

Editorial

Since its publication in 1923 under the editorship of Professor R.T. Leiper of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) the *Journal of Helminthology* has established a reputation as a high quality international journal for the publication of research in parasitology. It is therefore an honour and privilege to take over from Dr Ralph Muller who, as a former senior member of LSHTM and subsequently the Director of the International Institute of Parasitology (IIP), was committed over a long term to maintaining the high editorial standards set by his predecessors.

Just over two years ago, the ownership of *Journal of Helminthology* was transferred from LSHTM to CAB INTERNATIONAL (CABI), an intergovernmental organization providing services worldwide to agriculture, forestry, human health and the management of natural resources. CABI is widely known as a producer of abstract journals in the parasitological field including *Helminthological Abstracts*, *Protozoological Abstracts*, *Nematological Abstracts* and the *Tropical Diseases Bulletin*. Recently, CABI has greatly increased its output of textbooks and monographs in parasitology and related fields and has recently expanded its interest in primary journals. CABI has impressive publishing and marketing skills and, through its associated institutes, especially IIP, appropriate scientific expertise.

In 1994 CABI, in conjunction with Ralph Muller, introduced a number of improvements to the journal by redesigning the cover and including a larger page size with a two column format to allow greater flexibility. From 1996 onwards I hope to build upon these changes by extending the scope of the journal to include papers and reviews on all aspects of pure and applied helminthology, particularly those helminth parasites of environmental health, medical or veterinary importance. I also wish to encourage research on helminths in wildlife hosts, including plant and insect parasites. Taxonomic contributions will continue to be acceptable, provided they contribute to the systematics of a group and particularly if they employ biochemical or molecular biological techniques.

I am delighted to announce that Hilary White is to continue as Assistant Editor and I look forward to the continuing support of the expert editorial board. I have much pleasure in announcing the addition of five new internationally renowned parasitologists to the board to reflect the coverage of the journal, and these include Professor David Halton, Queen's University, Belfast, Professor Clive Kennedy, University of Exeter, Dr Roland Perry, IACR Rothamsted, Professor Derek Wakelin, University of Nottingham and Dr David Thomson, The UpJohn Company, USA. I am also pleased to announce that Dr Bill Hominick, Director of IIP, and his scientific staff have agreed to act in an advisory capacity to the editorial board. The production team at CABI are providing their new editor with excellent support and every effort will be made not only to maintain and improve the quality of research papers, but also to ensure a speedy publication. The journal will continue in its policy of having no page charges and providing 50 free offprints. Comments by readers and contributors to the journal will always be welcome and any suggestions for review topics should be sent to the Editor or to local members of the board.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity of wishing Ralph Muller well in his retirement and to thank him for his assistance and co-operation in ensuring a smooth editorial transition.

Professor John Lewis
Editor