

## Maria Matilde Principi, passed away on 10 September 2017: a brief memoriam

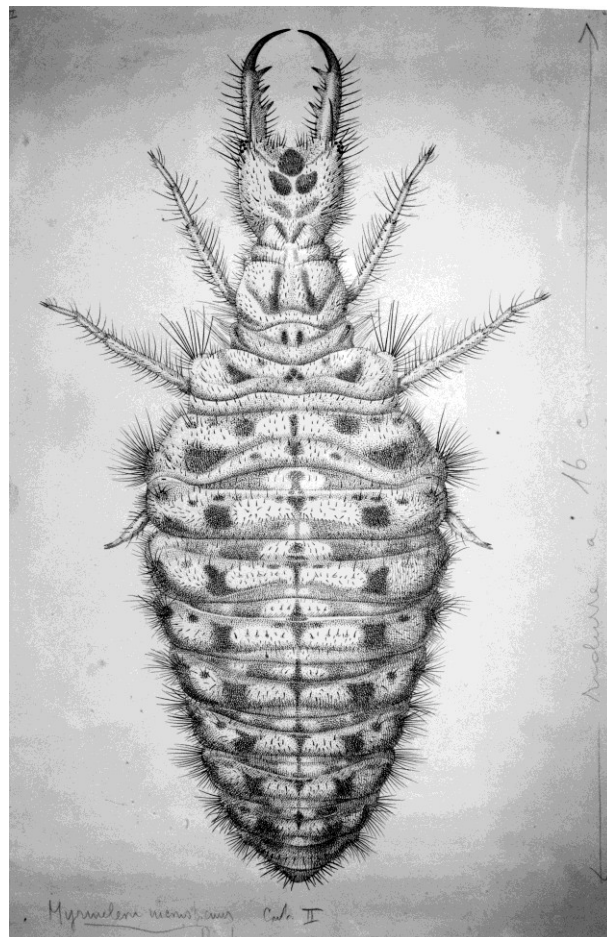
Maria Matilde Principi, Emeritus Professor at the University of Bologna, has left us at the age of 102. Her beautiful drawing of a lacewing pupa had previously graced the cover of this Bulletin of Insectology and I had briefly outlined some biographical details (1).

On her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday, Roberto A. Pantaleoni wrote a brief account of the simple party that was organized to celebrate the event in the company of pupils, colleagues and staff of the *ex Istituto di Entomologia "Guido Grandi"* as well as the then Magnificent Rector Prof Ivano Dionigi. The account was accompanied by another fine drawing of an insect she had studied (2).

It now falls upon me to inform readers of her fully conscious and dignified decease. One might say that her death arrived naturally, as if she herself 'had demanded' to cease her long life and so could pass away peacefully. In a future issue of the Bulletin of Insectology, Roberto A. Pantaleoni, her last pupil, at the express wish of the Professor, will write a memoriam and this will include the complete list of her publications.

I would like to point out here, that as well as having dedicated her life to the University both as a teacher and a researcher, Maria Matilde Principi was a member of numerous scientific societies, for more details see link (3), held the position of director of the *Istituto di Entomologia "Guido Grandi"*, directed the School of Specialization in Phytopathology, was president of the board for the associate Doctorate in Entomology, and from 1970 (vol. 30) until 1990 (vol. 44) directed the then named *Bollettino dell'Istituto di Entomologia della Università degli Studi di Bologna* (the current Bulletin of Insectology).

Stefano Maini



*Myrmeleon inconspicuus* Rambour - mature larva.

Photo of her original drawing (30 × 40 cm) published in:  
PRINCIPI M. M., 1942/1943.- Contributi allo studio dei  
Neurotteri italiani. II. *Myrmeleon inconspicuus*  
Ramb. ed *Euroleon nostras* Fourcroy.- *Bollettino*  
*dell'Istituto di Entomologia della R. Università degli*  
*Studi di Bologna*, 14, 131-192.

(1) <http://www.bulletinofinsectology.org/pdfarticles/vol58-2005-001-001principi90-maini.pdf>

(2) <http://www.bulletinofinsectology.org/pdfarticles/vol68-2015-001-001editorial-pantaleoni.pdf>

(3) [http://www.accademiaentomologia.it/curricula/CV\\_Principi\\_MariaMatilde.pdf](http://www.accademiaentomologia.it/curricula/CV_Principi_MariaMatilde.pdf)