are described, involving cropping systems such as cotton, citrus, greenhouse vegetables and potato seed production. I found it amazing how the paradigm of IPM can even be applied to manage alien invasive species and insect vectors.

The book ends by discussing some of the problems of adopting IPM in developing countries and the importance of private-sector roles in advancing its acceptance. Finally, we are left with the insights that, first, the success of IPM depends on many ecological factors, the transfer of technology and the collaboration of many people, and second, that ultimately its worldwide adoption begins at home.

Although it is clearly an academic text, this book might be aimed a little high if one was to consider using it as a university textbook for undergraduates, simply because too many inter-related and auxiliary topics and disciplines are discussed, which may distract novices from the essential concept of IPM. Some of the chapters about cropping systems do not discuss all of the aspects of IPM within those crops, which may mislead students into thinking that that is all there is to IPM programmes in those systems. A richer grasp of IPM and its implementation in an African context would have added value to the book, considering that subsistence farming has always been of importance on this continent. That said however, this vade mecum of IPM would be an ideal constituent of any academic library.

T. Goble
Department of Zoology and Entomology
Rhodes University
Grahamstown 6140
E-mail: G04g4915@campus.ru.ac.za


Bigger and better: the second volume of the UAE Insect Project’s Arthropod Fauna of the United Arab Emirates is slightly bigger than the first, and is even more lavishly illustrated. This is no small feat because the first volume set a very high standard for both science and publication. Printed on fine, high-quality paper with hundreds of half-page colour photographs, the series aims to be a complete inventory of the non-marine arthropods of the country. Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Tahaib Bin Zayed Al Nahyan and the leadership of the editor (who is co-author of several chapters in the latest volume), this project involves over 160 scientists from 27 countries, including South Africa. It has been commended by Edward O. Wilson for its significance and scope.

The text is written in direct, economical language that is informative and detailed, and the margins are kept to a minimum to accommodate it all. A very brief introductory overview includes a revised gazetteer because the project’s surveys continued after the publication of Volume 1 and included some new sites. The 41 chapters are all taxonomic because most of the collecting sites were described, discussed and illustrated in the first volume. Each chapter includes a summary of the global diversity of the taxon, an account of previous records from the Arabian Peninsula, and a description of the inventory material and its repository. A few chapters include identification keys, and more of these would be an invaluable extension to the scope of the books. As in Volume 1, new taxa and other nomenclatural acts are summarized at the end of the book. The work concludes with an 11-page zoological index.

This volume extends the UAE’s catalogue of arthropods from 1400 species to 1790 species, and describes 83 new species, four new genera and even a new tribe. The chapters include about two arachnid taxa (pseudoscorpions and cunaxid mites), and cover a total of 63 families, 26 of them previously not recorded from the country. Three chapters deal with entomobryomorph springtails, earwigs and barklice, respectively, and the rest are focused on families in the ‘megadiverse’ orders Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera and Diptera.

Two contributions stand out for me. The first is the superb, high-resolution, deep-focus, colour photographs that Cees Gielis and James Turner again provided. In particular, the chapter on noctuid moths contains over 200 such images of painstakingly prepared adult moths, and greatly facilitates their identification. Because a significant number of the species are crop pests in many countries besides the UAE, this chapter will be invaluable to entomologists involved in agriculture and biosecurity.