

# Preface

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This book began as a symposium at the Eighteenth International Congress of Entomology (Vancouver, 1988), and the contributions have been refined and expanded since. Some of them have been exchanged among the participants, not in an attempt to achieve agreement in conclusions but, rather, that each might know what others are thinking.

This book will not answer any question once and for all time. Like all else in these waning years of the millennium, facts on hemipteran relationships accumulate rapidly, and ideas based upon those facts change—as rapidly as does everything else: one contributor wrote as a citizen of Czechoslovakia and is published as a citizen of the Czech Republic; two others wrote in the USSR and read the result in Russia, without having moved. Like Heraclitus, we study a river that changes as we observe it.

As the organizer of the symposium, and editor of this volume, I thank all who participated, for their forbearance and generous patience. I thank also Michelle Zielinski and Derek Sikes, who word-processed the volume, and the University of Connecticut Research Foundation, which supported that processing. I am deeply grateful to John Sorensen and Bruce C. Campbell for sending me copies of their papers; and to Jennifer Newmyer for the cover's fine vignette. Above all, I thank the hemipterans themselves, who made it all possible.