

Editorial

Dear Subscriber and Author:

Times change and the front cover of *Rangifer* changes with them! Early editions of the Journal bore the single word **Rangifer**. In 1986 we expanded this to «*Tidsskrift om rein og reinnæring. Rangifer. Scientific Journal of Reindeer and Reindeer Husbandry*». In 1991 we dropped the «*Tidsskrift . . .*». This edition, No. 1, 1993, bears a completely new sub-title: «*Ecology, Management and Husbandry of Reindeer and other Northern Ungulates*». The new rubric signifies the Journal's new perspective but also reaffirms its roots.

Rangifer's roots are in reindeer science and reindeer husbandry. The Journal is published by the Nordic Council for Reindeer Research (NOR) and NOR exists «. . . to promote development and co-ordination of research on reindeer and reindeer husbandry in the Nordic countries . . .». So, where do the «other Northern Ungulates» fit in?

According to its statutes, NOR is «. . . responsible for publication of a Nordic scientific journal on reindeer research and other relevant and related topics.» For its first four years, **Rangifer** published not a single paper on non-Nordic reindeer. But such, today, is the degree of contact between scientists and managers working with genera like *Alces*, *Capreolus*, *Cervus*, *Ovibos*, *Rangifer* and others, that to exclude their work from his Journal would be myopic and pointless.

The first papers on North American caribou and on a non-*Rangifer* cervid appeared in the journal in 1985. In the following year the Proceedings of the IV. International Reindeer/Caribou Symposium were published in **Rangifer**. This important precedent was followed up in 1990 when the Proceedings of the V. International Reindeer/Caribou Symposium were published here, and so were the Proceedings of the V. North American Caribou Workshop, in 1991.

Thus, within ten years of first being published, **Rangifer** had truly become a Journal of circumpolar *Rangifer*. The next stage – evolution from a Journal for *Rangifer* to a Journal for all northern ungulates – was natural.

In 1991 it was suggested that **Rangifer** might publish the proceedings of the First Arctic Ungulates Conference, Nuuk, Greenland. The AUC was a hybrid of the III. International Muskox Conference and the VI. International Reindeer/Caribou Symposium. The meeting was a success and everyone seemed pleased with the union. Consequently, the Board of NOR agreed to allow **Rangifer** to accept and publish papers on northern ungulates besides *Rangifer* for a trial period of two years from 1992.

We wish our new species or, at least, papers about them, welcome. Our new rubric «*Ecology, Management and Husbandry . . .*» is self-explanatory regarding the breadth of topics in which papers will be considered for publication in this Journal. The intention is to publish **Rangifer** in four numbers annually and that *all* papers and expanded abstracts published here are reviewed by at least two referees (unless otherwise is stated).

We hope that you will find the «new» **Rangifer** useful and stimulating.

Sven Skjenneberg
Editor