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Editorial

This volume compiles 12 papers from the Fourth International Symposium of the International Research Group on Charophytes (IRGC), held in Robertson, Australia, 24-26 September 2004.

During the First Symposium held in Montpellier in 1989, IRGC was formed, and since then it has actively pursued and supported scientific research involving charophytes and the collaboration of its members. The diversity of our research is clearly represented in this volume, which includes novel research on taxonomy, ecology, experimentation, pollutants, biophysics, molecular analyses, Quaternary, Miocene and Devonian studies.

All the papers are of high standard, and we gratefully thank our reviewers Mary Beilby, Mary Bisson, Irmgard Blindow, Michelle Casanova, Allan R. Chivas, Pierre Compère, Adriana García, Chris Garvey, Jacob John, Gunter Kirst, Spencer Lucas, Henry Mann, Carles Martín-Closas, Susan Meiers, Eduardo Musacchio, Emile Nat, Susanne Schneider, Hendrick Schubert, Michael Schudack, Jan Simmons, Ingeborg Soulié-Märsche, John Talent and Ursula Winter.

Adriana García and Allan R. Chivas Guest Editors