

The Ground Beetles (Coleoptera: Carabidae) of South Dobrudzha, Bulgaria

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Abstract: This paper summarizes data on the distribution of 348 species of ground beetles (belonging to 83 genera) in South Dobrudzha, Bulgaria. One species (*Bembidion (Ocydromus) persicum* Menétriés, 1832) is new to the fauna of Bulgaria. Eleven species are new to the region, 4 species have been previously recorded from Bulgaria only once, and 121 species have been previously recorded from less than 3 localities in South Dobrudzha. The species richness approaches nearly half (47%) of the ground beetle species hitherto known from Bulgaria. Two hundred twenty-five species (73%) were recorded on the basis of materials studied by the authors. The bulk of the species (200 species, or 58%) are known from single or few localities and, hence, they can be described as rare. About 110 species (32%) can be described as relatively common, and 35 species (10%) can be described as very common, or mass species. All recorded species are classified into zoogeographical, habitat-preference, and life-form categories. An analysis of the taxonomic, zoogeographical, ecological and life-form features of the fauna is given.

Keywords: Ground beetles, Coleoptera, Carabidae, Bulgaria, Dobrudzha