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最近になり, 上記の昆虫標本の観察方法に関する論文が出たので紹介する。

1本目は雄交尾器内袋の観察方法で, 細い注射針を用いて内袋を膨らます従来のやり方を少し発展させたものの紹介である。著者はこの方法で体長1mm程度のゾウムシの内袋も観察しているというのだから驚きである。2本目はLEGOを組み合わせて便利な標本の観察台を作ったという報告。3本目は交尾器などやや厚みのあるパーツを顕微鏡で観察する際に, 穴を空けたシリコンシートをスライドグラスに貼り付けて用いると便利だ, という報告。

1本目はともかく, 2本目と3本目はわざわざ報告するほどのものか, とも思うが, こういった細かい工夫も積極的に論文化することが現在求められていることなのかも知れない。

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