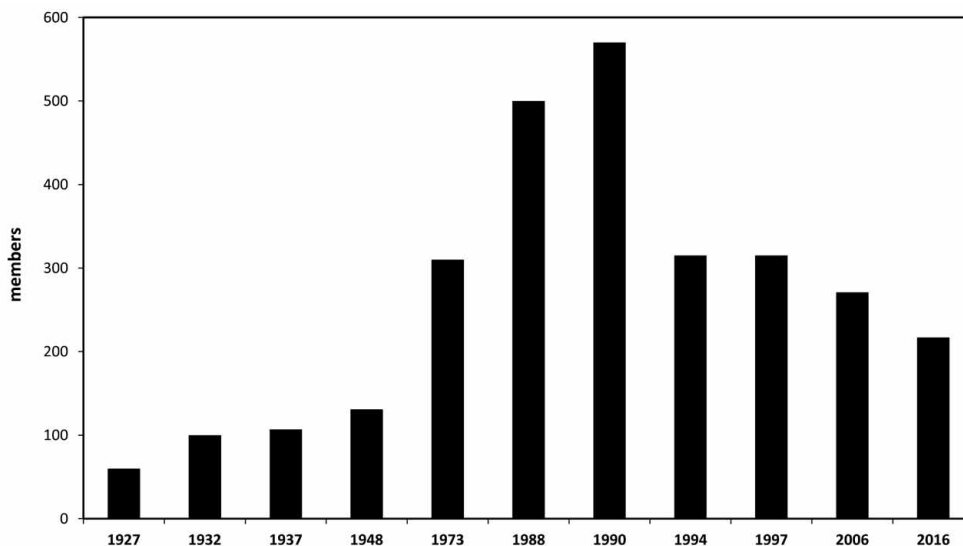


Fig. 3. Number of members of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society in 1927–2017.



Fig. 4. Participants of the 13th Czech Ichthyological Conference held in Červená nad Vltavou in the Czech Republic 24–26 October 2012 (photo by David Boukal).

CONGRESSES

During 1951–1997, the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society organized nine congresses: the first was held in 1951 in Opava, the second in 1965 in Brno, the third in 1970 in Poprad, the fourth in 1973 in České Budějovice, the fifth in 1976 in Brno, the sixth in 1981 in Bratislava, the seventh in 1986 in Ústí nad Labem, the eighth in 1991 in Brno and the ninth in 1997 in České Budějovice. In 1969–1997 a series of 25 conferences of professional sections took place, usually at Brno, and regularly in autumn of each year, with the exceptions of years when the Congress was held. Members of our Society, together with members of other scientific societies and natural historical clubs, acquainted themselves with actual problems and the progress of research and investigations in the field of zoology.

Members of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society participated in organizing four international congresses and one international zoological symposium held in the territory of our state: 2nd International Congress on Theriology in Brno in 1978; 3rd Congress of the European Herpetological Society in Prague in 1985; 10th European Ichthyological Congress of the European Ichthyological Society in Prague in 2001; 16th International Congress of Myriapodology in Olomouc in 2014 (Fig. 6); 13th International Symposium on Aquatic Oligochaeta (ISAQ) in Brno in 2015 (Fig. 7).

ZOOLOGICAL DAYS

During the last twenty years, from 1998 to 2017, altogether eighteen conferences called “Zoological Days” were held in various towns of the Czech Republic: thirteen conferences were held in Brno, two in České Budějovice, one each in Praha, Olomouc and Ostrava. The number of participants at conferences has gradually increased from an initial 79 participants in 1998 up to 518 participants in Brno in 2017 (Fig. 8). Altogether 2088 lectures and 2263 posters were presented at these conferences during the last twenty years (Fig. 9). The last conference was held in Brno on 9–10 February 2017 (Fig. 10).

THE JOURNAL

Since 1934, the Czechoslovak Zoological Society has been editing the scientific journal *Věstník Československé zoologické společnosti* the name of which has changed several times: in 1990 into *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemoslovacae* and in 1993 into *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae*. Contributions were at first written in Czech, and since 1990 almost all contributions have been written in English. In the course of ninety years of its existence the Society published eighty volumes of this journal. During the last twenty years, from 1997 to 2016, a total of 43 original scientific papers have been published which were written by 806 authors, of which about two thirds originated from the Czech Republic and one third of authors originated from various countries of the world.

From 1934 to the present time (2017), six zoologists were consecutively editors of the scientific journal published by the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society: Assoc. Professor Dr. Jaroslav Štorkán, from the Volume 1 (1934) to the Volume 8 (1940); Professor Dr. Otto Jirovec from the Volume 9 (1941–1944) to the Volume 36 (1972); Assoc. Professor Dr. Miroslav Kunst from the Volume 37 (1973) to the Volume 51 (1987); Professor Dr. Jan Buchar from the Volume 52 (1988) to the Volume 53 (1989); Professor Dr. Karel Hürka from the Volume 54 (1990) to the Volume to 68 (2004); Dr. David Král from the Volume 68 (2004) until now.



Fig. 5. Participants of the 12th Central European Workshop on Soil Zoology held in České Budějovice, Czech Republic on 8–11 April 2013 (photo by Václav Pižl).



Fig. 6. Participants of the 16th International Congress of Myriapodology held in Olomouc in the Czech Republic 20–25 July 2014 (photo by Zdeněk Mačát).



Fig. 7. Participants of the 13th International Symposium on Aquatic Oligochaeta (ISAO) held in Brno, Czech Republic on 7–11 September 2015 (photo by Robin Schenk).

Since 1997 the journal *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae* has been managed by the twelve-member editorial board with Karel Hůrka, editor-in-chief, and with David Král, executive editor. The members of the editorial board were the following zoologists: Petr Benda, Jan Buchar, Ivo Hodek, Jaroslav Hrbáček, Vojtěch Jarošík, František Moravec, Vladimír J. A. Novák, Josef Rusek, Frantisek Sládeček, Jiří Vávra, Zdeněk Veselovský and Jan Zima. In 2004 Anthony F. G. Dixon, the professor at the University of East Anglia, UK, was invited to collaborate as English language editor. Since 2004, after the death of Karel Hůrka, David Král has been elected for the function of editor-in-chief and Marcela Skuhrová became the executive editor.

In 2017 the following zoologists manage the journal *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae*:

Editor-in-chief: Dr. David Král.

Executive Editor: Dr. Marcela Skuhrová.

English language Editor: Professor Dr. Anthony F. G. Dixon.

Editorial board: Assoc. Professor Dr. Petr Benda, Assoc. Professor Dr. Daniel Frynta, Dr. Keith M. Harris, Dr. Ivo Hodek, Assoc. Professor Dr. Alois Honěk, Professor Dr. Jan Kubečka, Dr. František Moravec, Dr. Jakub Prokop, Dr. Ivan Reháč, Professor Dr. Josef Rusek, Dr. Carl Smith, Professor Dr. Jiří Vávra.

At present, the journal *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae* is exchanged with 256 scientific societies and organizations of various countries in the world. The library of the Czech Zoological Society has been built gradually, mainly from the time after the end of the Second World War by way of exchange with scientific societies and organizations in various countries in the world. At present, the library of our Society includes 880 periodicals of 65 countries.

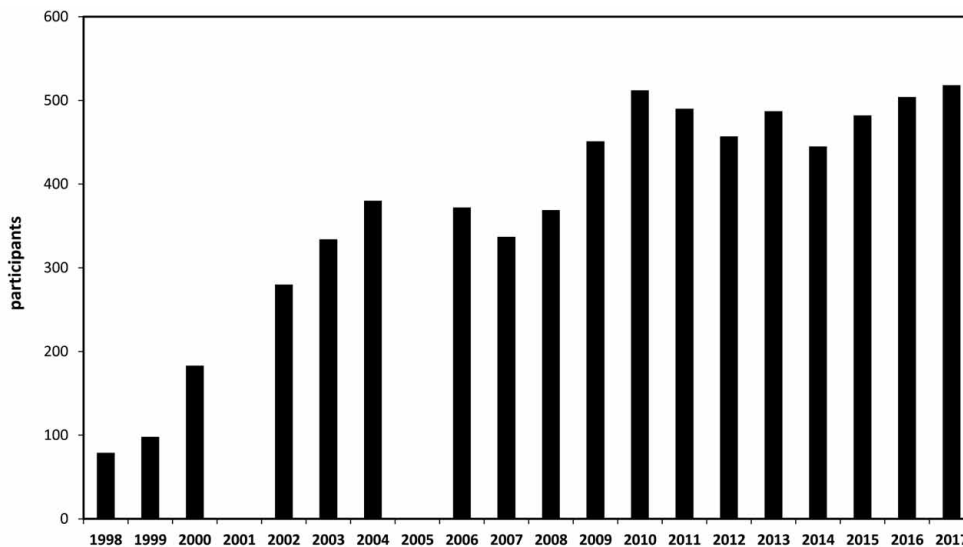


Fig. 8. Number of participants of the conferences “Zoological Days” held usually in Brno, but also in other towns of the Czech Republic: České Budějovice, Prague, Olomouc, and Ostrava in 1998–2017.

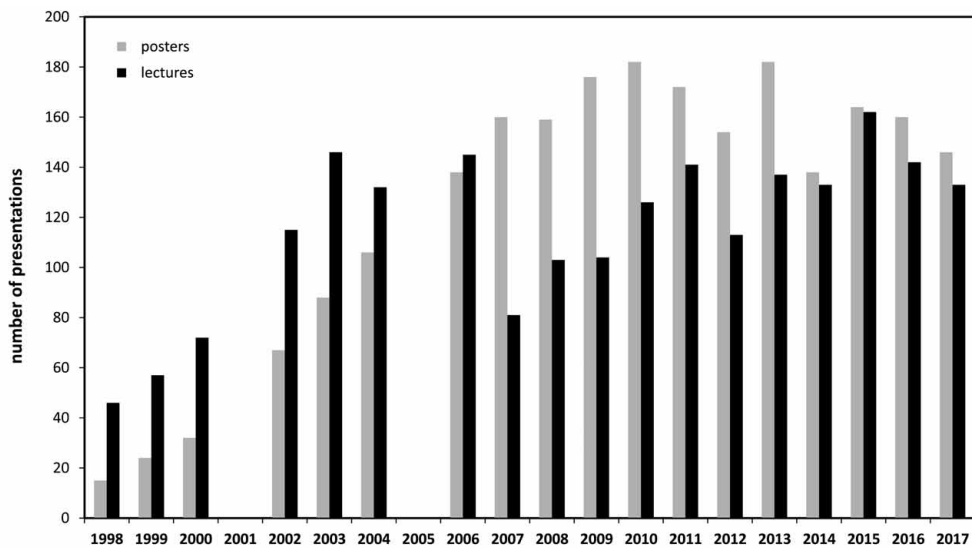


Fig. 9. Number of posters and lectures presented by participants of the conferences “Zoological Days” in 1998–2017.



Fig. 10. Participants of the conference “Zoological Days, Brno, 2017” at the beginning of the conference in the hall of the Masaryk University in Brno in February 2017 (photo by Ondřej Michálek).

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

In 1971–2001 the Czechoslovak Zoological Society, later the Czech Zoological Society, published, irregularly and in Czech, the small publication *Zprávy Československé* and *Zprávy České zoologické společnosti* (Reports of the Czechoslovak (Czech) Zoological Society), Josef Chalupský was its editor. He elaborated and designed an envelope and a formal adaptation of this publication. Between 1971 and 2001 twelve publications, mostly numbered as twofold (27–28) or threefold (1–3), included a total of 1079 pages. Lectures, summaries and resolutions from congresses of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society, statutes, lists of members, lists of periodicals obtained in exchange and stored in the library and a directory of members of the Czech Zoological Society were published in individual publications.

Since 1992 up to the present a small publication called *Informační zpravodaj České zoologické společnosti* (Information Report of the Czech Zoological Society), written in Czech, is published, usually once or twice a year. It brings information for members of the Society about all activities of the Czech Zoological Society in the past year and also about intended actions in the coming year.

LIBRARY

The library of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society has been built gradually since 1934 from foreign periodicals obtained in exchange for the journal *Věstník Československé Zoologické Společnosti* and *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae*.



Fig. 11. Czech ichthyologists during excursion are fishing samples of the fish fauna in the Laborec River near Humenné, eastern Slovakia, in August 2007 (photo by Milan Kaftan)..

The Library of the Czech Zoological Society at the end of 2016 includes an unique collection of 907 titles of foreign scientific journals from 69 countries around the world, including a total of 21,250 volumes of journals.

Since 1948 ten members of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and Czech Zoological Society have served as librarians:

Assoc. Professor Dr. Miroslav Kunst, 1948–1949

Professor Dr. Vladimír Landa, 1948–1949

Dr. Václav Skuhravý, 1948–1959

Professor Dr. Ota Oliva, 1952–1959

Dr. Jiří Zahradník, 1952–1953

Dr. Ivo Hodek, 1953–1993

Professor Dr. Karel Hůrka, 1953–1963

Dr. Jan Škoudlín, 1976–1978

Assoc. Professor Dr. Pavel Munclinger, 1997–1998

Dr. Vladimír Vohralík, from 1993 until present.

WEBSITE

In 1999 the first websites of the Czech Zoological Society were founded and in 2011 new and expanded websites were established. In 2013 the website of the Czech Zoological Society received awards from the National Library in Prague which is expressed by the logo of the National Library located on the first page of the website of the Czech Zoological Society.

ARCHIVE

The archive of the Czech Zoological Society was built in 1997 from the documents which were found at that time. It is stored in the room of the secretariat and library of the Czech Zoological Society in the building of the Faculty of Science in Prague 2, Viničná 7. It consists of two parts: the archive of documents and the archive of photos. All of the documents of the Society were sorted and put into volumes by years.

OUR WISHES FOR THE FUTURE

On the occasion of the 90th anniversary of the foundation of the Czechoslovak Zoological Society and the Czech Zoological Society we wish our society to continue in successful development and in supporting the development of zoology not only in the Czech Republic but also internationally, encouraging members to participate in activities in various branches of zoology and in publishing their findings and results of their investigations and knowledge in the journal *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae*.

NOTE. The committee of the Czech Zoological Society is publishing the memorial volume entitled “Česká zoologická společnost. 90. výročí založení. The Czech Zoological Society. The 90th anniversary of the foundation” as the special issue of the journal *Acta Societatis Zoologicae Bohemicae* written in Czech with English summary for the members of the Society. In this publication with plenty black and white and colour photographs there are given descriptions of its history, events, meetings, congresses and all activities of the Society in the course of ninety years of its existence – from 1927 to 2017.