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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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Title: Guild of Taxidermists Conference 1983

Author(s): Not Listed.

Source: Not Listed. (1983). Guild of Taxidermists Conference 1983. *Biology Curators Group Newsletter*, Vol 3 No 5, 232.

URL: <http://www.natsca.org/article/1407>

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### Guild of Taxidermists Conference 1983

This year's Guild of Taxidermists Conference to be held at Edinburgh (R. S. M. and University) in April, is likely to be the biggest so far, with a large contingent of eminent American practitioners attending. This demonstrates the very real progress made by the Guild in recent years in its work of stimulating dialogue between professionals in this country and abroad. The benefits of this are reflected in improved techniques, methods and materials and an enhanced professionalism, and some examples of work of the very highest quality will be on display during the Conference. Well worth going to see.

For Programme details contact - D Ferguson

Taxidermy Dept  
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## **Pestilential Enquiries**

In common with most museum entomologists, the identification of usually badly squashed or "sellotaped" psocopteran is a common request at Bolton. These queries originate both from the general public and via the Environmental Health's department Food Inspectors and Pest Control Officers.

The Institute of Environmental Health Officers have produced an information sheet jointly with the Pre-packed Flour Association and supplies of this sheet are available from the latter. Permission to reproduce it alongside has been given and it is possible that other museums may wish to use the information as a ready made answer to these enquiries. Apparently the notable increase in this pest problem in recent years has prompted research which has concluded in little or no blame being laid at the door of the food manufacturing industry.

On a similar theme, the magazine Environmental Health (November 1982, pp282-283) has an article on the "safe" insecticides based on pyrethroids. This contains basic information on modern products of use in insect control which may have some application for museums.

E. G. Hancock.