

LAZAR BOTOSENEANU
(1927–2012)



The colleagues of the “Emile Racovitza” Institute of Speleology deplore the death of the distinguished biologist Dr. Lazar Botoseneanu, passed away in full creativity at April 19, 2012.

The zoologist Lazar Botoseneanu was born on the 28th of May 1927 in Bucharest. He attained lectures at the Faculty of Biology of the Bucharest University between 1945 and 1949.

Some of the biologists belonging to his generation (S.N.) have known Lazar Botoseneanu starting with the period when he activated as assistant of Traian Orghidan – Professor of Hydrobiology at the Faculty of Biology of the University in Bucharest. Both of them (Orghidan and Botoseneanu) were disciples of Acad. Prof. Constantin Motaş, himself being instructed by Ion Borcea (University of Iasi) and by Louis Léger (Grenoble).

Many biographical aspects from the life of our colleague Lazar were already published by an other prominent Romanian zoologist – Acad. Petru Bănărescu

(2001) with the occasion of anniversary of Botosaneanu at 75 years. Here, we try to remember mostly what he represented for the biospeleological research.

He had a fruitful research activity in the “Emile Racovitza” Institute of speleology during 22 years, just from the beginning of its reorganization (1956) by Prof. C. Motaş. In fact, Lazar Botosaneanu was that who, in 1956, proposed to the other biologists from the “Emil Racovitza Institute (S. Negrea, A. Negrea) to reunite themselves in a research and exploratory frame – The “Banat team” – name given after one of the historical provinces of Romania – Banat, insufficient explored until then from speleological viewpoint, and remained “unclaimed” by other speleological teams which already started the extensive study of the caves from other karst regions of our country.

The “Banat team” had to study over 200 new caves (cartography, description, fauna collecting campaigns).



The “Banat team” together with Professor Constantin Motaş (in center) and his wife (center-left) on the Cozla Mountain (1958). From center to right: Alexandrina Negrea, Ştefan Negrea and Lazar Botosaneanu.

Some of us (S.N.) remember the exploratory campaigns carried out together with Botosaneanu (many of them building one month each) when the team members sheltered themselves in isolated cottages or hutments with clay-floor, worked and debated until late in night at the light of fire. Beside the hard work on

the field, Lazar did not hesitate to urge the fellows of expedition to visit all cultural objectives from the studied areas to “educate” themselves. Indeed, Lazar was a fine culture man and an artist. During the Second World War, when he was obliged to have the David Star on his coat, his artistic skills as bassoonist helped him to earn his money as player in the Romanian Radio Orchestra. In that period he lived in the building of the Faculty of Biology in Bucharest. After that, when the war had finished, Lazar together with professor T. Orghidan organized cultural evenings at the Speleological Institute in Bucharest, between the distinguished invited speakers being R. Drăghici, the former impresario of the great composer and vilonist George Enesco.



Cluj-Napoca, 6th October 1971. L. Botoseneanu (fifth to the right) together with speleologists from Romania and abroad at the Semicentenary of the “Emile Racovitza” Institute.

In 1978, because of a series of letters sent to the “Free Europe” broadcast, in which he criticized the anti-scientific politics of the Ceaușescu government, Lazar Botoseneanu was dismissed from institute, and together with his wife and daughters had to leave Romania.

From 1979 until 1992 Botoseneanu was curator at the Zoological Museum of the University of Amsterdam. Then he was honorary staff member of the Zoological Museum, member of the editorial and advisory board of *Hidrobiologia – Journal of Limnology*.

Later, after he was established in Amsterdam, he continued to keep touch with some of his colleagues and friends from Romania, many times helping them with drugs dispatched from Netherlands. He remained just to the end of his life fond by the Romanian landscapes and did not hesitate to declare this during his trips in Romania.



L. Botosaneanu together with S. Negrea enjoying the natural landscape at Slanic-Prahova (September, 1995)

He continued to collaborate with the researches of the “Emile Racovitza” Institute of Speleology until 2011, the last article, written with S. Negrea in 2010, being a remember of the fruitfully expeditions in Cuba (1969 and 1973) carried out with the participation of the great geographer and writer Antonio Nunez – at that time, the president of the Cuban Academy.



The “Banat team” reunited after years (1995 at Zamfira Monastery).
From right to left: S. Negrea, A. Negrea and L. Botoseneanu.

Lazar Botoseneanu was a reputable entomologist, specialist in Trichoptera, but also a prominent hydrobiologist, famous through his studies in crenobiology, efficient contributor of J. Ilies who classified the running waters of Eaters.

He also collected and identified fauna from various subterranean environments (hyporheic, MSS, etc.) and published his results in Romania and abroad. During his life, Lazar Botoseneanu described 300 new species of caddisfly from Europe, Near East, northern Asia and Caribbean Islands.

Dr. Botoseneanu also discovered and described many species of stygobitic Isopoda species from different geographic areas of the World.

His major contribution in Biospeleology, more precisely in the Stygobiology, was the editing, in 1998, the volume “Stygofauna Mundi” in which 65 famous specialists in zoology had written in 740 pages and 89 chapters about different groups of animals inhabiting in subterranean waters, Botoseneanu being author of 7 chapters.

Between 1985 and 1992, Dr. Botoseneanu has been co-editor (together with Prof. Jan H. Stock) of the journal “Stygobiologia”.

On 19th of April 2012 Lazar Botoseneanu passed away after he suffered a surgical intervention.

In memoriam of our great colleague and friend, we added above some significant pictures from different moments of his activity in our Institute.

PUBLICATIONS OF LAZAR BOTOSENEANU (2001–2010)

The complete list of publications (279 titles) of L. Botoseneanu since 1948 until 2001 was presented by P. Banarescu in 2001 “Lazare Botoseneanu at 75 years” *Travaux du Muséum National d’Histoire Naturelle «Grigore Antipa»*, 43, 437-456. Here we present the list of his publications from the last part of his life and not included in the former list.

2001

Botoseneanu, L., Morphological rudimentation and novelties in stygobitic Cirolanidae (Isopoda: Cymothoidea). *Vie et milieu (Life and Environment)*, 51(1): 37–54, 2001.

Botoseneanu, L., *Sericostoma flavicorne* Schneider, 1845 and *Sericostoma schneideri* Kolenati, 1848: two distinct species in *Sericostoma* Latreille, 1825 (Insecta: Trichoptera: Sericostomatidae) and the correct use of their names. *Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France* 106(5): 518–520, 2001.

Botoseneanu, L., Cayman Islands; Turks and Caicos Islands; some Leeward and Windward Islands; Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuelan Islands. *Encyclopedia Biospeologica*, 3, 1387–1395, 2001.

Botoseneanu, L., Giudicelli, J., *Wormlandia langohri* spec. nov. from temporary streams of southeastern France (Trichoptera: Philopotamidae). *Opuscul. Zool. Fulmin.*, 190: 1–5, 2001.

Botoseneanu, L., Gonzalez, M.A., Sur la variabilité de deux espèces oust-paléarctiques de *Tinodes* Curtis (Trichoptera, Psychomyiidae). *Beaufortia – Bull. Zool. Mus. Amsterdam*, 51(13): 221–225, 2001.

2002

Botoseneanu, L., A classical case of insular radiation: the *Hydroptila* species of La Reunion. *Nova Suppl. Ent.*, 15, 323–330, 2002.

Botoseneanu, L., An annotated checklist of caddisflies from the Caribbean Islands, with distribution and biogeography (Insecta, Trichoptera). *Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France*, 107(1): 79–108, 2002.

Botoseneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., Notes on the intraspecific variability of *Cirolanides texensis* Benedict, 1896 (Isopoda: Cirolanidae) from Texas and Mexico. Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie, 72: 85–89, 2002.

Botoseneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., Stygobitic isopod crustaceans, already described or new, from Bermuda, the Bahamas and Mexico. Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie, 72: 73–83, 2002.

Botoseneanu, L., Vilorica, A.L., The caddisfly (Insecta, Trichoptera) of Isla de Mararita (Venezuela) – with description of two new species. Deutsches Ent. Zeitschrift, 49(1): 105–111, 2002.

2003

Botoseneanu, L., Notes sur quelques Hydroptilidae des îles Canaries (Trichoptera). Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 108(1):107, 2003.

Botoseneanu, L., New stygobiotic isopods (Isopoda, Cirolanidae, Anthuridae) from caves in Sulawesi, Indonesia. Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie, 73: 91–105, 2003.

Botoseneanu, L., Andersen, T., A caddisfly from Madagascar subfossil resin (copal) (Trichoptera, Leptoceridae). Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 108(4): 405–407, 2003.

Botoseneanu, L., Dumont, B., Une nouvelle espèce de *Metanoea* McLachlan des Préalpes du Vercors (Trichoptera, Limnephilidae). Bulletin de la Société entomologique de France, 108(3): 236, 2003.

Botoseneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., A new genus of stygobitic / troglomorphic Cirolanid (Isopoda: Cirolanidae) from a “blue hole” cave in the Bahamas. Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie, 73: 81–90, 2003.

Botoseneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., A new species of the stygobitic Cirolanid genus *Bahalana* from the Caicos Islands in the Caribbean (Isopoda: Cirolanidae). Travaux du Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle «Grigore Antipa», 45: 83–93, 2003.

2004

Botoseneanu, L., *Plectrocnemia brevis*, a caddisfly species (Trichoptera) new for the fauna of The Netherlands. Entomologische Berichten Amsterdam, 64(3): 97–98, 2004.

Botosaneanu, L., Western Palaearctic trichopterological miscellanea (Insecta: Trichoptera). Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie, 46: 161–179, 2004.

Botosaneanu, L., Giudicelli, J., Discovery in the Alps of Provence (France) of a new taxon in the entirely parthenogenetic superspecies *Apatania muliebris* (Trichoptera: Apataniidae). Rev. Suisse Zool., 111(4): 707–713, 2004.

Botosaneanu, L., Giudicelli, J., Contributions to the knowledge of the fauna of caddisflies (Insecta: Trichoptera) from south-east France, with description of new taxa. Journal of Limnology, 40(1): 15–32, 2004.

Botosaneanu, L., Vos, R. de, Two new species of *Anisocentropus* McLachlan, 1863 from Indonesian New Guinea (Papua) (Trichoptera: Calamoceratidae), and a contribution to the knowledge of a third one. Bulletin van het Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut van Natuurwetenschappen, 74: 5–9, 2004.

2005

Botosaneanu, L., Interesting Trichoptera from The Netherlands in the collection of the Zoological Museum Amsterdam. Entomologische Berichten Amsterdam, 65(1), 17–20, 2005.

Botosaneanu, L., Book review “G.B. Wiggins – Caddisflies – The underwater architects” Braueria (Lunz am See), 32, 12, 2005.

Botosaneanu, L., Thomas, A., Nouvelles contributions à la connaissance des Trichoptères de Martinique, avec description de deux espèces nouvelles (Trichoptera). Ephemera, 6(1): 33–58, 2005.

2006

Botosaneanu, L., Gonzalez, M.A., Un difficile problème de taxonomie: les *Micrasema* (Trichoptera: Brachycentridae) des eaux courantes de la Péninsule Ibérique et des Pyrénées. Annales de la Société Entomologique de France, 42(1): 119–127, 2006.

Botosaneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., A new species of stygobitic Cirolanid (Isopoda: Cirolanidae) from an anchialine cave on Abaco, the Bahamas. Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie, 76: 27–31, 2006.

Botosaneanu, L., Vos, R. de, A conspicuous new caddisfly species (Trichoptera: Philopotamidae) from Papua (Indonesian New Guinea). *Bulletin van het Koninklijk Belgisch Instituut van Natuurwetenschappen*, 76: 135–140, 2006.

Ilfte, Th.M., Botosaneanu, L., The remarkable diversity of subterranean Cirolanidae (Crustacea: Isopoda) in the peri-Caribbean and Mexican Realm. *Bulletin de l'Institut Royal des Sciences Naturelles de Belgique, Biologie*, 76: 5–26, 2006.

2007

Botosaneanu, L., Turks and Caicos Islands; Saint-Vincent; Barbados; Trinidad and Tobago; The Venezuelan Islands: Cayman Islands. *Enciclopedia Biospeologica*, 1A, 267–273, 2007.

Botosaneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., Discovery of a third stygobitic species of Gnathostenetroididae (Isopoda, Asellota), and additional information on some other stygobitic isopods (Cirolanidae) from the Caribbean. *Subterranean Biology*, 5:15–22, 2007.

Botosaneanu, L., Juberthie, C., Antigua, Bermuda. *Enciclopedia Biospeologica*, 1A, 135–137, 2007.

Botosaneanu, L., Juberthie, C., Republique Dominicaine. *Enciclopedia Biospeologica*, 1A, 191–197, 2007.

Botosaneanu, L., Strinati, P., Netherlands Antilles Leeward Group: Aruba, Bonaire, Curaçao. *Enciclopedia Biospeologica*, 1A, 243–248, 2007.

Bakalowicz, M., Botosaneanu, L. Haiti. *Encyclopedia Biospeologica*, 1A, 217–223, 2007.

Juberthie, C., Botosaneanu, L., Anguilla, *Enciclopedia Biospeologica*, 1 A, 131–134, 2007.

2008

Botosaneanu, L., A new species of *Cyathura* (sg. *Stygocyathura*) from a Mexican cave, with notes on *C. (S.) sbordonii* Argano, 1971 (Isopoda: Anthuridea), *Subterranean Biology*, 6: 17–21, 2008.

2009

Botosaneanu, L., A contribution to the knowledge of the caddisfly fauna of New Guinea (Trichoptera). *Ephemera*, 10: 81–95, 2009.

Bálint, M., Botosaneanu, L., Ujvárosi, L., Popescu, O., Taxonomic revision of *Rhyacophila aquitanica* (Trichoptera> Rhyacophilidae), based on molecular and morphological evidence and change of taxon status of *Rhyacophila aquitanica* ssp. *carpathica* to *Rhyacophila carpathica* stat. n. *Zootaxa*, 2148: 39–48, 2009.

2010

Botosaneanu, L., Iliffe, Th.M., *Arubolana* Botosaneanu and Stock, 1979: a genus of stygobitic Cirolanid isopods, with description of a new species from the Dominican Republic. *Subterranean Biology*, 7(2009):47–54. 2010.

Botosaneanu, L., Negrea, S., A contribution to the history of biospeleology: unpublished notes and documents concerning the initiation of the Cubano-Romanian biospeleological expeditions to Cuba (1969, 1973). *Travaux de l'Institut de Spéologie «Emile Racovitza»*, XLIX: 189–197, 2010.

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