Bernhard Merz (29.VII.1963–14.II.2023)

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After a trip to the USA, New Zealand and Australia from January to April 1987, he was employed from May 1 to September 30, 1987 as a technical collaborator at the entomological collection of the Institute of Entomology of the ETH Zürich. He later continued his work in the collection of the ETH Zürich as a PhD student of Prof. Willy Sauter, where he worked from March 1, 1988 to September 30, 1992.

He received his doctorate at the ETH Zürich on September 11, 1992 with a PhD thesis entitled “Revision der westpalaearktischen Gattungen und Arten der Paroxyyna-Gruppe und Revision der Fruchtfliegen der Schweiz (Diptera, Tephritidae)”. On October 1, 1992, he became curator of the entomological collection at the ETH Zürich, a position he held until November 30, 1998. At the same time, he also worked as a teaching assistant and lecturer at the Institute of Entomology of ETH Zürich from October 01, 1993 to September 30, 1993, then in Applied Entomology (former Institute of Entomology) at the Institute of Plant Science of ETH Zürich from October 01, 1993 to November 30, 1998, where he became also Senior scientist from March 1, 1996 to November 30, 1998. On December 1,
1998, Bernhard Merz was hired as a research scientist at the Department of Entomology of the Natural History Museum of Geneva. He was later promoted to the position of curator on December 1, 1999.


For health reasons, he was forced to give up his research, as well as his position as curator at the Museum in Geneva, which he left definitively on January 31, 2014 at the age of 50. Despite his great courage in the face of illness, he passed away on Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at the Cantonal Hospital in Chur, Switzerland. He was a generous man with great qualities and abilities, including a prodigious memory, which he put to use in his work and other passions, especially tea, which he could discuss for hours.

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Giulio Cuccodoro et Bernard Landry, Muséum d’histoire naturelle de Genève.
Supplementary material 1

**Merz’s patronymic taxa (2 genera and 28 species)**

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Supplementary material 2

**Taxa described by Bernhard Merz**  
**(5 genera and 91 species)**

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Supplementary material 3

**List of the scientific publications of Bernhard Merz (236)**

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