

## ESTONIAN NATURALISTS' SOCIETY

OIVE TINN, IVAR OJASTE

Associated with the Estonian Academy of Sciences 23.01.1998

Founded 1853

Membership: 14 honorary members, 760 active members, 631 trustees.

Subunits: 22

Location: Struve 2, 51003 Tartu, ESTONIA

Address: PO 43, 50001 Tartu, ESTONIA, [elus@elus.ee](mailto:elus@elus.ee),

<http://www.elus.ee>

President: Oive Tinn, phone: +372 53 33 15 56

Academic Secretary: Ivar Ojaste, phone: +372 734 1935

Estonian Naturalists' Society has 22 subunits. Subunits that work as sections are as follows: the section of amateur meteorologists, of anthropology, of botany, of entomology, of forestry, of geology and of theoretical biology; the Commission of Lakes, the Estonian Malacological Society, the Estonian Mycological Society, the Estonian Teriological Society and the Jakob von Uexküll Centre. Commissions with special task focus on the history of natural sciences, the library, natural education, observation networks, terms of ecology and plant names, botanical rarities. In addition, the Society has assemblies of ecology, of honorary members and the round table of nature conservation.

In 2013 nine General Assemblies with scientific presentations and one special meeting were held:

January 31 – Kalevi Kull: “Why biosemiotics?”

February 28 – “The Baer day”, presentations by Lauri Linask and Erki Tammiksaar.

March 6 – Urmas Tartes: “Life of insects during winter”.

March 28 – Veiko Uri: “The growth rate of *Alnus incana* and it's impact on soil, carbon- and nitro-circulation”;

April 25 – Kaarel Orviku: “Natural processes on the coastline and development activity by human”. The annual review of the activities in 2012 was presented.

May 30 – Karl Pajusalu: “How did the trees get their names?”;

September 26 – Peeter Saari: “Bullet of light”;

October 31 – Mati Kaal: “Moments in Tanzanias nature”;

November 28 – Mart Külvik: “Ecological network – Estonian “Nokia” in nature conservation”;

December 19 – Toomas Kukk: “Kaljo Pork (1930–1981) and his photo-collection”.

The 36th Naturalist’s Day was held at Tartu on June 29th. Ott Luuk made a presentation about the community of plant-species at Raadi and excursion took place at Raadi.

ENS celebrated its 160th anniversary in 2013 and three events were connected with this:

1. A book-exhibition “Estonian Naturalists’ Society 160” was organised together with Tartu Public Library which was opened from September 24th till October 19th, 2013;
2. The president of ENS astrophysicist Tõnu Viik delivered a lecture in the Tartu Public Library on September 27th;
3. XII Estonian Conference in Ecology was organised on October 18th – October 19th in Tartu.

The activities of subunits of ENS during 2013 were the following:

Meetings of **section of geology** took place:

- On February 14, Giuseppe Buono “Geology of Italy through its palaeontological and archaeological sites”;
- On April 4, Igor Tuuling “A geologist in Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks in the mountains of Sierra Nevada”;
- On May 16, Jüri Plado “Community, people, animals and rocks in Uganda”;

The 9th Autumn School of Geology “*Time*” took place at Voore, Jõgeva county, October 11–13. This seminar was organised together with the Doctoral School of Ecology and Earth Sciences. During three days 20 scientific reports were presented and 91 people participated in this event. The book “*Time. Schola Geologica IX*” was published.

**Jakob von Uexküll Centre** organised a Summer School of Ecosemiotics (20 people participated) at Mustakurmu, July 7–8. During these days 9 reports on biosemiotics, ecosemiotics and environmental humanities were presented.

A new webpage of Jakob von Uexküll Centre (<http://zbi.ee/uexkull/>) was published in 2013.

The 39th Spring School of the **section of theoretical biology** “Systems biology” took place at Mustjõe, Harju county, May 24–26. This seminar (95 people participated) was organised together with the Institute of Ecology and Earth Sciences of the University of Tartu and with the Doctoral School of Earth Sciences and Ecology. During three days 19 scientific reports were presented. The book “*Systems biology. Schola Biotheoretica XXXIX*” was published.

In the **section of botany** two meetings were held:

1. January 30, Nele Ingerpuu and Kai Vellak “Monitoring of moss-species in Estonia”;
2. March 20, Lea Sudakova “Nature tourism – a friend of nature or an adversary”;

The new issue of the internet journal “Friend of mosses, 16” was compiled (<http://www.botany.ut.ee/bruuloogia/>). Gathering of the friends of mosses took place at Otepää Landscape Reserve, Valga county, June 1–2.

The observers network in the **section of amateur meteorologists** continued their work in 60 stations all over the Estonia. The data was analysed and most important agrometeorological indexes were found. The observation results of those 60 stations were used together with data of Estonian Meteorological and Hydrological Institute to draw up different meteorological maps ([www.etki.ee](http://www.etki.ee)). Gathering of amateur meteorologists and thunder observers (96 people participated) took place at Türi, Järva county, July 27th. Six reports by scientists from University of Tartu and Estonian Environmental Agency were presented.

**Estonian Teriological Society** organised the 20th Autumn School “*Mammalia*” (54 people participated) at Simisalu, Järva county, September 27–29. During those days 11 scientific reports were presented and one workshops took place.

The **section of anthropology** organised together with Institute of History of Tallinn University and with NGO Centre of Archaeology the 7th Science day

dedicated to the 91th anniversary of Karin Mark on March 25. In this seminar 25 people participated.

Conference commemorating the 116th anniversary of Juhan Aul (1897–1994) was organised together with the Centre of Physical Anthropology of Tartu University on October 24th. In this conference 20 people participated.

In a new issue of the journal “Papers on Anthropology XXII” 30 papers and 6 scientific reports were presented.

**Estonian Mycological Society** organised two training courses on the determination of mushroom species in Saare county, May 17–19 and September 18–22. Meeting of Mycological society “*Actiones*” took place on December 14, where ten scientific reports were presented.

Together with University of Tartu the new issue of *Folia Cryptogamica Estonica* was published (<http://www.ut.ee/ial5/fce/index.html>).

The **section of forestry** had three scientific seminars during 2013: February 13, Tiia Frenkhan: “Ash dieback in Estonia and in Europe”; June 5, the 120. anniversary of Kaarel Veermets was celebrated; November 27, Anton Kardakov: “Monitoring of changes in forest by satellite-images”.

Henn Timm from the **Commission of Lakes** worked out a methodology for monitoring of 8 selected invertebrate-species. Tarmo Timm edited articles in book about history of hydrobiology in Estonia.

In the **commission of plant names** four meeting occurred in 2013: January 31, April 3, June 6 and November 6. In total 363 new plant names in Estonian and five terms were confirmed.

Members of **Estonian Malacological Society** participated in the monitoring of snails in five sites in 2013.

The Society participated in fulfilling the projects funded by the Environmental Investment Centre, Tallinn Botanic Garden and the Environmental Board. ENS and the Estonian Environmental Agency developed the Nature Observation Database (<http://loodus.keskkonnainfo.ee/LVA/LVA.aspx>).

In December 2013 there were 163 538 printed items in ENS library. Within a year library acquired 487 books and items of 451 periodicals. The publications were exchanged in the reporting year with 54 institutions and organisations from 18 countries.

Publications:

Sõber, V., Laanisto, L., Öpik, M., Tammaru, T., Kull, K. (toim). Süsteemibioloogia: 39. teoreetilise bioloogia kevadkooli ettekanded. Tartu, 2013, 115 lk.;

Verš, E., Nemliher, R., Amon-Veskimeister, L., Truuver, K., Ehrlich, K. (toim). Aeg: 9. geoloogia sügiskooli artiklid ja ettekanded. Tartu, 2013, 176 lk. (koos TÜ ökoloogia ja maateaduste instituudi, TTÜ geoloogia instituudi ja TTÜ mäe-instituudiga);

Folia Cryptogamica Estonica 50. Tartu, 2013, 132 pp. (koos Tartu Ülikooliga);

Internet journal:

Ingerpuu, N., Vellak, K. (eds.) 2013. "Friend of mosses" 16. 40 pp. (<http://www.botany.ut.ee/bruuloogia/Samblasober16.pdf>)