

You have at hands the new issue of *Lundiana*, which marks the beginning of the second year of its new phase as an international journal of biodiversity. In 2002, *Lundiana* published 22 articles dealing with the systematics, biology, and ecology of plants and animals. These articles were written by authors from 15 different institutions. Probably, the most important achievement of *Lundiana*, during this first year, was its indexation by Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Abstracts, BIOSIS, CAB Abstracts, Index to American Botanical Literature, Kew Record and Zoological Record. This will make our articles easily found by those seeking for scientific information on biodiversity.

This year, *Lundiana* is being strengthened by the incorporation of two ornithological periodicals, the International Journal of Ornithology (IJO) and Tangara – Journal of Neotropical Ornithology. The immediate effects of this merge, as the reader will notice, were the absorption of some excellent articles on birds and the expansion of the geographical origin of our published material. We need to acknowledge, here, the efforts of André Nemésio, Editor-in-Chief and Gary Luck, Editor to Australasian region of IJO and Fernando Straube, Editor of Tangara, which were responsible for processing the articles originally submitted to those journals and that are published in this issue.

A significant improvement in our editorial committee was the addition of another editorial area, Ecology, which is being run by Dr. Claudia M. Jacobi. With this, the committee will be in better shape to couple with the growing flow of submitted manuscripts, making their analysis and publication faster.

The journal has also found new partners, whose support was essential in keeping the good standards of *Lundiana*. We wish to thank the Center for Applied Biodiversity Science at Conservation International (Washington DC, U.S.A.), the Fundação O Boticário de Proteção à Natureza (Curitiba, Brazil) and the Sociedade Mineira de Biologia (Belo Horizonte, Brazil) for the financial support.

The Committee for Taxonomical Collections and *Lundiana*'s Editorial Committee will continue to make all possible efforts to make our journal better – readers should expect for further improvements. In the mean time, we hope you enjoy the present issue of *Lundiana*.

Fernando Amaral da Silveira, Executive Editor

Alan Lane de Melo, Editor

## REFEREES 2002

The editors acknowledge the efforts of the following referees who have expended their time to provide reviews of submitted manuscripts for the Volume 3 Numbers 1 and 2 in 2002. Their contributions have been essential to maintaining the high standard of the journal.

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