Nota Lepidopterologica combines tradition and innovation through open access and advanced publishing model

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The Societas Europaea Lepidopterologica (SEL) has joined forces with Pensoft as our new publisher to bring the Society’s journal Nota Lepidopterologica on the way to open access and innovation. Our intentions were first announced at the SEL congress in Bulgaria in 2013 and now we are pleased to announce the first issue of the journal published in an advanced open access format at the brand new editorial platform of Pensoft (http://nl.pensoft.net).

Pensoft is well known as one of World’s most innovative publishers focusing on all topics related to biodiversity. For years they have been revolutionizing publishing by integrating modern tools with traditional topics into high-quality products.

The scope of Nota has not changed and we continue to publish contributions to the study of mainly but not exclusively Palaearctic Lepidoptera, including taxonomy, morphology and anatomy, phylogenetics, biogeography, ecology, behaviour, conservation, as well as other aspects of lepidopterology.

The working interface has, however, changed and now the authors, subject editors, and reviewers work with Pensoft’s online editorial management system from the first step of online submission of manuscripts, through the peer-review process, to the final step of proof checking. Pensoft’s Editorial Secretary for Nota Lepidopterologica, Yordanka Banalieva, will be happy to provide technical support to authors, subject editors, and reviewers.

One of the many improvements is that the waiting time from acceptance of a paper to publication will now be much shorter. Each paper will be published online within weeks of acceptance on the new Nota website. Another change is that Nota is now an open-access journal and all published papers will be accessible to anyone in the world with an internet connection as soon as the paper is published online. The SEL is happy to be able to cover the open-access fee for all of its members for up to 25 pages per year when they are first authors of a paper. More details on this and all other aspects can be found on the new website.

Pensoft’s modern publishing tools include semantic markup of all manuscripts, registration of new taxa and nomenclatural acts in ZooBank, and linking of scientific names in papers to various biodiversity resources (e.g., GBIF, Encyclopedia of Life, etc.). Furthermore, Pensoft will promote the published content by exporting the species treatments to Encyclopedia of Life, Plazi and Species-ID treatment repositories, facilitate data publishing through integration of the journal with GBIF and the Dryad Data Repository, organize indexing in the relevant bibliographic databases (such as Zoological Record) and so on. We hope to be accepted soon for coverage in the ISI Web of Science and Scopus. Pensoft will also work with us on public relations and dissemination of content through press releases, social networks, and in other ways. In addition to a much greater online presence, we will continue having two printed issues.
per year, one on June 15 and one on December 15, in which we will gather all the papers that were published online in the previous six months.

We hope you will enjoy the new editorial system and outlook of Nota Lepidopterologica and we welcome you to the first issue of Nota published by Pensoft. In this issue you can read about an unexpected discovery of *Pyrgus malvoides* in the Czech Republic, the revision of *Naarda* (Erebidae), a detailed examination of the Alpine populations of the butterfly *Erebia euryale*, an interesting new species of larentiine geometrids from the Kopet-Dagh Mountains, reduced mouth parts in coleophorids, the taxonomic status of two species of *Ochromolopis* (Epermeniidae), the description of the previously unknown female of *Ethmia cribravia* (Elachistidae), a remarkable new species of gelechiids from Turkmenistan, difficulties of identifying species of *Melitaea* based on their wing morphology, and about choreutids of Madeira.