REFERENCES


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DR. RICARDO ZARIQUIEY ALVAREZ
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BY

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On 27 January 1965 carcinology suffered a severe loss when Dr. Ricardo Zariquiey Alvarez passed away in Barcelona at the age of 68 years. Though a medical man by profession — Dr. Zariquiey was a well known pediatrician in Barcelona — he was one of the foremost specialists in decapod Crustacea in Europe and his knowledge of the Mediterranean species of this group was unsurpassed. Crustaceana was proud to have him on its board of advisory editors.

Dr. Ricardo Zariquiey Alvarez was born in Barcelona on 3 January 1897 and passed by far the larger part of his life in that city. He studied medicine at the University of Barcelona, obtaining his degree in 1918. He specialized in pediatrics and to that end followed courses in Paris and Lausanne. His interest in natural history at first concerned entomology. Together with his father, Dr. Ricardo Zariquiey Cenarro who also was a children's doctor, he intensively collected and studied Coleoptera, giving most of his attention to cavernicolous species. His original methods of collecting resulted in the discovery of a very great number of new and interesting forms from a large area in northern Spain. In a number of publications which appeared between 1917 and 1940 (but mostly between 1917 and 1927) he contributed considerably to the knowledge of Spanish Coleoptera and especially to that of the Bathysciinae.

Around 1934 his father, Dr. Zariquiey Cenarro, became interested in the decapod Crustacea of which he amassed an extensive collection and on which he published nine fundamental papers between 1935 and 1942.

After the death of his father in 1943, Dr. Zariquiey Alvarez in his turn became interested in Crustacea and concentrated upon the study of Decapoda, though in
1944 he still published a paper on the distribution of the dipteran genus *Phlebotomus* in Spain. When Dr. Zariquiey Alvarez took up the study of the Spanish Decapoda, he did this with all his energy and he used for it all the time that he could spare from his regular duties as a pediatrician. Each year he and his family spent the month of August at Cadaqués, a small town on the rocky Mediterranean coast of N. E. Spain, where he owned a property “Los Pinos” occupying a peninsula in the Bay of Cadaqués, on which he had built a bungalow to suit his own tastes. Here, during his August vacation and later also during weekends, he spent practically all of his time in collecting and studying the decapod Crustacea of the area. Around 7 o’clock in the morning he went out to the small village of Arenella close to his home, where the fishermen came to clean their nets. Each night these fishermen placed their gill-nets in depths between 5 and 40 m in or outside Cadaqués Bay, depending on the weather. In the early morning the nets were collected, and after the catch was handed to the women-folk to be sold, the men cleaned their nets and spread them out on the ground to dry. Crabs, hermit crabs, galatheids, etc. entangled in the meshes, shrimps that had come up with algae, in short anything that could be of interest to Dr. Zariquiey was either handed to him by these fishermen, or picked by himself from among the nets. To the fishermen, of whom Juan Fortuny and his son Ramón deserve special mention, Dr. Zariquiey always was a welcome guest, who took a great interest in their work and personal affairs; if during his absence they obtained anything that they thought to be of possible value to him, this was kept and brought to him at the earliest opportunity. After his visit to the fishermen, which could take some hours, Dr. Zariquiey returned home for breakfast and after that set out either to collect along the interesting rocky shore with its small sandy or pebbly beaches, or did some dredging in or outside the Bay of Cadaqués with a small, but most efficient dredge of his own design. His open motorboat, the “Cala Montjoy” enabled him to make more extensive trips and cover practically the whole of the coast between Port de la Selva in the north and the sandy shore of the Bay of Rosas in the south. A smaller rowing boat the “Sol-Lina” was used with an outboard motor for smaller trips in the bay and outside; lobsterpots and smaller traps were used to trap species that escaped the dredge. Also at night dredging was done and this often provided unexpectedly rich catches of species that were not caught in the daytime in exactly the same localities. Dr. Zariquiey’s intensive exploration of the area which he kept up for about 20 years, gave him an intimate knowledge of the decapod fauna of this part of the Mediterranean. By knowing the animals alive, he was often struck by differences between certain forms that had escaped the notice of zoologists dealing with preserved material, and a careful investigation of these various forms often made it possible for him to prove that more than one species was confused under a single name. Not satisfied with his own discoveries, he often sent his material to museum specialists to be checked, and on several occasions he invited some of these specialists to his home in Cadaqués or Barcelona. The initial scepticism of several specialists soon changed to acknowledgement of the correctness of