

## OBITUARY

## Prof. Josef Rusek (1938–2022)

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Professor Josef Rusek, soil zoologist, ecologist, apterygotologist and university lecturer, died on January 13, 2022, aged 83 years. He has indelibly inscribed himself in the memory of many Czech and international zoologists and entomologists, particularly those specialised in soil zoology, but also more broadly oriented soil biologists and ecologists. His studies of soil invertebrates, especially Collembola, Diplura and Protura, and also the results of his research in soil biology and ecology, soil microstructure and the processes of formation and classification of humus forms, are known not only in the Czech Republic but also abroad.

Josef Rusek was born on 18 July 1938 in Petrovice near Karviná, the Ostrava region. After graduating from high school in Bohumín, he started his studies of biology and chemistry at the Faculty of Science of the Jan Evangelista Purkyně University (now the Masaryk University) in Brno, where he specialized in zoology. He had been interested in nature since his childhood, so his university studies were a logical continuation of his interests. He grew up under the leadership of Professor Sergei Hrabě (specialist in small oligochaete worms), in the team of several other zoologists and botanists, who represented lately a significant generation in Czech science and university education. His interest in the so-called primitive groups of insects (Apterygota) led him to Professor Karel Absolon (famous palaeontologist, speleologist and biospeleologist), and resulted in a whole-life study of springtails and some other groups of soil invertebrates.

In 1963 he started his postgraduate studies at the Institute of Entomology of the Czechoslovak Academy

of Sciences in Prague, where he completed an ecological-taxonomic study of larvae and adults of elaterid beetles. Simultaneously he continued his studies on springtails and other groups of soil fauna. Gradually, he began to pay attention to the issues of interrelationships between organisms and the environment, soil biology and ecology. In ecological studies, he also used hitherto non-traditional methods enabling the evaluation of micromorphological parameters of soil materials or the soil-forming activities of the soil dwelling fauna. An important milestone for him was a scholarship for a stay



Figure 1. Josef Rusek (2018). Photo: archive of the Institute of Soil Biology.

in Canada and repeated internships in Cuba. At that time he had become an internationally recognized expert in the study of springtails, proturans and various aspects of soil ecology.

In 1979, he moved from Prague to the Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in České Budějovice, where he was given the opportunity to build up an independent soil biological research unit. His efforts were completed in 1986, when the originally Laboratory, later the Department of Soil Biology, became the independent Institute of Soil Biology. Thanks to him, this workplace gradually became an internationally recognized centre of soil-biological research. As the director of this institute, he actively worked until 1998.

He founded the tradition of soil zoological meetings, which were held in České Budějovice under the name 'Central European Workshop on Soil Zoology'. In 2000 he was responsible for organising and hosting the XIIIth International Colloquium on Soil Zoology together with Xth International Colloquium on Apterygota. During his scientific career, he has actively participated in a number of soil zoological meetings, conferences and congresses. He collaborated with many scientists from all over the world and had a long friendship with many of them.

An important part of his scientific work represented the description of new genera and species of springtails, proturans and diplurans. In a part of his studies, he dealt with the influence of soil fauna on soil properties, aspects related to biological activity of soils and the possibilities of their use in the ecological assessment of soil condition and degradation. His studies related to soil and humus micromorphology are also well known. He also did not forget to publish and comment on the results of research and new findings in popular science Czech magazines.

In addition to his scientific career, he was active as a university teacher at the universities of Olomouc, Brno, Vienna and České Budějovice. He was an active member of several scientific societies and boards of scientific and popular journals.

His large collection of microscopic specimens of studied groups of soil invertebrates, including type material is stored at the Institute of Soil Biology of the Biology Centre CAS in České Budějovice. An important part of the collection consists of series of microscopic specimens from extensive ecological studies. His collection also hosts identified material of springtails from ecological studies stored in alcohol, all with potential for future taxonomic, morphological and/or ecological studies.



**Figure 2.** Historical leading personalities of Apterygotology: from left prof. Wolfram Dunger (State Museum of Natural History Görlitz, Germany), prof. Josef Rusek and prof. Andrzej Szeptycki (Institute of Systematics and Evolution of Animals PAS Kraków, Poland), during the farewell dinner, August 24, 2000; X. International Colloquium on Apterygota, August 21–24, 2000, České Budějovice. Photo: Archive of the Institute of Soil Biology.

## Contribution of Josef Rusek to the taxonomy of soil invertebrates

In the course of his taxonomic research, Josef Rusek discovered and newly described 34 taxa of Protura (5 genera and 29 species), 11 taxa of Diplura (one genus and 10 species) and 135 taxa of Collembola (21 genera and 114 species). The following list presents the taxa described by Josef Rusek including their valid taxonomic position.

### Order Protura

#### Genera:

*Filientomon* Rusek, 1974  
*Imadateiella* Rusek, 1974  
*Nosekiella* Rusek, 1974  
*Verrucoentomon* Rusek, 1974  
*Vesiculentomon* Rusek, 1974

#### Species:

*Acerentomon aceris* Rusek, 1965  
*Acerentomon fageticola* Rusek, 1966  
*Acerentomon hylophilum* Rusek, 1966  
*Acerentomon novaki* Rusek, 1965  
*Acerentomon skuhravyi* Rusek, 1965  
*Acerentulus apuliacus* Rusek & Stumpp, 1988  
*Acerentulus ochsenhausenus* Rusek, 1988  
*Acerentulus terricola* Rusek, 1965  
*Acerentulus tuxeni* Rusek, 1966  
*Eosentomon bohemicum* Rusek, 1966  
*Eosentomon fichteliense* Rusek, 1988  
*Eosentomon foliaceum* Rusek, 1988  
*Eosentomon funkei* Rusek, 1988  
*Eosentomon kamenickiense* Rusek, 1974  
*Eosentomon pratense* Rusek, 1973  
*Eosentomon stachi* Rusek, 1966  
*Eosentomon stumppi* Rusek, 1988  
*Ionescuellum silvaticum* (Rusek, 1965) junior syn. of  
*Hesperentomon silvaticum* Rusek, 1965  
*Ionescuellum ulmiacum* Rusek & Stumpp, 1989  
*Nipponentomon bifidum* Rusek, 1974  
*Nipponentomon kevani* Rusek, 1974  
*Proturentomon noseki* Rusek, 1975  
*Proturentomon pilosum* Rusek, 1975  
*Sugaentulus andrzeji* Shrubovych & Rusek, 2010  
*Vesiculentomon marshalli* Rusek, 1974  
*Yavanna babenkoi* Shrubovych &  
 Rusek & Bernard, 2012  
*Yavanna baikalica* Shrubovych &  
 Rusek & Bernard, 2012  
*Yavanna chimitovae* Shrubovych &  
 Rusek & Bernard, 2012

*Yavanna stebaevae* Shrubovych &  
 Rusek & Bernard, 2012

### Order Diplura

#### Genus:

*Octostigma* Rusek, 1982

#### Species:

*Campodea (Dicampa) caucasica* Rusek, 1965  
*Campodea (Dicampa) condei* Rusek, 1965  
*Campodea (Dicampa) crimeaensis* Rusek, 1965  
*Campodea (Dicampa) chionea* Rusek, 1966  
*Campodea (Campodea) donensis* Rusek, 1965  
*Campodea (Campodea) ghilarovi* Rusek, 1965  
*Campodea (Campodea) kasiki* Rusek, 1964  
*Campodea wygodzinskii* Rusek, 1966  
*Octostigma herbivora* Rusek, 1982  
*Plusiocampa rauseri* Rusek, 1965 junior syn. of  
*Plusiocampa (Stygiocampa) bureschi* Silvestri, 1931

### Order Collembola

#### Genera:

*Bathytterra* Rusek, 1996 junior syn. of *Mucrosomia*  
 Bagnall, 1949  
*Blissia* Rusek, 1985  
*Chaetophorura* Rusek, 1976 junior syn. of *Tullbergia*,  
 Lubbock, 1876  
*Chinogastrura* Rusek, 1967 junior syn. of  
*Ceratophysella* Börner in Brohmer, 1932  
*Doutnacia* Rusek, 1974  
*Fissuraphorura* Rusek, 1991  
*Granuliphorura* Rusek, 1976 junior syn. of  
*Tullbergia*, Lubbock, 1876  
*Jesenikia* Rusek, 1997  
*Jevania* Rusek, 1978  
*Karlstejnina* Rusek, 1974  
*Lanzhotia* Rusek, 1985  
*Marcuzziella* Rusek, 1975  
*Multivesicula* Rusek, 1982  
*Pongeiella* Rusek, 1991  
*Pratanurida* Rusek, 1973  
*Rotundiphorura* Rusek, 1991  
*Sensiphorura* Rusek, 1976  
*Sibirisotoma* Rusek, 1991 junior syn. of  
*Heteroisotoma* Stach, 1947  
*Tasphorura* Greenslade & Rusek, 1996  
*Tiancanthella* Rusek, 1979  
*Wankeliella* Rusek, 1975

## Species:

- Allonychiurus shanghaiensis* (Rusek, 1971) =  
*Onychiurus shanghaiensis* Rusek, 1971  
*Anurida balatovae* Rusek, 1970  
*Appendisotoma absoloni* (Rusek, 1966) =  
*Proisotoma absoloni* Rusek, 1966  
*Arrhopalites pseudoappendices* Rusek, 1967 =  
*Pygmarrhopalites pseudoappendices* (Rusek, 1967)  
*Arrhopalites spinosus* Rusek, 1967 =  
*Pygmarrhopalites spinosus* (Rusek, 1967)  
*Arrhopalites ulehlovae* Rusek, 1970  
*Bathytterra bipartita* Rusek, 1996 =  
*Mucrosomia bipartita* (Rusek, 1996)  
*Blissia glabra* Rusek, 1985  
*Ceratophysella silvatica* Rusek, 1964  
*Chaetophorura vancouverica* Rusek, 1976  
*Chinogastrura punctata* Rusek, 1967 junior syn. of  
*Ceratophysella duplicispinosa* (Yosii, 1954)  
*Coloburella cassagnai* Rusek, 1972  
*Cyphoderus hrđyi* Rusek, 1971  
*Cyphoderus komareki* Rusek, 1961  
*Cyphoderus monopterus* Rusek, 1981  
*Deuteraphorura jitkae* (Rusek, 1964) =  
*Onychiurus jitkae* Rusek, 1964  
*Doutnacia xerophila* Rusek, 1974  
*Drepanura pallens* Rusek, 1981  
*Entomobrya mesopotamica* Rusek, 1971  
*Fissuraphorura cubanica* Rusek, 1991  
*Fissuraphorura deharvengi* Rusek, 1991  
*Folsomia hrabei* Rusek, 1984  
*Folsomia lawrencei* Rusek, 1984 junior syn. of  
*Folsomia listeri* Bagnall, 1939  
*Folsomia monosetosa* Rusek, 1966 junior syn. of  
*Folsomia quadrioculata* (Tullberg, 1871)  
*Friesea massoudi* Rusek, 1973  
*Friesea truncatopilosa* Rusek, 1971  
*Grananurida baicalica* Rusek, 1991  
*Granuliphorura obtusochaeta* Rusek, 1976 =  
*Tullbergia obtusochaeta* (Rusek, 1976)  
*Hypogastrura verruculata* Rusek, 1967  
*Isotomiella gracilimicronata* Rusek, 1981  
*Isotomurus beskidensis* Rusek, 1963  
*Isotomurus quadrisetosus* Rusek, 1971  
*Jesenikia filifornis* Rusek, 1997  
*Jevania fageticola* Rusek, 1978  
*Jevania weinerae* Rusek, 1978  
*Karlstejnina annae* Rusek, 1974  
*Karlstejnina montana* Rusek, 1978  
*Karlstejnina sibirica* Rusek, 1978  
*Lanzhotia brachycera* Rusek, 1985  
*Lepidocyrtus sibiricus* Rusek, 1985  
*Lepidocyrtus szeptyckii* Rusek, 1985  
*Lepidocyrtus uzeli* Rusek, 1985  
*Marcuzziella tripartita* Rusek, 1975  
*Mesaphorura atlantica* Rusek, 1979  
*Mesaphorura betschi* Rusek, 1979  
*Mesaphorura hygrophila* (Rusek, 1971) =  
*Tullbergia (Mesaphorura) hygrophila* Rusek, 1971  
*Mesaphorura hylophila* Rusek, 1982  
*Mesaphorura italica* (Rusek, 1971) =  
*Tullbergia (Mesaphorura) italica* Rusek, 1971  
*Mesaphorura jarmilae* Rusek, 1982  
*Mesaphorura jevanica* Rusek, 1996  
*Mesaphorura jirii* Rusek, 1982  
*Mesaphorura macrochaeta* Rusek, 1976  
*Mesaphorura massoudi* Rusek, 1979  
*Mesaphorura pacifica* Rusek, 1976  
*Mesaphorura pongei* Rusek, 1982  
*Mesaphorura rudolphi* Rusek, 1986  
*Mesaphorura sensibilis* Rusek, 1973  
*Mesaphorura sylvatica* (Rusek, 1971) =  
*Tullbergia (Mesaphorura) sylvatica* Rusek, 1971  
*Mesaphorura tenuisensillata* Rusek, 1974  
*Mesaphorura yosii* (Rusek, 1967) =  
*Tullbergia (Mesaphorura) yosii* Rusek, 1967  
*Micranurida hygrophila* Rusek, 1973  
*Multivesicula columbica* Rusek, 1982  
*Multivesicula dolomitica* Rusek, 1982  
*Multivesicula giljarovi* Rusek, 1982  
*Multivesicula punctata* Rusek, 1982  
*Neanura pseudoparva* Rusek, 1963  
*Neonaphorura moravica* (Rusek, 1966) =  
*Tullbergia (Neonaphorura) moravica* Rusek, 1966  
*Onychiuroides hrabei* (Rusek, 1963) =  
*Onychiurus hrabei* Rusek, 1963  
*Onychiuroides quadripapillatus* (Rusek, 1965) =  
*Onychiurus quadripapillatus* Rusek, 1965  
*Onychiurus arvensis* Rusek, 1979 junior syn. of  
*Onychiurus rectospinatus* Stach, 1922  
*Paleonura angustior* (Rusek, 1971) =  
*Neanura angustior* Rusek, 1971  
*Parisotoma greensladeae* (Rusek, 1984) =  
*Isotoma greensladeae* Rusek, 1984  
*Paristoma reducta* (Rusek, 1984) =  
*Istoma reducta* Rusek, 1984  
*Parisotoma terricola* (Rusek, 1984) =  
*Isotoma terricola* Rusek, 1984  
*Plutomurus carpaticus* Rusek & Weiner, 1978  
*Pongeiella falca* subsp. *europa* Rusek, 1991  
*Pratanurida cassagnai* Rusek, 1973  
*Proisotoma fraterna* Rusek, 1967  
*Protaphorura unari* Rusek, 1995  
*Pseudachorutes columbicus* Rusek, 1991  
*Pseudachorutes pratensis* Rusek, 1973  
*Pseudachorutes sibiricus* Rusek, 1991  
*Pseudosinella absoloni* Rusek, 1967

*Pseudosinella baghdadica* Rusek, 1981  
*Pseudosinella bohémica* Rusek, 1979  
*Pseudosinella hercynica* Rusek, 1979  
*Pseudosinella horaki* Rusek, 1985  
*Pseudosinella hrabei* Rusek, 1979  
*Pseudosinella marcuzzii* Rusek, 1985  
*Pseudosinella noseki* Rusek, 1985  
*Pseudosinella paclti* Rusek, 1961  
*Pseudosinella staryi* Rusek, 1981  
*Pseudosinella tridentifera* Rusek, 1971  
*Rotundiphorura habanica* Rusek, 1991  
*Seira tigrídica* Rusek, 1981  
*Sensillonychiurus eisi* (Rusek, 1976) =  
*Onychiurus eisi* Rusek, 1976  
*Sensiphorura marshalli* Rusek, 1976  
*Heteroisotoma stebajevae* (Rusek, 1991) =  
*Sibirisotoma stebajevae* Rusek, 1991  
*Sminthurinus cantonensis* Rusek, 1971  
*Sminthurinus carpathicus* Rusek, 1966 junior syn. of  
*Sminthurinus gisini* Gama, 1965  
*Sminthurus bulgaricus* Rusek, 1965 junior syn. of  
*Sminthurus flaviceps* (Tullberg, 1871)  
*Sphaeridia asiatica* Rusek, 1971  
*Superodontella delamarei* (Rusek, 1991) =  
*Odontella (Superodontella) delamarei* Rusek, 1991  
*Tantulonychiurus foliatus* (Rusek, 1967) =  
*Onychiurus foliatus* Rusek, 1967  
*Tasphorura vesiculata* Greenslade & Rusek, 1996  
*Tetracanthella gruiæ* Rusek, 1979  
*Tetracanthella pacifica* Rusek & Marshall, 1977  
*Thalassaphorura petaloides* (Rusek, 1981) =  
*Onychiurus petaloides* Rusek, 1981  
*Tiancanthella martynovæ* Rusek, 1979  
*Tullbergia harti* (Rusek, 1991) =  
*Mulivesicula harti* Rusek, 1991  
*Vitronura latior* (Rusek, 1967) =  
*Neanura latior* Rusek, 1967  
*Wankeliella mediochaeta* Rusek, 1975  
*Wankeliella peterseni* Rusek, 1975  
*Wankeliella pongei* Rusek, 1978

### Order Coleoptera

Species:

*Dryops rudolfi* Rusek, 1973 junior syn. of  
*Dryops auriculatus* (Geoffroy, 1785)

### Contributions to the taxonomy of soil invertebrates in honour of Josef Rusek

His contribution to the taxonomy of Protura, Diplura and Collembola was honoured by a number of authors, and four species of Protura, one species of Diplura and two genera and five species of Collembola were named after him.

### Order Protura

Species:

*Acerentulus ruseki* Nosek, 1967  
*Amphientulus ruseki* (Nosek, 1978)  
*Eosentomon rusekianum* Stumpp & Szeptycki, 1989  
*Nosekientomon ruseki* (Nosek, 1977)

### Order Diplura

Species:

*Campodea (Paurocampa) ruseki* Conde, 1966

### Order Collembola

Genera:

*Rusekella* Deharveng, 1982  
*Rusekianna* Betsch 1977

Species:

*Desoria ruseki* (Fjellberg, 1979)  
*Karlstejnina rusekiana* Weiner, 1983  
*Mesaphorura ruseki* (Christiansen & Bellinger, 1980)  
*Pygmarrhopalites ruseki* (Nosek, 1975)  
*Stachorutes ruseki* Kováč, 1999

### Publication list of Josef Rusek

The following publication list involves scientific and main popularising papers published by Josef Rusek. Beside them, his complete bibliography involves also a row of abstracts and other short communications, as well as reports mostly in Czech (e.g. in newspapers) related to soil and plant protection and other aspects of soil biology and ecology.

Brůhová, J. & J. Rusek (2005): Epigeic activity of eight common Collembola species in spruce forests and clearings after bark beetle outbreaks in the Šumava National Park, Czech Republic. – In: Tajovský, K., J. Schlaghamerský &

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