## PREFACE

This special issue of *The Journal of Steroid Biochemistry and Molecular Biology* contains the scientific material presented at the International Symposium on Recent Advances in Mammalian Pheromone Research, which was held in Paris, France on 6–9 October 1991. The main topics covered during this symposium were as follows:

-the development and neuroanatomy of the vomeronasal organ and main olfactory systems;

-the electrophysiology and sensory processing of olfactory information;

-the chemistry of olfactory signals and of transduction processes;

-relationship between pheromones, fragrances, and behavior.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to the members of the International Organizing Committee and those who chaired the different scientific sessions: Drs D. L. Berliner, S. N. Cohen, R. P. Michael, L. Monti-Bloch, O. A. Mora, J. R. Pasqualini, G. M. Shepherd and L. J. Stensaas.

We are also very grateful to the EROX Corporation which contributed to the realization of this symposium. We would also like to express our gratitude to all the people who contributed to the preparation of the symposium, the members of the CNRS Steroid Hormone Research Unit (Paris), and the staff of the Hotel Sofitel, Porte de Sevres, Paris.

Our thanks to Ms S. Y. MacDonald (*The Journal of Steroid Biochemistry and Molecular Biology*, Editorial Office, Paris) and Dr C. Herron and Ms K. Brocklehurst (Pergamon Press plc, Exeter, England) for their valuable contribution in the preparation and publication of this symposium.

D. L. BERLINER R. P. MICHAEL J. R. PASQUALINI