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Review of *Cetoniimanias, a publication devoted to Cetoniinae, Valginae, and Trichiinae.*

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NEW JOURNAL REVIEW

Cetoniimania, a publication devoted to Cetoniinae, Valginae, and Trichiinae. Privately published by Robert Alexis, 5 rue Georges Willame, B1400 Nivelles, Belgium and Michel Delpont, 49 rue de Villemontais, F42300 Roanne, France.

This beautifully produced publication devoted to Cetoniinae (Scarabaeidae) and their relatives is the brainchild of Robert Alexis (editor) and Michel Delpont (director of publication). Volume 1 (No. 1, 52 pp) was printed in September 2000 and contained articles clarifying the status of *Potosia cuprea* Fabr. (with magnificent color illustrations of beetles, habitats, and range maps), collecting on Krk island in Yugoslavia, the cetonine fauna of Lesbos island in Greece, and Cetoniidarum Specierum Lexicon, which is a supplemental but integral part of *Cetoniimania* in which new taxa are described in both French and English (again, with excellent color illustrations and line drawings). There are also six pages of eye-catching notices for beetle books and journals (including the *Coleopterists Bulletin*), specimens for exchange or sale, collecting expeditions, and accommodations in collecting areas.

Alexis and Delpont state that the aim of *Cetoniimania* is to provide both professional and amateur entomologists with information on new cetoniine taxa, classification, collecting and breeding methods, photography, advertisements about specimens or new publications, commercial ads, advice to young entomologists, and tips about the International Code of Nomenclature. In short, everything you would ever want to know about cetoniines will be included. With this kind of coverage, naturally, there will be a diverse mix of articles with varying degrees of “expertise.”

As is typical for so many European journals, authors can publish text and black and white illustrations without cost, but authors are asked to subsidize color illustrations. Presumably, a contributing author must also subscribe to the journal. Printing and color images are created with desktop publishing using a high quality printer, and the results are really good; there is no traditional off-set printing. Reprints are available to authors. Papers are reviewed by an editorial board.

Subscription rates vary: $30 for Belgium and France, $40 for other European countries, $25 for former Soviet Union countries, $45 for all other overseas countries, and $25 for students. I am not certain how many times per year *Cetoniimania* will be published, but I consider it a good value, especially with all the color images that are so
important in this group of beetles. I believe that substantive revisions and synopses of taxa will begin to appear as more people become aware of this publication outlet.

I recommend this journal for anyone interested in this group of scarab beetles. Subscriptions and/or additional information about the publication can be obtained from Robert Alexis or Michel Delpon at the addresses given above.

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BOOK REVIEW


At over 500 pages, this is only the first volume of a probable three volume Spanish language treatment of the Scarabaeoidea of the Iberian peninsula. Volume one is a comprehensive and detailed piece of work in the grand tradition of faunas and floras. This first volume treats all of the “lower” scarabaeoids (Laparosticti) except for the Aphodiidae and Aegialiidae, which will appear in the next scarabaeoid volume. The third volume will treat the “higher” scarabs (Pleurosticti).

The book begins with a brief overview of the morphology and life cycle of scarabaeoids followed by a discussion on various relationship hypotheses of families/subfamilies. A short commentary follows detailing the principal classification schemes, historical and current, that have been proposed for scarabaeoids. For the Iberian fauna, the authors recognize the following families: Glaresidae, Lucanidae, Trogidae, Geotrupidae, Ochodaeidae, Hybosoridae, Glaphyridae, Aegialiidae, Aphodiidae, Scarabaeidae (dung beetles), Orphniidae, Melolonthidae, Rutelidae, Dynastidae, and Cetoniidae. As is typical of most European approaches, the principal subfamilies of Scarabaeidae recognized by American workers and Lawrence and Newton’s 1995 classification have been elevated to family rank. Illustrated keys to the adults and larvae of Iberian families of scarabaeoids are the gateway to the traditional synopsis for each of the families and their tribes (where appropriate), genera, and species.

Each family treatment consists of an introductory overview of distribution, systematic position, adult anatomy, natural history, collecting, a checklist of the Iberian taxa, and keys (including larvae when known). Following a brief introduction to each genus, the species treatments are comprised of original description information (all synonyms are provided in Appendix 1 at the end of the book), a short description, distribution (no maps), and biological notes. Superb habitus illustrations by Jesús Romero Samper are scattered throughout the book along with 116 line drawings and halftones. Over 750 references are in the literature cited. Seven color plates of living beetles conclude the volume.

This book is very attractively produced with crisp illustrations, a high quality paper, and a sturdy binding. This volume, and the ones to follow, will be the standard for scarabaeoid identification for the Iberian peninsula for the foreseeable future. Scarab workers, biogeographers, natural resource managers and students in Spain and Portugal, and natural history devotees will find this book particularly attractive. At about $35, this volume is a genuine bargain.

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