

Chapter 11

A New Milestone for the Development of Chinese Entomology: XIX International Congress of Entomology, Beijing, 28 June–4 July 1992

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Modern entomology was introduced into China about 100 years ago. Entomological research in China focused on morphology, systematics, ecology, and pest management before the 1970s. Since 1978, almost all disciplines of insect science have undergone rapid development in China. With the joint efforts of international and Chinese entomologists, the XIX International Congress of Entomology was successfully held in Beijing from June 28 to July 4, 1992. Holding the congress in Beijing greatly promoted the development of entomology in China. It was a memorable event for the entire Chinese entomological research community and for entomologists worldwide; and it still has significant impacts.

The Application for Hosting the 1992 ICE

In the 1980s, entomological research in China had entered its blooming stage. As one of the largest entomological societies in the world, the Entomological Society of China (ESC) had more than 8,000 registered members and 25 branches. Even though a few Chinese entomologists have had the chance to share their knowledge and research at previous ICE congresses and other international conferences, more opportunities needed to be made to bring Chinese entomologists into closer touch with their peers from other countries.

The idea of hosting XIX ICE in China occurred to Chinese entomologist Li-Ying Li (see Fig. 11.1b, 1c) after she was elected to the ICE Council at the Hamburg congress in 1984 (Chapter 9). Her idea was then brought up to the Standing Committee of the ESC and received wide support from the committee. Thus, at XVIII ICE in Vancouver in 1988 (Chapter 10), on behalf of the ESC, Hong-Fu Chu (president of the ESC, and author of *How to Know the Immature Insects* [Chu 1949]) formally submitted the application for hosting the next congress in China to the Council. The application was accepted, and the decision to host the XIX ICE in Beijing in 1992 was announced at the closing ceremony of the Vancouver congress (Liu 1992).