

LINNAEUS EN RUMPHIUS

Op de 15e jaarvergadering van de American Malacological Union - Pacific Division te Asilomar, California, juni 27 - 30, 1962 werd door Miss Elaine Reeves een studie van Dr. Myra Keen voorgelezen, waarvan een samenvatting overgenomen uit de Annual Reports for 1962 p. 30 hier volgt:

BEFORE LINNAEUS

Linnaeus contribution was not simply a system of nomenclature, useful as this was. He also provided a concise index to a considerable body of literature and by his shrewd choices determined which of many competing names should apply to each recognizable form. Thus one name and one only would become valid for each.

In the molluscan portions of the "Systema Naturae", Linnaeus cited, altogether, forty works in which where to be found illustrations of shells. The earliest of these was by P. BELON, 1553. There were seven works prior to 1650, ten from 1650 to 1700, and 23 from 1700 to 1758. If any single book were to be selected that seemed, more than others, to have influenced Linnaeus in the conventions he adopted, it would probably be that of G.E. RUMPHIUS, whose "Amboinische Rariteitskammer" in 1705 set a whole new pattern in zoological research.