Tortricidae of the Palaearctic Region. Volume 1. General Part and Tortricini. Józef Razowski. 2008. 30 × 21.5 cm, hardcover, 152 pp. 8 color plates of adults, 26 plates of genitalia drawings. Published by Frantisek Slamka, Bratislava, Slovakia (e-mail: f.slamka@nextra.sk.) US$110; €70. ISBN 978-80-969052-4-9.

As the author (or co-author) of nearly 1,500 species and 260 genera of tortricid moths, Józef Razowski is far and away the most prolific worker in Tortricidae in the modern era. His contributions to our knowledge of the diversity and systematics of leaf-roller moths over the past 40 years rivals the prodigious taxonomic accomplishments of Meyrick and Walsingham in the first part of the 20th century. Razowski’s documentation through descriptions of the vast diversity of the Neotropics represents a significant antidote to the “taxonomic impediment.” Over the last decade or so there has been a noticeable shift in his work, not in its focus, but in the preponderance of co-authored papers (e.g., Razowski & Becker 2007a, b; Razowski & Brown 2004, 2005; Razowski & Pelz 2004a, b, c, 2005a, b, c, 2006a, b, 2007a, b, c; Razowski & Wojtusiak 2002, 2004a, b, 2006a, b), as he has shared generously his expertise with an array of co-workers. He also has produced a variety of more “synthetic” or popular treatments, starting with “Die Tortriciden (Lepidoptera, Tortricidae) Mitteleuropas” (Razowski 2001). His most recent book, Palaearctic Tortricidae, volume 1, the subject of this review, continues along these lines.

This book is the first in a proposed six-part series that will treat the leaf-rollers of the entire Palaearctic, an area that stretches from Sweden to northern Africa, from Siberia to southern China, and from the Atlantic to the Pacific. This vast area may support 25–30% of the world fauna of Tortricidae, which totals just over 9,100 described species (Brown 2005).

The book has two main sections: “General Part” and “Systematic Part.” The General Part includes Introduction, Historical Review, Morphology, Biology, Economic Importance, Faunistics, Distribution and Zoogeography, The Non-Palaearctic Tribes, and Phylogeny and System. For me, highlights of the General Part include (1) the collection of photographs or drawings (i.e., portraits) of systematists (from C. Linnaeus to I. Common) whose works have had a significant impact on the study of Tortricidae, accompanied by very brief biographic sketches; (2) an extremely thorough review of the morphology of adults and larvae, generously illustrated with drawings, photographs, and scanning electron micrographs; and (3) a brief overview of pest species. [The last obviously reflects my bias as an agricultural entomologist, and others may find this section less interesting.] A classification is proposed, consistent with the general consensus that has emerged over the last decade or so, and there is a list of all known family-level taxa.

The Systematic Part of the volume, the bulk of the book, is devoted to Tortricini, but it also includes a summary of features that define the subfamily Tortricinae. For each of the 164 treated species there is a reference to the original description, including type locality and deposition of the type; a diagnosis; a description, including details of wing pattern and genitalia; notes on early stages; a short section on biology; and distribution, providing the geographic range and zoogeographic affinity. For species represent-