8. Miller and other European mammalogists contributions a century ago

B. Krystufek & E. Buzan

In 2012 the European community of mammalogy will commemorate the centennial of Miller's Catalogue of the Mammals of Western Europe. This work, more than any other single contribution to European mammalogy, influenced the taxonomy and nomenclature and ensured further progress. Nowadays we recognize about 200 species of mammals in Europe west of Russia, the number most similar to the one proposed by Miller. Regardless of this similarity, taxonomic lists separated by a century of research show great disparities in their contents. How did concepts and operational criteria applied in delimitation of species reflected in our perception of the mammalian species richness through time? Which morphological, genetic, and distributional boundaries of species still remain open for future research? And finally, who were man and women who preceded Miller on the one hand and followed his work on the other, therefore ensuring smooth continuity?